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Present, Past and Future.

The Greenville Reflector says that

"the Physician's Black List for Pitt

county is undergoing revision, and this

is to give notice to all delinquents that

if their accounts are not settled by the

15th of April their names will appear

THE COMMONWEALTH thinks this is

good idea. If any class of persons in

the land ought to be paid, it is the

It will be a long time before the

people of this country forget Charlie

Ross. There comes news of another

such abduction from Burlington, Ver-

mont. This time it is Earl Sheldon

the son of wealthy Mr. F. M. Sheldon

The missing boy is 8 years old and

disappeared from the front of his home

His father has offered a large reward

to no purpose. Perhaps the kidnap-

A terrible conflagration in Chicago

last week in which a dozen lives were

lost and more than two dozen persons

were injured, makes one in the coun-

try feel safer than in the crowded city

There were hundreds of persons in the

building as high as seven stories, and

was such a panic that a number were

hurt and killed. And indeed the es

cape was soon cut off by the flames

Here in the country we seldom hear

of a life lost by fire; and after all there

are many advantages in country life

which country people are slow to recog

nize. We ought to be more satisfied

with our rural surroundings when we

and men made the town."

remember that "God made the country

Despite a clear and explicit statute

in North Carolina against cruelty to

animals, there is a blindness and deal

ness to that crime that is almost start-

for the past few weeks for an opportu-

nity to fight Spain ; but have not had the

manhood and courage to raise a single

protest against the inhuman-like prac-

tice of cruelty to animals that comes

daily before their observation. We

each other in this one thing than

ny's worth of goods. The professional

practice of cruelty to dumb animals

And so it goes. But the unblushing

practice of such cruelties almost every

day before our eyes is a shame upon the

weak-kneedism of a so-called christian

"In Germany and Prussia, where the

population is very thick, and forests

scarce, and where they realize the

value of trees, they have very strict

forest laws, and we think it is time

for us to begin caring for our own, for

it is only a question of time when the

limited timber resource will have

reached an end if the present cut is

The foregoing is a sensible para-

have lost largely this year by reason

of forest fires. In every part of the

State almost there have been destruc-

tive fires. Here in Halifax county

the people have sustained great loss.

It is a matter that ought to claim the

attention of all; for at the present rate

of timber consumption it will not be

long before lumber for ordinary build-

into communities which thirty years

ago paid no attention to the value of

Subscribe to THE COMMONWEALTH.

waste and destruction."

lest he lose a little patronage.

almost any other.

community.

pers are waiting for a larger reward.

on the black list."

faithful physicians.

from since.

below.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1898.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS. THOUGHTS ABOUT CUBA A PLEA FOR THE PACIFICOS. Points and Paragraphs of Things

Let it be "Cuba Libre."

BY "NEMO."

(Copyrighted by Dawe & Tabor.) Three years and more have elapsed since the present Cuban rebellion broke out. It is probable that in history past or to come no parallel to its conditions will be found. The rulers of the island, unable to defeat the insurgents, elusive and trinmphant and enduring beyond usual measure in guerilla warfare, are no nearer the actual accomplishment of of their purpose than they were at the outbreak of hostilities. Nature and her ghastly hand maiden, Pestilence, have fought for the insurgents; but Nature's battlings have been balanced by new arrivals of Spanish soldiers-men, some of them; boys, many of them-torced almost at bayonet point to take the places of the diseased and the dead the pride of the ruler has been matched. February 18th and has not been heard The insurgent can hold out indefinitely

the Spaniard will.

While the stubborn warfare of these unyielding forces has proceeded with fluctuating results that in the long run permit inhumanity to its weak neighthird army of human beings has been Spain not because certain of victory, slowly ground to destruction. Of their but because Spain slaughters the innowoes we must think and, having cent. This nation believes in the thought, we must act. Though the glories of peace, but it must be "peace within the limit set up by themselves; that assuredly comes from silence in you shall have him, if only this day prisoners, in fact, within their own fort- the presence of brutal abuses. By its ifications, yet they have retained a fear- own past, it knows full well the horrid when the alarm of fire was given there compelling power over the teeble minds cast of war, yet its great, true, heroic of the children and the timorous natives heart beats high to declare that it is of both sexes who were afraid to fight better to die in protecting the defenceand did not dare to flee. These pacificos quietly obeyed the government when grand past. Its conscience is aroused. orders went forth through the country Its arm is bared to smite and that regions to gather within town limits swiftly, lest there be none of the starvand stay there. The expected freedom ing left to save. to live in peace under the surveillance of the Spanish army, changed at once cultivate land to any great extent, herdfering from lack of food rendered more helpless and weak-spirited than before. they have died like flies in autumn; and in dying have suffered woes that are unequalled even by the bloody sufferings of the Armenians or the plague ridden starvation of the Hindoos. The language of a moderate woman like Clara Barton, the famous Red Cross heroine; and the stories pictured by the Aleck" tellows have almost bellowed truthful camera, more than justify these comparisons. In one hospital alone-a place where care and tender oversight are expected-four hundred of the pacificos have died of starvation. The burdens of the insurgents, who, in rebelling did so in full expectation of the fortunes and mistortunes of war, believe that men are more afraid of have been as naught beside the woes of these unhappy non-combatants. Where Spain has slain its hundreds by fire and by sword, it has slatn its HUN-The merchant is atraid to protest before DREDS OF THOUSANDS by hunger and by the law against any one overloading neglect. This has taken place and is still doing so within ninety miles of the his team, lest he lose the sale of a penland that declares in favor of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." man is atraid to protest against any

> This war-measure of Spain against harmless ones will ever stand out prominently in the annals of the brutal-Ities of which our race is capable. This is not war with its glamour of excitment and of chance, but relentless MURDER without the shedding of blood.

When a man sees a weak one persecuted and refuses to side with the weak he is no man. The rule for a man is the rule for a nation. Murder enfeebled and starving, is at our door, at last we begin to appreciate it. Their continued together with the constant In North Carolina the land owners

> Let us be careful that our motives are pure and our minds unconfused. The wild talk of a blundering official like De Lome is nothing to our great conserveative millions. War or even the thought of war over such a matter is

> I desire to attest to the merits of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as one of the most valuable and efficient presale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

unworthy our contemplation. It would be an absolute reversion to the barbaric irascibility of olden times. We have grown away from

The selfish motives of tobacco factors and sugar gamblers in pointing out to a great, fair minded country a chance to filch from Spain, because she is weak, that which is hers as truly as New condemn and not to approve. We refuse to add to our racial problems at the nod of self-seeking men. The heart of the nation is unresponsive to such temptation, and futhermore even the terrible Maine disaster, with its sorrow and its loss has grandly shown to the world that we are slow to anger and plenteous in conservatism. Despite all guesses to the contrary, our people have refused to believe that the Spanish government could be suicidal enough to have direct connection with the disaster. We believe that she would foresee more damage to herself than to us in this sudden and horrible event. If this were all that had hap-Against the doggedness of the insurgent pened, an indemnity would be sufficient. and a war be quite contrary to international precedents.

> to lead the Western hemisphere, can ess than to live in falsehood to its own

**+

But while this nation, set in might

With such a pure motive, its actions will have the cordial good-will of into death-dealing bondage. Unable to European nations. Short, decisive work will be made of the solemn task, ed together in huts unfit for swine, suf- and when the smoke has cleared justice will have been done to the unjust, and "Cuba Libre" may then develop in quiet its own individuality.

AMERICA'S SUMMONS.

Copyrighted by Dawe & Tabor. Stand fast America! Troubles are falling; Clouds cover Cuba's star, Sad hearts are calling.

Strong sons of Liberty! Mindful of others, Not vain your natal cry-"All men are brothers."

Soft have your slumbers been Since your hard testing, Shaded by laurels green, Rightfully resting.

Now, when oppression's sting Calls you to waken, Rise, like the eagle king, Night dews off-shaken.

Go not in anger forth, Furied by faction; "Noblesse oblige"—not wrath Calls you to action.

Soon may war's cruel din Hotly enfold you; Yet when dark days begin Truth shall uphold you.

Stand fast, America! In the world's story. All men shall praise a war Waged not for glory. FRANCIS H. TABOR.

Looks Squally.

Wilmington Star. A Wilkes county sign reader has settled the war question. We are goof women and children, helpless and ing to have it sure enough, and a three years war, too. The corn blades in Wilkes have for some time been broken lives, their untimely deaths, split at the end into three sharp sword and publishing. What then? Our their rights to a happier condition are shaped prongs. We are to have a life is a book. Our years are the making themselves slowly understood year's racket for each prong. The chapters. Our months are the paraamong our people. Every stratum of same thing happened before the Revolusociety is permeated. The great under tionary war, when the corn blades had lying love of fair-play is stirring this seven prongs, as attested by this sign graph from the Southport Standard, nation North and South. And it is interperter's grandmother. And the girding it to PUNISH and not to wage roosters which used to behave themselves and do their crowing about daylight now crow throughout the night. And a seal has just been captured in the Cape Fear river, and Consul General Lee has had his chin whiskers shaved off, and the Government is buying and distributing lots of shooting. stuff. When all these things are hitch ed to the split corn blades it does look

It is, or should be, the highest aim parations on the market. It broke an of every merchant to please his customexceedingly dangerous cough for me in ers; and that the wide awake drug firm Of course any man who does not 24 hours, and in gratitude therefor, I of Meyers & Eshleman, Sterling, Ill., is look after his system and starts into desire to inform you that I will never be without it, and you should feel proud from Mr. Eshleman: "In my sixteen cleansed from the impuraties that have be without it, and you should feel proud of the high esteem in which your Remedies are held by people in general. I have never seen or sold or tried a will have the same experience. The substitute for the oil supplied by natice of the oil supplied by natice of the same experience. The substitute for the oil supplied by natice of the oil supplied by natice of the same experience. It is the one remedy among ten thousand. Success to it.—O. R. Downey, and. Success to it.—O. R. Downey, Editor Democrat, Albion, Ind. For Diarrhoea Remedy. Sold by E. T. Militaberd & Co. Whitehead & Co. Whi Whitehead & Co.

TALMAGE ON

NEWSPAPERS.

Who Cares for Newspaper Men?

POWER IN THE SECULAR PRESS.

III.

Another trial of this profession is England is ours, has moved us only to the fact no one seems to care for their souls. They feel bitterly about it, though they laugh. People sometimes laugh the loudest when they feel the worst. They are expected to gather up religious proceedings and to discuss religious doctrines in the editorial columns, but who expects them to be saved by the sermons they stenograph or by the doctrines they discuss in the editorial columns? The world looks upon them as professional. Who preaches to reporters and editors? Some of them came from religious bomes, and when they left the parental roof, whoever regarded or disregarded. they came off with a father's benediction and a mother's prayer. They never think of those good old times but tears come into the eyes, and they move through these great cities homesick. Oh, if they only knew what a belpful thing it is for a man to put his weary head down on the bosom of a sympathetic Christ! He knows how stand insults to its vast self it cannot nervous and tired you are. He has a heart large enough to take in all your have practically balanced each other, a bors. It will enter into conflict with interests for this world and the next Oh, men of the newspaper press, you sometimes get sick of this world, it seems too hollow and unsatisfying! If there are any people in all the earth Spaniards have been chiefly confined with honor" and not with dishonor that need God, you are the men, and

> A man was found at the foot of canal street, New York. As they picked him up from the water and brought him to nounced, coming this day from the the morgue they saw by the contour of threne of God, lightning couriers leaphis forehead that he had great mental capacity. He had entered the newspaper profession. He had gone down in pardon for all guilt and comfort for all health. He took to articial stimulus. trouble! Set it up in double columns He went down further and further, until one summer day, hot and hungry and sick and in despair, he flung himself off the dock. They found in his pocket a reporter's pad, a lead pencil, photograph of some one who had loved him long ago. Death as sometimes it will, smoothed out all the wrinkles that had gathered prematurely on his brow, and as he lay there his face was as fair as when seven years before he left his country home and they bade him good-by forever. The world looked through the window of the morgue and perished because the world gave him no chance.

you implore his mercy!

Let me ask all the men connected with the printing press that they help us more and more in the effort to make the world better. I charge you in the name of God, before whom you must account for the tremendous influence you hold in this country, to consecrate vourselves to higher endeavors. You are the men to fight back this invasion of corrupt literature. Lift up your right hand and swear new allegiance to the cause of philanthropy and religion. And when at last, standing on the plains of judgment, you look out upon the unnumbered throngs over whom you have had influence, may it be found that you were among the mightiest energies that lifted men upon the exalted pathway that leads to the renown of heaven. Better than to have sat in editorial chair, from which, with the finger of type, you decided them wrong, that you had been some dungeoned exile who, by the light of window iron grated, on scraps of a New Testament leaf, picked up from the earth, spelled out the story of him who taketh away the sins of the world. In eternity Diver is the beggar. Well, my friends, we will all soon get through writing and printing and proof-reading graphs. Our days are the sentences Our doubts are the interrogation points. our imitation of others the quotation marks, our attempts at display a dash death the period, eternity the peroration. O God, where will we spend it? Have you heard the news, more startling than any found in the journals of last six weeks? It is the tidings that man is lost. Have you heard the news, the gladdest that was ever an-

HOW TO GET THE SYSTEM READY FOR THE SPRING.

with a bad taste in my mouth and a His kingdom stretch from shore to shore ties in your blocd—that's all there is sense of goneness, and some days I can Till suns shall rise and set no more. hardly pull one foot after another."

NO. 13



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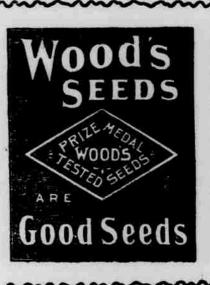


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ing from the palace gate? The news -the glorious news-that there is People. and direct it to the whole race. ACKNOWLEDGES TO THE SECULAR PRESS.

thankfully commemorative of the "Two er be troubled about keeping a bad Thousandth" publication, I wish more promise. fully to acknowledge the services rendered by the secular press in the habits. Do not run the risk of makmatter of evangelization. All the ing a bad promise by associating with secular newspapers of the day-for I people whose character and habits take am not speaking this morning of the the edge off your conscience. Herod religious newspapers-all the secular had "a good time" with some "friends," newspapers of the day discuss all the gotdrunk, made a foolish vow, and bequestions of God, eternity and the ing a coward to start with, he hadn't dead, and all the questions of the past, courage to renounce the folly he had God said it was a gigantic soul that present and future. There is not a sin-committed. gle doctrine of theology but has been 3. If you have made a bad promise discussed in the last ten years by the break it. Two wrongs do not make secular newspapers of the country. a right. One wicked thing is not re-They gather up all the news of all the deemed by having another added to it. earth bearing on religious subjects, It is never right to do wrong. It is a then they scatter the news abroad virtue to renounce a vice. Conscience again. The Christian newspaper will recovers her throne by reseinding the be the right wing of the Apocalyptic bad promise. God desires "truth in augel. The cylinder of the Christian- the inward parts." And doing wrong ized printing press will be the front for the sake of being consistent is not wheel of the Lord's chariot. I take truth in the inward parts. the music of this 'day, and I do not 4. Better endure the consequences mark it diminuendo-I mark it cres- of breaking a bad promise than those cendo. A pastor on a Sabbath preaches of keeping it. Herod was far more disto a few hundred or a few thousand turbed in conscience by the sight of people, and on Monday or during the John the Baptist's head on the chargweek the printing press will take the er than he could have been by the same sermon and preach it to millions gibes of his companions. of people, God speed the printing press! God save the printing press! God Christianize the printing press!

When I see the printing press stand ng with the electric telegraph on the one side gathering up material and the lightning express train on the other side waiting for the tons of folded sheets of newspapers, I pronounce it the might est force in our civilization. So I commend you to pray for all those who manage the newspapers of the land, for all type-setters, for all editors, for all publishers, that, sitting or standing in positions of such great influence, they may give all that influence for God and the betterment of the human race. An aged woman making her living by knitting unwound the yarn from the ball until she found in center of the ball there was an piece of newspaper. She opened it and read an advertisement which announced that she had become heiress to a large property, and that fragment of a newspaper lifted her up from pauperism to affluence. And I do not know but as the thread of time unrolls and unwinds a little farther, through the silent yet speaking newspaper may be found the vast inheritance of the world's redemption.

"I always dread the Spring" he said ; Jesus shall reign where'er the sun one his successive journeys run,

refined and delicate fluid, which does disappear before you know it. Of not soil or become rancid by exposure course there is nothing like sarsaparilla

Shall I Keep a Bad Promise.

1. Better not make one. That is the way to escape the difficulty. Be sure you know what you are promising, and that it is a worthy and wise promise And now before I close this sermon, you are making. Then you will nev-

2. Be careful about associates and

"A Nice Place to Go to."

Presbyterian Bulletin.

This is a little boy's definition of one, and well may all parents think about it.

Plessings attend the builders and keepers of homes, that are nice places

Christianity does not frown upon harmless mirth. Let the children have it. With honest intentions we may do what we regard our duty, and by stern demeaner and numberless restrictions and prohibitions make our homes dreary for our children. Let us be careful or we will pluck up all the flowers that spontaneously grow in the pathway of children and hedge it with thorns, till they will not relish an

evening at home. PIMPLES ON YOUR FACE?

"Not very pretty are they?" "Source of mortification sometimes,

"Always trying something or other

o get rid of them?" "And they are as bad as ever?" Well now suppose you go to the bot-

om of the matter. There are pimples on your face because there are impuriof it. Let your simples alone and look after your blood and if you will go The base of Ayer's Hair Vigor is a about it properly your pimples will

timber. Let our forests be better preserved, and let all feel interest in 1t-J. L. SHAW, Proprietor. the people in towns and cities as well LITTLETON, N. C. as those in the rural districts.