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We are prepared to furnish telephone service to the public and solicit patronage.

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Business Phones, \$2.00 per month.

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Two of either for 3.00 " "

It is our purpose to give good service, and to this end we ask all subscribers to report promptly any irregularities in the service.

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THE COMMONWEALTH

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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VOL. XIV. New Series--Vol. 3.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1898.

NO. 50

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

It is announced that Frederick Sleight Roberts, one of England's most famous and active living Generals, will soon visit America.

Elder P. D. Gold, of Wilson, has recently given expression to some very clear thoughts on the matter of pardoning criminals.

The release of Cuba is said by the compilation of United States Pension Commissioner Evans to have cost America the lives of 2,906 of her soldiers.

In an article touching on the possibility that ex-Governor James E. Campbell, of Ohio, and others with him will probably get control of the peanut business of Norfolk, the Virginia-Pilot gives incidentally the following bit of information about peanuts:

All the intelligent world knows something of the horrifying cruelty practiced by the Chinese in binding the feet of children for years and years to make them small.

The annual commerce of the world is estimated at seventeen billion dollars, and of this great amount America is interested to the extent of eleven per cent, or in round numbers, one billion eighteen million dollars.

One of the greatest draw backs to the general prosperity of this country is extravagance. This short coming premeates all stages of society more or less; but of course the well-to-do are more culpable than the very poor.

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.

SOME GREAT QUESTIONS.

GREAT TEST UPON US.

Present Day Thoughts.

By G. Grosvener Davis.

(Written for The Commonwealth)

A National testing.—As high as heaven is above the earth, so high above party politics, will this winter's questions be. You and I believe in parties most definitely, but the time in the history of our country is actually here, when we shall be forced to take non-partisan views of some great questions.

Fifty to one hundred years will be needed to demonstrate the wisdom or folly of our Congressional acts in the weeks that remain of the fateful year of '98.

Of course, you are personally in a hurry. You have a thousand cares on your mind and a thousand things to do; and you are glad to delegate some things to others.

Look squarely at the issues before us and then determine that if a letter from you will hold a Congressman straight, it shall be written; if a word from you can broaden the horizon of your local editor it shall be spoken; if in any way an opportunity shall come to you to shape our national destiny for good, it shall be utilized.

What confronts us? The necessity of deciding on a national policy towards dependent millions; and deciding so definitely on what that policy shall be that it shall not swerve a hair's breadth through the changing administrations of the future.

Involved in that national policy are these questions and others: The right to vote, nationally.—Can we trust voting power to Porto Ricans, Hawaiians, Filipinos? If we cannot now so confide in the wisdom of any of all these, when and under what conditions shall this foundation principle of our government be finally and firmly established among them?

The sooner a cough or cold is cured without harm to the sufferer the better. Lingered colds are dangerous. Hackling cough is distressing. One Minute Cough Cure quickly cures it. Why suffer when such a cough cure is within reach? It is pleasant to the taste.

appointment or shall the men be appointed solely because of preparatory study and fitness? If appointed by local will, in what manner shall the right to vote be delimited, so as to prevent action antagonistic to the Washington government?

The right to education.—Shall we at once inaugurate for all the children of all our possessions, a system that shall provide for their mental needs? Shall we begin with only the simplest rudiments, and let the training beyond that be of a practical character—manual and agricultural?

The right to local customs.—Are we to permit the continuance of bull-fights, cock-fights and other debasing exhibitions that though most heartily approved locally, are contrary to our modern and advanced feelings?

The question of tariff.—Shall Hawaii and the Philippines and our probable Caroline Island, be regarded as under similar trade conditions to Porto Rico? If not regarded as coast-wise trade, then shall we or shall we not throw the door of trade wide open in these distant possessions? Or if limitations are placed upon trade, shall we show favors to any particular nation and, if so, which?

If some of our municipal governments are full of rottenness and robbery—right under the very eyes of us who profess to be politically awake, how are we to hope for honor in office, thousands of miles away from our inspection and control? The answer to this question and all the other insistent ones outlined above is this: "More unselfish men in public life; more statesmen who have prevision; more men who are large enough in soul to know when a great occasion arises."

The greatest test of our history is upon us, and in full sight of doubting nations we move forward to prove that a republic—the Republic—can be trusted to administer colonial affairs.

He Remembered the Apple Barrel.

Dr. Lorimer, of Tremont Temple, Boston, tells this story of one of our distinguished men, who was introduced at a great public meeting as a "self-made man."

"Why, they replied, 'did you not begin to work in a store when you were ten or twelve?'"

"Yes," said he, "but it was because my mother thought I ought early to have the educating touch of business."

"But then," they urged, "you were always such a great reader, devouring books when a boy."

"Yes," he replied, "but it was because my mother led me to do it, and at her knee she had me give an account of the book after I had read it. I don't know about being a self-made man. I think my mother had a great deal to do with it."

"But then," they urged again, "your integrity was your own."

"Well, I don't know about that. One day a barrel of apples came to me to sell by the peck; after the manner of some store keepers, I put the speckled ones at the bottom and the best ones at the top. My mother called me and asked what I was doing. I told her, and she said: 'Tom, if you do that you will be a cheat. And I did not do it. I think my mother had something to do with my integrity. And, on the whole, I doubt whether I am a self-made man. I think my mother had something to do with making me anything if I am of any character of usefulness.'"

"Happy," said Dr. Lorimer, "the boy who had such a mother; happy the mother who had a boy so appreciative of his mother's formative influence!"—Index.

Pains in the chest when a person has a cold indicate a tendency toward pneumonia. A piece of flannel damped with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and bound on to the chest over the seat of pain will promptly relieve the pain and prevent the threatened attack of pneumonia. This same treatment will cure a lame back in a few hours.

ABOUT THE DISPENSARY.

ITS OPERATIONS.

A Question For The Legislature.

North Carolina Baptist.

The Legislature just elected will have this question before them squarely. The Dispensary has been tried in North Carolina and has proved a success in lessening the evils of drink.

The Dispensary just elected will have this question before them squarely. The Dispensary has been tried in North Carolina and has proved a success in lessening the evils of drink. We shall speak from personal observation. The Dispensary in Fayetteville has been closely watched by us. We worked hard for its establishment in order to overthrow the dozen saloons in the town. It was opened in the face of violent opposition.

The Dispensary opens at sunrise and closes at sunset. It does not sell to minors or drunkards. There are now on the books of the institution a number of "proscribed" persons.

There are yet many towns in this State which are cursed with the open saloon. If you can get prohibition—go to work for it at once. If there is no possible chance for it, go to work now to get a dispensary established by the next legislature.

The secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes.—Disraeli.

A holy life has a voice; it speaks when the tongue is silent, and is either a constant attraction or a perpetual reproof.

Planting some fruit trees every year is the best way of maintaining a supply.

Thorough cultivation is necessary in the orchard to secure a healthy growth.

Overcome evil with good. Overcome your coughs and colds with One Minute Cough Cure. It is to good children, pneumonia, grippe and all throat and lung diseases.—E. T. Whitehead & Co.

A POEM WORTH READING.

SAND.

I observed a locomotive, in the railroad yard, one day; It was waiting in the round-house, where the locomotives stay; It was panting for the journey, it was cooled and tully manned, And it had a box the fireman was filling full of sand.

It appears that locomotives cannot always get a grip On their slender iron pavement, 'cause the wheels are apt to slip; And, when men reach a slippery spot, their tactics they command And to get a grip upon the rail, they sprinkle it with sand.

It's about this way with travel along life's slippery track— If your load is rather heavy, and you're always sliding back; So, if a common locomotive you completely understand, You'll supply yourself in starting with a good supply of sand.

If your track is steep and hilly, and you have a heavy grade, And if those who've gone before have the rails quite slippery made, If you ever reach the summit of the upper table-land, You'll find you'll have to do it by a liberal use of sand.

If you strike some frigid weather, and discover, to your cost, That you're liable to slip on a heavy coat of frost, Then some prompt, decided action will be called into demand, And you'll slip 'way to the bottom if you haven't any sand.

You can get to any station that is on life's schedule seen, If there's fire beneath the boiler of ambition's strong machine, And you'll reach a place called Flushing at a speed that's simply grand, If for all the slippery places you've a good supply of sand.

—Anon, in the Richmond (Ind.) Register.

He Hired Webster For a Week.

Selected. Of course Webster was in demand by those who could afford to pay for his services, says the Boston Herald. A sharp Nantucket man is said to have got the better of the great defender of the Constitution in an amusing way, however.

He had a small case which was to be tried at Nantucket one week in June, and he posted to Webster's office in great haste. It was a contest with a neighbor over a matter of considerable local interest, and his pride as a litigant was at stake. He told Webster the particulars and asked what he would charge to conduct the case.

"Why," said Webster, "you can't afford to hire me. I should have to stay down there the whole week, and my fee would be more than the whole case is worth. I couldn't go down there for less than one thousand dollars. I could try every case on the docket as well as one, and it wouldn't cost any more, for one case would take my time for the entire week, anyway, for I'd have to be on hand."

"All right, then, Mr. Webster," quickly responded the Nantucketer. "Here's your one thousand dollars. You come down, and I'll fix it so you can try every case."

Webster was so amused over this proposition that he kept his word. He spent the entire week in Nantucket, and appeared on one side or the other in every case that came up for hearing. The shrewd Nantucketer hired Daniel out to all his friends who were in litigation, and received in return about fifteen hundred dollars, so that he got Webster's services for absolutely nothing, and made a good profit to boot.

Many a household is saddened by death because of the failure to keep on hand a safe and absolutely certain cure for croup such as one Minute Cough Cure. See that your little ones are protected against emergency.—E. T. Whitehead & Co.

Before the winter sets in the barnyard should be thoroughly cleaned of all manure. No old manure should be left around to be covered up by the new stuff during the winter. The fresher manure is put into the land the better. Rotting means decay, and the escape of gases from the manure pile when this process is going on means a loss in the fertilizing power of the manure.

Constipation prevents the body from ridding itself of waste matter. DeWitt's Little Early Riser will remove the troubles and cure Sick Headache, Biliousness, Inactive Liver and clear the Complexion. Small, sugar coated, don't gripe or cause nausea.—E. T. Whitehead & Co.

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Administrators Sale of Personality.

I SHALL SELL FOR CASH AT auction, on Friday, the 28th day of December, 1898, at the residence of the late John T. Lawrence near Dawson's Cross Roads, all of the personal property of the deceased, consisting of mules, farming implements, corn, fodder, cotton seed, household and kitchen furniture, and so forth. This Nov. 24th, 1898.

NOAH BIGGS, Administrator of John T. Lawrence.

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