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E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor. "EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00.  
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THAT CLASS OF READERS  
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### Thousands Have Kidney Trouble and Don't Know It.

There is a disease prevailing in this country most dangerous because so deceptive. Many sudden deaths are caused by it. Heart disease, pneumonia, hemorrhage or apoplexy are often the result of kidney disease. Kidney trouble is allowed to advance the kidney poison in the blood. It is able to attack the vital organs, or the kidneys themselves, break down and waste away cell by cell. Then the richness of the blood—the albumen—leaks out and the sufferer has Bright's disease, the worst form of kidney trouble. Kidney trouble can be detected although it is slow and deceptive. First, by analysis of the urine; second, by the simple test of setting the urine aside in a glass or bottle for twenty-four hours, when a cloudy or brick-dust settling indicates it.

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### THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

"Hard times" has been a cry "time and a half" the memory of man runneth not to the contrary"; but there is one feature about business during hard times that is not properly regarded by many. When times get tight and money is scarce some people hold on to what little money they can get and will not turn it loose, no matter how much others may need it. They will not even pay their just accounts and accumulated bills notwithstanding they know creditors are depending on them for money with which to discharge their own obligations.

This is all wrong. The harder the times and the scarcer money the more prompt ought every one to be in paying his accounts, if possible; for by this means every other man would be enabled to pay his accounts also.

We suppose that Tom Dixon's resignation of the People's Church in New York might be classed amongst "passing events," and hence mention it as suitable for this column. With his resignation as its pastor the organization ceased to exist. Mr. Dixon says he will preach no more for five years, may never preach in New York again, but will retain his residence there.

We wrestled with Tom over knotty questions of various kinds in college life and have always felt great interest in him. We have admired his genius and generally acknowledged ability, and while some have denounced him we have simply regarded him as seriously errant in some things. Tom will yet find proper equipoise for one of the country's greatest and most useful men.

Perhaps no industry in North Carolina has suffered more in any one season of late years than has the fish industry this season. The extremely cold weather, the continued rains and high water in the rivers have been very disastrous. The Washington Gazette says:

"We asked one of our fishermen would the fishing business be profitable this season? He replied, 'Unless the unexpected happens, this season will be the most disastrous one in our history. Commencing with the cold spell, in which thousands of dollars worth of nets were lost, and lost at a time when it was too late to replace them, coupled with the fact that the run of shad and herring has been less than in years, all go to make this season disastrous to the fishermen. So true is this, I do not believe there is a man engaged in the business that has made money but has lost money. It is true the season is yet two months longer, and it will take a large run of fish to make us come up even.'"

Rear Admiral Sampson's sword, decided upon by the special committee appointed to select a design, is to cost \$2,000. There are doubtless varying opinions about said expenditure. Some think that it is all right to use public money thus lavishly on a sword, while others think some little economy might be practiced in the matter. For the benefit of both classes we give the description of the sword as follows: The design represents on the head of the pommel the coat of arms of the State of New Jersey, while on the collar of the pommel will be raised letters and enameled flags crossed, being the emblems of the rank of Captain and of Rear Admiral, signifying the fact that at the beginning of the war Sampson was a Captain and a Rear Admiral at its close. The grip will be made of shark's skin wrapped with gold wire with forty eight stars, each star being set with a diamond. The guard, top and bottom will terminate with dolphins' heads with ruby eyes, the ruby being the natal stone of the Rear Admiral. The sleeves of the scabbard are to be of gold and the rings are municipal fasces held to the sleeve by ship's cables. The monogram will be made of diamonds. The belt will be etched, showing the position of the American fleet in front of Santiago.

### PRESENT DAY THOUGHTS

The Washington Memorial Day.

PLANS ARE MATERIALIZING.

BY G. GROSVENOR DAWK.

Written for The Commonwealth.

A Washington Memorial.—A few words are now timely as to the progress of the idea for making next December 14 (the hundredth anniversary of his death) a Washington memorial day throughout the country.

It is winning approval in several important bodies, and their influence is already being exerted to bring it to pass. The Society of American Authors, which includes Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. E. H. Walworth, General Lew Wallace and others of importance has sent the following resolution in engrossed form to the President of the United States, to the Vice-President and to the Speaker of the House. In addition it has distributed one thousand printed copies throughout the country:

"Whereas, the fourteenth day of next December marks the completion of one hundred years since the death of George Washington; and

"Whereas, the Society of American Authors recognizes the importance of giving special emphasis to such a centennial; therefore be it

"Resolved, by the society in annual meeting assembled, that a fit recognition of the occasion would be the legal cessation of all avoidable labor for that day; in order that the nation may be free to do honor to the memory of one whose life and acts and patriotism have in large measure rendered possible the progress, the strength and the political freedom of the United States."

Similar action has been taken by the Daughters of the Cincinnati, and before this brief record is read four other important patriotic bodies will have acted in the same way.

At the meeting of the board of officers of the Order of the United American Mechanics of the 11th instant special action was considered and the national secretary was instructed to prepare petition to the President asking for the setting aside of the day for the purpose. From the head office a circular letter will be sent to every subordinate Council of the Order urging similar and immediate action. This body is exclusively composed of native born Americans.

On the other hand, one thousand men and boys on the crowded east side of New York—nearly all of them Russian exiles—have signed a petition to Governor Roosevelt asking for the same thing, because they recognize how much of the hopefulness that fills the heart of the emigrant comes from the leadership and success of Washington himself the leader of a large proportion of emigrants.

Furthermore, the Adjutant General and Chief of Staff, of the United Confederate Veterans, writes: "The United Confederate Veteran Association is purely social, literary, historical and benevolent and of course was formed for the specific purpose of caring for maimed and disabled veterans, but I am sure that every old veteran's heart will give a responsive throb in approval of anything which is done to honor the 'Father of His Country.'"

The plans of the various Masonic bodies throughout the country are also rapidly maturing. Every Grand Lodge of the country will be represented at the Mt. Vernon gathering on December 14th and there is also being completed an effort to have every lodge in every corner of the country publicly identify itself with local effort to do honor to the one who though dead, yet speaketh.

Some details regarding the attitude of the colleges will give further idea of

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### A FARMER'S CONCLUSION

He Quit Drinking Land.

THEY WERE INDEED WISE.

Southern Farm Magazine.

A farmer interviewed by the Greenville (S. C.) News explained his success by stating that he read the newspapers; that he watched everything closely, finding that he could do something on his sixty acres of land every hour of the year, and by watching leaks. One statement of his was of unusual significance. He said:

"I like whiskey, but I am land hungry; I want more land. I figured out years ago that with very moderate drinking I'd drink an acre of good land every year. So I quit. At the end of a year I tell myself I'm just an acre ahead at \$25 an acre by not drinking. I find when I put it to my neighbors that way it makes them think. You tell farmers to think about land every time they start to buy whiskey, and calculate how much real estate they are drinking or giving away."

A farmer who is about thirty years old, with a wife and four children, is thus described by the News:

"He looked like that kind of a man, well fed and well kept. His clothes were strong and warm and fitted him well. He was in a well-made wagon, which ran smoothly and easily and had been taken good care of. He drove a horse which he said is 30 years old and can do as much work as any animal in the country—a fat, sleek, dark bay, with evidences of good feeding, currycomb, brush and rubbing on every inch of his shining skin. The harness was good originally, it fitted like a tailor-made gown and every buckle was in place. There was not a piece of string or grass rope or hickory wythe anywhere about the outfit. It is safe to bet that the man did not have a pin anywhere doing a button's duty, either."

He looked as if he had left a wife at home who is the same kind of woman he is a man, and who watches her husband and children and house just as he watches his barn and stables, livestock, tools and running gear. He has a horse thirty years old and apparently good for five years' work yet, and many a man loses his horse at twelve or fifteen years and must buy another at a cost of \$100 or more, simply from failure to take good care of him."

Ogden College, Bowling Green, Ky.: "We shall cheerfully do what we can to help in making this a 'Washington year.' Our American youth can have no grander study or loftier ideal than George Washington."

Union Theological Seminary, New York: "We are in sympathy with the proposition, and believe that a careful and reverent study of so great a subject must make for ethical advance and higher ideals of citizenship and patriotism."

West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.: "We shall do what we can this year to call the attention of our students to the life and work of Washington."

Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Ia.: "Our faculty has briefly discussed the wisdom of a special observance of December 14, and we are confident that not only in Iowa but in the whole country there will be an observance of the day and suspension of ordinary business."

These encouraging details are merely partial echoes of what is going on; for when public opinion approves a plan it progresses by leaps and bounds and waits for no hand to record it. The strength of this movement is that it is based upon sentiment. When sentiment and dreams and visions shall fade out of national life, it will be said for us. These three are they that cause discontent with mere lying, and forestall the future as a means of thrilling our hearts with ennobling ideas of national purpose, progress and destiny.

What are you, individually, doing to create public opinion in this matter? Public opinion is the play of the word, thought and deed of neighbor upon neighbor. It is neither a far-away thing nor mysterious. Try your own power in creating enthusiasm about Washington and thus honor the honored dead.

Not one child dies where ten formerly died from croup. People have learned the value of One Minute Cough Cure and use it for severe lung and throat troubles. It immediately stops coughing. It never fails.—E. T. Whitehead & Co.

### DIFFERENCES.

Some work for this, some strive for that, and grind at every turn; Some long for what they haven't got, and what they have they spurn; And some rush for the mountain peak to get the sun's last ray, Then crawl into some sunless hole and sleep it off next day.

Some find this earth a first-rate place to slave and stint and save, And life's chief pleasure to consist in being glum and grave; And others with a twinkle in the hand and heart and eye, Will stake their lives that they can spend more than they can find laid by.

Some take a drink when they are dry, and some when they are wet; Some drink for sweet remembrance sake, some that they may forget; And some there be, like you and me, free from all shame accus'd, Who have laid down a rule for life—never to get at all.

Some turn to this, some turn to that, for fortune and for fame. And some won't turn for anything, and get there just the same. But there's a common turning point, a fate unkind but just, Where rich and poor, and great and small, turn one and all to dust.

—Galveston News.

### Moral Responsibility of the Joker.

Fred Nye in the Saturday Evening Post writes very sensibly of the moral responsibility of the joker, and closes with the following strong paragraphs:

There are, however, at least two of the stock subjects of the American humorist which should have been confiscated long ago, namely, liquor intoxication and the insecurity of the marriage tie. Few funny publications are considered complete which do not picture a man reeling home from the "club" with a maudlin excuse to his waiting wife, or a wedded pair commenting flippantly upon the passing of love or the felicity and facility of divorce.

The effect of this sort of literature cannot be otherwise than pernicious. It turns into a joke, in the case of the drunkard, the insult which he has offered to the woman which he has sworn to love and cherish, and raises a laugh over an experience which to her has much the aspect of a tragedy. In the other instance, that obligation which is the most serious one in life is flung upon the bargain counter, and the failure of love, which, even among the least civilized of us, is a matter of sorrow, is paraded for the merriment of the unthinking. The effect of this quality of humor upon the old and experienced is anything but uplifting; upon the young, whose opinions regarding the relative values of things are all unformed, it is bound to be disastrous.

The youngster who is inclined to blame himself severely for his first-step in dissipation turns to the humorist and is informed that what he has done is not a sin, but a joke; why should he worry over something about which the world is laughing? The young couple having their first tiffs are grievously worried until they chance upon the sarcastic philosophy of the funny man; then they laugh bitterly at each other, and ask why so absurd a thing as love should be taken seriously. Their efforts at self-control and self-abnegation diminish; it is useless, they can elude, for them to struggle to maintain an ideal relationship in a society which finds opportunity for mirth in proceedings for divorce.

In such subjects as these there can be no real humor, and the man who tries to joke about them is guilty of a moral lapse—majesty which should not go unpunished. The censor who has been employed at Manila to prevent the escape of news from the Philippines, might add more to the happiness and rectitude of humanity if he were placed in charge of the wits of the United States.

**RHEUMATISM CURED.**  
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TRAINS GOING SOUTH.  
DATED Jan. 15 1898.

DATE	Weldon	Rocky Mt.	Tarboro	Ar. Weldon	Ar. Rocky Mt.	Ar. Tarboro
Jan. 15 1898	12:15	10:30	6:00	7:15	5:30	1:15
Jan. 16 1898	12:15	10:30	6:00	7:15	5:30	1:15
Jan. 17 1898	12:15	10:30	6:00	7:15	5:30	1:15

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

DATE	Weldon	Rocky Mt.	Tarboro	Ar. Weldon	Ar. Rocky Mt.	Ar. Tarboro
Jan. 15 1898	7:15	9:00	11:30	6:45	4:45	12:15
Jan. 16 1898	7:15	9:00	11:30	6:45	4:45	12:15
Jan. 17 1898	7:15	9:00	11:30	6:45	4:45	12:15

Daily except Monday. Daily except Sunday.  
Train on the Scotland Neck Branch Road leaves Weldon 3:35 p. m., Halifax 4:15 p. m., arrives Scotland Neck at 5:08 p. m., Greenville 6:57 p. m., Kingston 7:55 p. m., returning leaves Kingston 7:50 a. m., Greenville 8:52 a. m., arriving Halifax at 11:18 a. m., Weldon 11:33 a. m., daily except Sunday.

Trains on Washington Branch leave Washington 8:20 a. m. and 2:30 p. m., arrive Pamlico 9:10 a. m. and 4:00 p. m., returning leave Pamlico 9:35 a. m. and 6:30 p. m., arrive Washington 11:00 a. m. and 7:20 p. m., daily except Sunday.

Train leave Tarboro, N. C., daily except Sunday 5:30 p. m., Sunday, 4:15 p. m., arrive Plymouth 7:40 p. m., 6:10 p. m., returning, leaves Plymouth daily except Sunday, 7:50 a. m., and Sunday 9:00 a. m., arrive Tarboro 10:05 a. m., 11:00 a. m.

Train on Midland N. C. Branch leaves Goldsboro daily, except Sunday, 7:05 a. m., arriving Smithfield 8:10 a. m., returning leaves Smithfield 9:00 a. m., arrives at Goldsboro 10:25 a. m.

Trains on Nashville Branch leave Rocky Mount at 9:30 a. m., 3:40 p. m., arrive Nashville 10:10 a. m., 4:03 p. m.; Spring Hope 10:30 a. m., 4:25 p. m.; returning leave Spring Hope 11:00 a. m., 4:55 p. m., Nashville 11:22 a. m., 5:25 p. m., arrive at Rocky Mount 11:45 a. m., 6:00 p. m., daily except Sunday.

Train on Clinton Branch leaves Warsaw for Clinton daily, except Sunday, 11:40 a. m. and 4:15 p. m., returning leaves Clinton at 7:00 a. m. and 8:00 p. m.

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