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SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1899.

NO. 18

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## THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things  
Present, Past and Future.

Recently THE COMMONWEALTH made reference to the many mistakes made by the late Legislature, and observed that there must have been considerable carelessness in enrolling bills, &c. The Statesville Landmark offers the following reasonable explanation, and we agree that such ought not to be: "The Landmark is of the opinion that the gross negligence is due to the custom of selecting legislative employees—clerks, etc.—with reference to their political influence rather than with regard to their fitness for the positions in which they are placed. This is a custom that ought to be changed."

Jules Verne's book "Around the World in Eighty Days" represented one Phileas Fogg to have made it in 1873 on a bet of \$100,000. Of course it was said to be impossible then, but locomotion and things generally have so changed the Virginian-Pilot remarks:

"Soon we shall have 'Excursions Around the World in Thirty Days.' The world moves, but we seem to keep up with it. Some day, however, we shall take advantage of the annual revolution, and diurnal turning around of the earth to expedite travel in some directions, if not in all. Edison, Tesla, or some other electrician, will teach us so to counteract momentum and the attraction of gravity, the force of air, &c., that we may rise a short way from the globe, remain stationary, until the place we desire to reach comes under us and then descend."

More than a year ago THE COMMONWEALTH suggested the keeping of blood-hounds at some central or convenient point in each county in the State in order that criminals easily and speedily might be caught and the State thus assisted in bringing them to speedy justice.

In view of the recent horrible lynchings in Georgia the Atlanta Constitution published a number of opinions. Among them was one by Governor Northern, who also advocates supplying every county with trained blood-hounds. His opinion in part was:

"My first suggestion is that all homes should be made miniature arsenals, at least to the extent of one good Winchester and one good pistol; that women be allowed to carry weapons upon their persons, concealed, if so desired, and that they be taught the use and handling of firearms, so that they may become their own protectors in the absence of the husband or master of the house. An occasional negro lying dead in the back yard, shot by a brave woman in defense of her honor, will do more to stop this awful crime than all the lynchings that may occur in a year. I would have every county supplied with at least a half dozen well trained blood-hounds. I would have an organization of at least twenty men in each county who should have supervision of all lawlessness and disorders in the county."

Norfolk College will no longer be Norfolk College, after the present session closes. The college closes up permanently as Norfolk College, though it has been suggested that some kind of a school will be kept open there under another name, perhaps. This is very unwelcome news to the public generally, and especially so to the people of Eastern Carolina and parts of Virginia. Many of the good ladies of this region have been educated at Norfolk College. The institution has been established about eighty years and has made a good name amongst like institutions in the country. It has been operated by a stock company, whose chief promoter and supporter was Col. John L. Roper; but the institution it is said has never been a paying investment. Col. Roper stood by it as long as he saw hope of ultimate success, but finally did so much for it without returns he felt constrained to give it up. He told a Virginian-Pilot reporter that he did not think the people of Norfolk stood to the institution as they should have done. Some have patronized cheaper schools outside of the city regardless of the comparison of profits from invested tuition.

THE COMMONWEALTH regrets to learn of the closing up of the college. We have repeatedly had dealings with the managers who have inserted advertisements of the institution in these columns and we have always found them uniformly courteous and prompt in payment of their contracts.

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Beware of  
Signature of  
*Chas. H. Watson*

## PRESENT DAY THOUGHTS

Arguments About Expansion.

A PARALLEL DRAWN.

BY G. GROSVENOR DAWE.

Written for The Commonwealth.

There are already indications that an attempt will be made between now and next summer to exalt the subject of Expansion into the ranks of a National political issue. It may well be regarded in such a light; for even granting the diplomatic necessities that brought to pass our territorial expansion within the past year, it nevertheless remains a fact that the creation of dependencies is a remarkable departure from past standards.

Before, however, the presidential stew pot commences to simmer there are a number of questions that ought to be so clearly recognized by the general public as having no bearing upon the main question of expansion that it may be well to refer to at least to one of them. It is being said in print and in speech that the Filipinos are fighting for exactly the same thing as our forefathers, and that therefore there is nothing to be done except to act on precedents of the past and back out of the Philippines just as the British backed out of America.

For what did our forefathers contend? For that which they were well able to carry on—self-government. What else did they regard as their inalienable rights? Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And in order to secure their point, what declaration did they make regarding themselves? That all men are born free and equal—a philosophical statement, for whose untruth the nation they made was almost disrupted from '61 to '65.

Very well. Viewed dispassionately these noble contenders for the rights of men, ought themselves earlier than their own contention against the English, to have backed out from America; because the poor Indian himself fought a battle for self-government—after his own idea—and for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—as he understood it. Yet I vow that there be few of us who would have contemplated with satisfaction the triumph of the savage Indian, even though he was contending for the land that the Great Father gave him, and the miles over which his ancestors had roamed, hunted, fought and died.

Let us come down to even a more modern matter. Less than a year ago there was a fierce outbreak of racial feeling in the South. White men were organized in a certain amateur uniform and armed with shot guns; not because the colored Americans had any particular designs upon the hearths or homes of their white fellow men or because they were trying to drive the whites off any particular spot of ground. In brief the trouble was this: that one hundred and twenty years and more after the Declaration of Independence the descendants of those who fought for independence were willing to take up arms to prove even by the death of their colored brethren that there is neither political equality nor freedom for all in this great country of ours.

This brief look at ourselves and our past is designed to make one point clear, in order that it may be recognized as having little bearing upon the present dispute. The point is that there is such a thing as a dominant race, and while in fact the pursuit of happiness is the object of all of us, yet in practice the pursuit of that happiness will ever have to be along lines decided as to their direction by the dominant race, or the struggle for that supposed happiness will have to be repressed by the dominant race. By this I do not for a moment mean that injustice should be done, but simply that the assertiveness and the physical exuberance of a barbaric or semi-savage race has always been considered a fit subject for repression in order to produce governmental stability.

Bearing these points in mind and carrying there also the memory of what the "men of '76" contended for, we shall see that the Filipinos in the action they are taking are certainly not parallels of our own heroic past. First, as to self-government. Even the wildest arm-chair theorist cannot for a moment dream that these savage Malays, Chinese, Japanese, Mestizos, heaped together in eight million indigent, dualities, have sufficient trust of one another or knowledge of themselves

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to prepare a declaration of independence as broad as that of Thomas Jefferson or to devise and live under a constitution as elastic and as enduring as that of the United States. Besides all this, with their own natural antagonisms and ignorant antipathies arising from their imperfect idea of social relations, the greatest hope for them of either life or a shadow of liberty or a glint of happiness, is to be found in their remaining under the schoolmaster's of a strong and steady hand during the years of their political minority. Even those of us who are most opposed to America's assuming the tremendous burden of dependencies thousands of miles away from our coast line, must concede this—that when it comes to a question of the form of government under which the Filipinos can obtain the most satisfactory results, we dare not say Spanish nor German nor Japanese (the latter being too untried); even though it is a republic, do feel free to say French and certainly we should protest against Chinese ownership as having in it only political corruption of the worst kind. Narrowed therefore down to its limits this fact remains—that, whether expedient or not expedient, the government as surrendered by Spain and affecting eight million individuals, unable to look after themselves, so far as we can understand, and unready for full political power, must either be carried on by ourselves or by the English. The mere fact that forty thousand insurgents more or less are fighting for what we, in certain phases of sentiment, call liberty, has nothing whatever to do with the main question, nor would it justify us in leaving 7,700,000 to anarchy and self-destruction.

**Tribute to Christine Bradley's Courage.**

Col. Geo. W. Bain, in The Vote.

In the great reckoning day there will be records of moral courage that will pale those of the war heroes whose names now live in poetry and song. For Christine Bradley, the 18-year-old daughter of our governor of Kentucky, to face, as she did, the frowns of false education, and with insults heaped upon her, to stand at Newport News last March, and baptize the battleship Kentucky with pure, cold water, required as blood-born bravery as coursed the veins of the ensign who cut the wires in Cardenas bay, or the lieutenant who sank the Merrimac in the entrance to Santiago harbor. When appointed by Secretary Long to christen the ship, Miss Bradley decided that a custom so out of harmony with the logic of life should be broken. She at once made known her purpose to use water from the spring which Abraham Lincoln drank from in his boyhood days.

This announcement met with great opposition. The secretary of the navy and the builders of the ship were besieged with requests that this "erratic" young girl be compelled to conform to the custom of centuries. The secretary of the navy, John D. Long, was in sympathy with Miss Bradley, but he had no control over the ship until received by the government. The builders expressed their wish that water should not be used. This, however, had no effect on the purpose of the brave young woman, who determined in her own mind that rather than use in the christening what had blighted the hopes of so many daughters, buried in drunkards' graves so many sons of her State, and sent so many crafts and crews to the bottom of the sea, she would decline to christen the ship. The builders allowed her to have her way, and never was there a ship sent to its home in the sea so freighted with the prayers of womanhood.

In presenting Miss Bradley with a silver water service in the name of the W. C. T. U. of Kentucky, and of several personal admirers from other States, I said in closing the little speech: "Heaven bless Christine Bradley, who, by example said:

I christen thee, Kentucky,  
With water from the spring  
Which enriched the blood of Lincoln,  
Whose praise the sailors sing.

I christen thee, Kentucky,  
With prayers of woman true,  
That wine, the curse of sailors,  
May never curse thy crew.

I christen thee, Kentucky,  
And may this christening be  
A lesson of safety ever  
To sailors on the sea."

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## YOUR LITERATURE.

It is All-Important for Youth.

MUCH DEPENDS ON IT.

Rev. C. W. Blanchard, in The Exponent.

Do you often think of the great importance attached to a right selection and use of the literature of your home? All rational people have some consideration of the quality and quantity of food that is taken in day by day for the healthy development and maintenance of physical life. In this, too, parents think and provide for the needs of their children. It is certainly of no less importance and an obligation that they exercise the same care for the mental and moral training of themselves and their offspring. As by assimilation the food that we take in day by day finds its way into muscle, bone, sinew and every organism of life, to build and sustain it in its proper proportions, so our literature finds its way so early into our character, our life, and determines at once what we are, and what we shall be. A man would soon faint and fail under the strain and drain of heavy manual labor if he undertook to nourish his physical structure with rice or gruel alone, and it he is a sensible man he will seek those nourishments that are sufficient to meet the demands of his system. It is no less true of the mental or moral laborer. If one is cold-blooded and lifeless, he will not be able or desirous of assimilating much for moral or mental supply, but if he is one of God's living creatures he must consume or suffer.

In my observations as a pastor in dealing and mingling with my people for a decade, no truth has been more clearly established than the moral and spiritual effect of literature upon the individuals of my parish. I have seen the worldly minded man become deeply pious and faithful by the effect of the literature he was feeding his nature from. I have seen the wayward become sturdy and reliable from constant contact with that mental nourishment that he would get from the right kind of literature. The man of strong temptation has re-enforced his power to withstand it and prove himself the equal of his trials by the good effect of wholesome and nourishing literature. On the other hand, many a well-endowed youth, with excellent blood in his veins, with good ancestral training, as vantage ground to start with, has fallen a victim to crime and disaster from the effect of bad literature on mind and moral—on the mind first as it is the precursor of every other development of character.

It is true that in some we find congenital idiosyncrasies which can never be fully overcome by training, but we will not disparage worth of training on this account. And even in the abnormal irregularities of temperament if one is sensible of his weakness and desirous of correcting his faults, he may find marvelous help from the influence of good literature. Here let me say that the stimulus which our weak natures need can never be found in the "yellow journals" of our day, nor in the average popular novels that issue from the press of this day; and, alas, it is too often true that they do not emanate from the local secular press. That such literature is popular and finds a superabundance of patronage is rather an argument of its already pernicious effect upon public morals, than that it is a fit agency of civil and moral culture. O, when shall we drift again into channels of literary safety? Not till our parents wake up to see that the lapse of social and civil life is due to their indifference to the matter that is making the character of their children.

Of course this is a literary age. Our people are a reading people. They do not in many homes need to be admonished to read more. But how many of the youth of this day are familiar with the literature whose influence has made statesmen, or reformers, or men of any craft whose names are now in the galaxy of fame? These great works of biography or history or philosophy or religion are stale to them. They have but little taste for such reading and too often equally as little of the elements of greatness. Don't think it is expensive to furnish yourself with the best of literature, whether of books or commendable journals, and don't feel that it is a light duty to persuade yourself and your wards to use such freely.

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## A Fifty Dollar Button.

Gaetolia Gazette.

Mr. Thomas White has it and he has had it 48 years. The other day he read in the Boston Mill and Shop that a citizen of Bristol, Pa., had one of the buttons worn by Washington's servants. It contained a monogram of the letters G. W. in the center and around this were the words "Long Live the President." Mr. White knew at once that this was like the button he had been keeping for 48 years. The item further stated that there were only three of these buttons known to be in existence and two of them were in the Washington family. Mr. White's relic undoubtedly makes four of the buttons. He refused five dollars for it one day last week. Where did Mr. White get it? He says he got it by being a naughty sort of boy. An old man named McArthur was going to leave the neighborhood for Georgia. He was a shoemaker and very near-sighted. He was starting out and packing up his belongings, not wanting to carry so far any unnecessary plunder. Looking over the things in the chest, he threw away several lasts and things. Mr. White who was then a boy 7 or 8 years old, slipped around and put back into the chest these rejected articles. The old man thought strange of finding them again and threw them away once more. Finally the near-sighted old man caught the boy at his pranks and offered him this button to quit. The boy agreed and has kept the button until this day. He has been asked if he would consider a bid of \$50 for it.

## Whitewash in the Cow Stable.

Home and Farm.

It may be true that the most important place to whitewash on the farm is the hen house, inside and out, but certainly the cow stable comes next. The man who is so independent, or so indifferent to the appearance of things as to neglect to whitewash his cow stable is certainly too indifferent to the sense of cleanliness to ever become a dairyman. If you are not willing to put on with a brush, then borrow a force-pump and hose, make the wash thin and squirt it on. If you will start at the top of the building and come down you will find the wash will go on quite evenly after a little experience. It smother up and kills myriads of unwelcome germs that constantly accumulate in the cow stable and imperil the purity of the milk. It has a good tendency toward making the men neat and cleanly in their habits, both of dress and handling the cows.

## Good Business Rules.

A Greensboro correspondent of the Charlotte Observer writes that paper the following:

In conversation with Mr. Ireland, of the Odell Hardware Company, of Greensboro, N. C., he told me of their rules with regard to employees, which I wish to give to other business men. When they employ a man or boy it is stipulated that he is not to swear or smoke in or about their place of business, and he is not to drink intoxicating liquor at all. If caught associating with those of questionable character he gets a discharge at once. Their position is that if he cannot find suitable associates among their forty-five employees and all the other moral men in town, then there is something wrong with him and they do not want such a man. When they employ a man they ascertain what church he belongs to, and notify the pastor of that church and expect him to look after the newcomer. They have no cash system, nor cashier, but put a man on his honor in handling the cash.

To show you how it works: They found one of their young men drinking just a little, and fired him, and wrote his parents the cause. In a short time they (the parents) wrote to thank the company for being so positive with their boy, saying that the company had by their strict rules taught the young man a lesson that they had never been able to do, i. e., that he could not drink whiskey and hold his job with good people. Another thing, when their men want credit, they get it when it is known that they will pay for Odell & Co., because a man that fails to pay his bills cannot stay with them; and there is no excuse except extravagance for their not paying their bills.

I am writing from memory and may have left out some important item, but it seems to me that these are good rules, and if adopted by business men generally would be of incalculable benefit to young men in restraining them from evil habits and helping them to build characters that are worth something to the world. While the young man is benefited, the merchant is also, as it secures for him the very best class of help, help that he can rely on when absent from his business.

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for everything is not pleasant, is it? But that's what you are doing, if you don't buy here. Did you think it possible to buy a \$50.00 bicycle for \$25.00? Catalogue No. 59 tells all about Bicycles, Sewing

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What do you think of a new over \$500.00 bargain contained in our General Catalogue of Furniture and Household Goods. We save you from 50 to 60 per cent on everything. Why buy at retail when you know of us? Which catalogue do you want? Address this way.

Price, \$3.95. JULIUS HINES & SON, Baltimore, Md. Dept. 900.

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AND ATLANTIC COAST LINE RAILROAD COMPANY OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

CONDENSED SCHEDULE.

### TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

DATED	Weldon	Rocky Mt.	Tarboro	Florence	Wilmington	Weldon	Rocky Mt.	Tarboro	Florence	Wilmington
Apr. 17, 1899.										
Leave Weldon	11:20	11:40	12:00	12:20	12:40					
Arrive Rocky Mt.		11:50	12:10	12:30	12:50					
Leave Tarboro			12:25	12:45	13:05					
Arrive Rocky Mt.		12:00	12:15	12:35	12:55					
Leave Weldon						1:00	1:20	1:40	2:00	2:20
Arrive Rocky Mt.						1:10	1:30	1:50	2:10	2:30
Leave Weldon										
Arrive Rocky Mt.										

### TRAINS GOING NORTH.

DATED	Weldon	Rocky Mt.	Tarboro	Florence	Wilmington	Weldon	Rocky Mt.	Tarboro	Florence	Wilmington
Apr. 17, 1899.										
Leave Weldon	1:30	1:50	2:10	2:30	2:50					
Arrive Rocky Mt.		1:40	2:00	2:20	2:40					
Leave Tarboro			2:15	2:35	2:55					
Arrive Rocky Mt.		2:05	2:25	2:45	3:05					
Leave Weldon						3:10	3:30	3:50	4:10	4:30
Arrive Rocky Mt.						3:20	3:40	4:00	4:20	4:40
Leave Weldon										
Arrive Rocky Mt.										

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 Parlane 9:10 a. m. and 4:00 p. m., returning leave Parlane 9:35 a. m. and 4:30 p. m., arrive Washington 11:00 a. m. and 7:20 p. m., daily except Sunday.

Train leaves Tarboro, N. C., daily except Sunday 5:30 p. m., Sunday, 1:15 p. m., arrives Plymouth 7:40 p. m., 6:10 p. m., returning, leaves Plymouth daily except Sunday, 7:30 a. m., and Sunday 9:00 a. m., arrives Tarboro 10:45 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