

# THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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## EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

### OBSERVATIONS OF PASSING EVENTS.

This is the season of school commencements, and judging from the great number of such occasions reported in the newspapers, the schools and colleges of the State have done well. One reads of almost every school that it has had better attendance than the previous year and that prospects are good for increased numbers next session. Altogether, it is pretty clear that North Carolina is on the up-grade in education and the work done in the various schools in the State shows well for the educational interest. But after all, many young men and young women who doubtless could make a turn to go to school, are satisfied with what they are doing and seem to care little for the improvement of their minds.

Those who are inclined to think that the bulk of life's work has been done by the time they are forty or fifty, and that the limit for enterprise comes with the three-score year line, may perhaps profitably contemplate the following from the Elkin Times: "The boys go West and sometimes induce the girls to follow. But the old people are catching the Western fever, too. Mr. Billy Mendenhall, one of Yadkin's oldest citizens, 85, packed his trunk to try his luck in one of the far Western States. He had lived on the road from Elkin to Booneville from the time whence the mind of man runneth not to the contrary, so far as we know, and we admire the pluck of a man who is trying to better his condition in life, even if he is 85."

The Duplin Journal says that while the berry crop this season has been short, the acreage had been so increased there were 300 car loads more shipped than last season. The Journal expresses the fear that there will be too great increase in berry acreage next season, and offers the following observations: "There is danger of too large an acreage another season, and there should be co-operation among the growers to limit if possible the acreage grown; but this is quite difficult to do, and failure here may work a serious disadvantage to the growers. Along these lines of co-operation, first with the National League of Commission Merchants for the best transportation and co-operation with the growers for a limited acreage and a better quality of berries, there is much for the growers, through their association, to do, and such work should immediately begin for the next season."

MORE and more men of great thought and moulders of public opinion are giving free expression concerning the duty of all good citizens in helping to stamp out the drink evil. In his address to the graduating class at Wake Forest last week, President C. E. Taylor called the attention of the class to the question in the following strong and ringing paragraph: "What have the college men of this State to do with banishing from our borders the drink evil in its protean forms? They have everything to do with it. What they can do is shown by the achievements already of some of our younger alumni. But the labors of more than one Hercules will be required to slake the cleansing waters through these Augean stables. If the alumni of the colleges of this State will with tongue and pen and with social and religious influence strive for wise and practical legislation the next General Assembly will take still further steps toward the suppression of this blighting curse and the protection of home and womanhood."

The Atlanta Constitution says that the South needs more of a desirable class of immigrants, either from the North or West or the old world. In this connection it quotes the Texas Houston Post concerning the good class of foreign immigrants who have been of great value to Texas. The Post as quoted says: "The foreign citizenship of Texas has been a powerful factor for good. First the Germans, then the Swedes and next the Bohemians who have settled among us are responsible for much of our prosperity. By industry and thrift they have in a majority of instances accumulated a fair measure of this world's goods and demonstrated beyond question that honest toil is sure of a rich reward in this section. Peacefully inclined and naturally law-abiding, the immigrants who have come to Texas have proven a valuable addition to its population. Many of their number have made their mark in our history, becoming prominent in professional and political life. Names foreign in origin are common in Texas commercial circles, success being the usual attendant of their possessors. On the farm the German and his fellows from across the ocean know no superiors."

MARION BUTLER manages to bob up now and then in such a way as to get his name into the papers. The Richmond Dispatch gives the following paragraph with reference to the statesman from the huckleberry region: "Ex-Senator Marion Butler, of North Carolina, who was the head center of the Populist party at the time of its demise, a few days ago shook some of the sands of Sampson county from his boots and went to Washington. He doubtless had some other kind of business there, but the main thing he did while lingering in the capital city was to get himself well interviewed by the newspaper reporters. It is easy to do that at this dull season, when live matter is scarce about the newspaper offices. In the course of his talk to the reporters, Mr. Butler declared that it was a great mistake to suppose that the Populist party had kicked the bucket. He said that the Popes do not care to keep in the scramble, but if the other parties do not behave themselves his folks will rally and whip out both of them, or words to that effect. Mr. Butler thinks it absurd to suppose that any Populist will support Mr. Roosevelt, and so that is an end of that idea. And then he says: 'If the Democrats nominate a man of Mr. Cleveland's way of thinking we will have a ticket of our own and get a world of Democratic votes.' Mr. Butler added that these are the things he expects to see happen."

### MY LAST GLASS.

Selected.  
I have drank my last glass.  
No, comrades, I thank you, not any for me;  
My last chain is risen; henceforth I'm free;  
I will go to my home and my children to-night  
With no fumes of liquor their spirits to blight;  
And with tears in my eyes I will beg my poor wife  
To forgive me the woe I have made of her life.  
I have never refused you before. Let that pass,  
For I've drank my last glass, boys, I have drank my last glass.

Just look at me now, boys, in rags and disgrace,  
With my bleared, haggard eyes and my red, bloated face;  
Mark my faltering step, and my weak, palsied hand,  
And the mark on my brow that is worse than Cain's brand;  
See my crownless old hat and my elbows and knees,  
Alike warmed by the sun or chilled by the breeze,  
Why, even the children will hoot as I pass;  
But I've drank my last glass, boys, I have drank my last glass.

You would scarce believe, boys, to look at me now,  
That a mother's soft hand was pressed on my brow  
When she kissed me and blessed me, her darling, her pride,  
Ere she laid down to rest by my dear father's side;  
But with love in her eyes she looked up to the sky,  
Bidding me meet her and whispered "Good-bye."

And I'll do it, God helping! Your smile I let pass,  
For I've drank my last glass, boys, I have drank my last glass.

Ah! I reeled home last night; it was not very late,  
For I'd spent my last sixpence, and landlords don't wait  
On a fellow who's left every cent in their till,  
And has pawned his last bed and his coffee to fill.

Oh! the torments I felt and the pangs I endured!  
And I begged for one glass, just one would have cured,  
But they kicked me out of doors. I let that, too, pass,  
For I've drank my last glass, boys, I have drank my last glass.

At home, my pet Susie, with her rich golden hair,  
I saw through the window, just kneeling in prayer;  
From her pale, bony hands her torn sleeves were hung down;  
While her feet, cold and bare, shrank beneath her scant gown;  
And she prayed, prayed for bread, just a mere crust of bread,  
For one crust, on her knees, my poor darling plead,  
And I heard, with no penny to buy one, alas!  
But I've drank my last glass, boys, I have drank my last glass.

For Susie, my darling, my wee six-year-old,  
Though fainting with hunger and shivering with cold,  
There on the bare floor asked God to bless me!  
And she said, "Don't cry, mamma! He will; for you see I believe what I ask for!" Then, sobered, I crept  
Away from the house; and that night when I slept  
Next my heart lay the pledge. You smile! Let it pass,  
For I've drank my last glass, boys, I have drank my last glass.

My darling child saved me. Her faith and her love  
Are akin to my dear sainted mother's above!  
I will make my words true or I'll die in the race,  
And sobbed I'll go to my last resting-place;  
And she shall kneel there, and weeping thank God  
No drunkard lies under the daisy-strewn sod!  
Not a drop more of poison my lips shall e'er pass,  
For I've drank my last glass, boys, I have drank my last glass.

**TO MOTHERS IN THIS TOWN.**  
Children who are delicate, feverish and cross will get immediate relief from Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children. They cleanse the stomach, set on the liver, making a sickly child strong and healthy. A certain cure for worms. Sold by all druggists, 25c. Sample free. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

Mexico raises 50,000 bales of the 100,000 bales of cotton used every year in that country.  
"I have been troubled for some time with indigestion and sour stomach," says Mrs. Sarah W. Curtis, of Lee, Mass., "and have been taking Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets which have helped me very much so that now I can eat many things that before I could not." If you have any trouble with your stomach why not take these tablets and get well? For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, and Leggett's Drug Store, Hoboken.

## THE TRIUMPHS OF PE-RU-NA INCREASE.

Thousands of Chronic Ailments of Women Cured Every Month—Disguised Internal Catarrh the Enemy of Women—Pe-ru-na the Only Internal Systemic Catarrh Remedy Yet Devised—Prominent Cases in Illustration.

**MISS HELEN BOLOF.**  
Nervous Depression. Summer months are peculiarly the months of nervous diseases, especially nervous prostration and other depressed states of the nervous system. People who are not at all inclined to be nervous or suffer from weak nerves find this time especially trying. Sallow heat and electrical disturbances of the atmosphere are probably the cause of this. Invalids need to be particularly careful to fortify the nervous system by the use of Peru-na.

**MISS HELEN BOLOF, Kankanas, Wis., writes:** "Several times during the past two years or more my system has been greatly in need of a tonic, and at those times Peru-na has been of great help in building up the system, restoring my appetite and securing restful sleep. I know of a great number of women who are using it for the troubles peculiar to the sex, and with the best results."  
—Helen Bolo.

**MISS LOUISE BERTSEL.**  
Miss Louise Bertsel, 194 Second street, Brooklyn, N. Y., writes:—"My health was excellent until about six months ago, when I seemed to have a collapse from overdoing socially, and the doctor ordered an entire change of scene and climate. As this was an absolute impossibility at the time, I had to try and regain my health in another way and was induced by a friend who gave Peru-na such a good recommendation, to try Peru-na. I cannot tell you the condition of my nerves when I began to use it. The least noise irritated me, and I felt that life was not worth living, but Peru-na soon changed me into a well woman, and now I do not know I have nerves."  
—Louise Bertsel.

A newspaper contributor was lately admitted into the extensive suite of offices which constitute the headquarters of Dr. Hartman, who treats catarrh patients by the thousand. Among the busy swarm of assistant doctors, clerks, stenographers and bookkeepers, Dr. Hartman stopped long enough to say a few words.

"A large number of female patients visit me every year, but the number who are entered on my books as regular patients and are treated by correspondence is very much larger. Hundreds of letters are received and answered free every day. A yet greater multitude take my catarrh remedy, Peru-na, and are cured, of whom I never hear. Some of this latter class write me years after their cure.

"I never allow a name published except by the written consent of the patient. We make no charge at any

**Brain Leaks.**  
Selected.  
All honest work is ennobling.  
The clean heart never grows old.  
Doubt is the dutiful slave of the devil.  
Content is the soil in which love grows.  
A fool with money is never without flattery.  
Religion may make a man sour, but Christianity never does.  
Men who neglect opportunity are the men who fall at fate.  
If all children were alike it would be easy to give advice to parents.  
The heart that is a harbor for hate never sees the white sails of peace.  
Beauty is only skin deep, but the average man is not much of a digger.  
It's a wise man who can keep things running smoothly during house-cleaning time.  
We are yearning to see the champion biscuit-maker and the champion kindling-splitter.  
Truth needs no frills to make it powerful, but it sometimes does to make it attractive.  
A man cannot think a single thought with his biceps, but he can move mountains with his brains.  
A man never sees an old pair of trousers hanging in a closet without feeling in the pockets to see if he can find a coin.  
A lot of people who can sit for hours without stirring in a theatre seat cannot sit forty minutes in a church pew without getting the fidgets.  
We have often wondered if the woman who wears her heels in the middle of her shoes really imagines that it makes her feet look smaller.  
Don't worry about yesterday, because it is gone; nor about to-morrow, because it is not here; nor about to-day because there is too much else to be done.  
The middle-aged man who can read the letters he wrote during his courtship days and not feel silly is either too young for his age now or was too old for his age then.  
Suggest to your wife that she visit some distant friends for a few days and if she doesn't immediately say that she has nothing to wear you will know beyond a doubt that you have a dressmaker.

**Are You Using Allen's Foot-Powder?**  
Shake into your shoes Allen's Foot-Powder. It cures Corns, Bunions, Painful Blisters, Hot, Swollen

**Old-Fashioned Religion.**  
Fall River Herald.  
It is true that a good many people have lost faith in late years. They have been swept from their feet by the display and glitter and manifestation of worldliness and they have despaired of reaching any of the so-called classes, upper, middle or lower, through the channel of fifteen or twenty-five years ago. All this accounts for the place which the brand-new pulpit instructions have made for themselves—the church with the fiddle and the Jews reserved for golfers on the way to the links, and the theory that everybody is as good as saved, even if everybody hates salvation. There has been no end of drivel about the "drift of the times" away from religion. But, as intimated, unless the signs are misleading, religion has not lost its hold, and the old-fashioned religion has not been side-tracked for good—or for evil. Moreover, it would not be surprising if the first to return to this kind of religion were the butterflies of fashion. We mean the butterflies with brains, who have never been satisfied with their gauze wings and diluted religion, let in through a billiard room in the vestry and a sensational minister at the altar. They can see for themselves, this upper crust, that there is a plane which they must occupy with the crude and vulgar and ostentatious so long as they do not care to climb higher, and that there are circles which they cannot enter while they choose to devote their lives to the worship of mammon. Their ambitions, if not the promptings of an inner consciousness, that can't be silenced with externals, will drive them back to the old church, and already it is driving back the better element among them.

**"Skim-Milk Brains."**  
Trenton (N. J.) Gazette.  
According to Dr. Francis Burke Brandt, principal of the Central High School, Philadelphia, high-school teachers find that pupils are frequently sent to them from the grammar schools with what might be called "skim-milk brains."  
That a good many boys and girls are graduated from the grammar schools possessing only a theoretical knowledge of the studies that they have pursued is undoubtedly true, and this will be the case as long as the present system of teaching is followed in the public schools.  
These persons are very properly dubbed fads, an appellation that they resent, but the appropriateness of which is realized more and more by the best educators of the country, who are gradually turning back to the simple methods of teaching employed in the district school of fifty years ago and in many instances of to-day.  
"Statistics show," says Dr. Brandt, "that about 6,000,000 children in the United States between the ages of fifteen and nineteen years do not attend high school. They are lost somewhere in the grasp of commercialism."  
It is a significant fact that in this commercialism that swallows up so many boys and girls "skim-milk brains" are not wanted; theories are not desired. Practical common sense, reinforced with a thorough knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic, is what counts in the sphere of business activities, and for that reason the methods of teaching in the public schools should be so simplified as to obviate the possibility of sending a pupil out into the world with "skim-milk brains," excepting in rare instances.  
It is now left to the business or commercial college to fit the young man or woman for a work that they should be made capable of performing by the public school teacher.

**KODOL GIVES STRENGTH**  
By enabling the digestive organs to digest, assimilate and transform ALL of the wholesome food that may be eaten into the kind of blood that nourishes the nerves, feeds the tissues, hardens the muscles and recuperates the organs of the entire body. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure cures Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Catarrh of the Stomach, and all stomach

**To Cure a Cold in One Day**  
Cures Cough in Two Days.  
Shake into your shoes Allen's Foot-Powder. It cures Corns, Bunions, Painful Blisters, Hot, Swollen