

THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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NO. 36

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"My mother was troubled with consumption for many years. At last she was given up to die. Then she tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and was speedily cured."
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No matter how hard your cough or how long you have had it, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the best thing you can take. It's too risky to wait until you have consumption. If you are coughing today, get a bottle of Cherry Pectoral at once.

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You can eat whatever and whenever you like if you take Kodol. By the use of this remedy, indigestion and diseased stomachs are so completely restored to health, and the full performance of their functions naturally, that much food as would be one into a double-bow-knot are eaten without even a "rumbling" and with a positive pleasure and enjoyment. And what is more—these foods are assimilated and transformed into the kind of nutriment that is appropriated by the blood and tissues.

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Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Prevents itching and dandruff. Restores to its youthful color. Cures scalp diseases, hair falling out, etc., and it is sold at all drug stores.

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A FELON'S SUICIDE

Result of The Drink Habit.

Ring! Ring! Ting-a-ling! Zip! Zip! Zip!

Such was the telephone call in THE COMMONWEALTH office on the 7th day of April, 1903.

Through the receiver came the distinct "Hello!" from Halifax. "Well!" was the answer in THE COMMONWEALTH office. "Vance Spivey committed suicide in the jail last night at 8 o'clock," came the announcement from Halifax.

And who was Vance Spivey? And why was he in jail at Halifax? Then a court trial was recalled. Some months before a sallow-faced, wrinkled, one-armed wretch, a convict from the State farm near Tillery, was conducted into the court room at Halifax and was presented to the court and the jury under indictment for the murder of a fellow-convict.

He was tried by due process of law and was convicted of the murder of the fellow-convict and was sentenced to be hanged on a certain day. His attorneys, who were assigned him by the court, appealed the case to the Supreme court and thus secured a lease of life for their client. When the case was heard in the Supreme court, the action of the lower court was affirmed and Vance Spivey was again under sentence of death for the murder of his fellow-convict.

Governor Aycock set the day for the poor felon's execution, and in the darkening, deepening shadow of death the wretch awaited in his lonely cell the coming of the day when he should pay the penalty of his rash deed with his own life. He was already eerying a life sentence for killing his uncle; and the thickening shadows of the guilt of his double tragedy pressed upon him so heavily that he became desperate, and with the falling of the shades of night before the day appointed for his execution he said in his soul he could bear it no longer. So as the twilight of night crept over the earth Vance Spivey leaped forth into his own dark night of death at one stroke with his own hand upon his own person. The jugular vein was severed and his guilty life gurgled itself away as his heart's blood stood in a pool about his prostrate form.

Vance Spivey was dead, and perhaps he who was to have been his executioner on the morrow felt relieved. He was buried in the potter's field and was soon forgotten, save, perhaps, by those who wiped away the blood that stained the floor of his cell in the jail.

But back of it all there was a tale of woe and a black trail of iniquity for which some one else besides Vance Spivey was partially responsible. In the court room while being tried for his life for killing his fellow-convict, the prosecuting attorney asked, "Why were you in the penitentiary?" He answered, "I was put there for killing my uncle." "How came you to kill your uncle?" asked the solicitor. The wretch answered, "Him and me had been drinking and I struck him with a rail and killed him."

There it was! A man already possessed of a rafeul temper fired by the "beverage of hell," like some mad beast, fell upon his own kinsman and struck him dead.

Was Vance Spivey alone responsible for that rash act? Had he been altogether sober he would have been, but who can answer before God and say that the powers which made it possible for that dangerous man to secure the intoxicant with which to enrage an already dangerous temper, were not partially responsible?

It was not brought out in Vance Spivey's case when or under what circumstances he learned to drink and the habit fastened itself upon him. Almost without doubt, however, it may be said that he became addicted to drink in the open saloon.

On the 15th day of September the voters of Scotland Neck will decide whether the open saloon shall continue in the town or whether the temptation to drink shall be removed by closing the saloons.

It on the 15th of September the majority of the voters in Scotland Neck shall cast their votes to continue open saloons in Scotland Neck, the open saloon will continue and boys and young men will continue to learn to drink in them, and those upon whom the habit is already fastened will continue to drink at them also.

Now, then, if by vote of the people the saloons are kept open and some man becomes intoxicated with liquor sold in a Scotland Neck saloon, and, like Vance Spivey, by reason of his intoxication slays his uncle or some one else, will not every man who votes for the saloons be proportionately responsible for the deed?

Suppose that the vote for and against the saloons shall be a tie until just before sunset and the last ballot cast shall be in favor of the saloons, how can the man who casts that one deciding vote ever free himself from the conviction that he is personally responsible for every evil deed that comes directly from the sale of liquor in Scotland Neck under the election at which his vote decided the question?

We charge that if Mr. A. casts the deciding vote in favor of saloons in Scotland Neck, and through the influence of liquor sold in any saloon in this town under the power of that election there shall be a murder, Mr. A. will be morally responsible for it.

We charge further, that if by vote of the people of Scotland Neck saloons are continued in the town, for every drop of human blood that flows by reason of drunkenness caused by liquor sold or given away in saloons kept open under the power of such election, every man who votes for saloons will bear his proportion of responsibility—if not the entire responsibility.

We beg that every voter in Scotland Neck will ponder well before he casts his vote, and count well what the result of that vote shall be. It means much to the town of Scotland Neck; it means much to the homes of the people in this community; it means much to many people who have no vote in it.

Such are our convictions, and let us say they have not been reached by the conclusions of a day or an hour, but by the observations and thought of many years.

Voters of Scotland Neck, the question is with you. How will you decide it? How much responsibility are you willing to bear for the evils that may follow the liquor traffic here sanctioned by your vote? You are to act and God is to be your judge.

What will you do?
How will you vote?

Scarcity of Farm Labor.

Kinston Free Press.

Some of our correspondents complain of the scarcity of labor and seem to be in a dilemma as to what to do about it. There is no doubt but that to-day no labor of any kind is a drug in the market. To-day ten jobs are looking for a really competent man, while a short time ago ten men were looking for a job. This is the case all around, not only on the farm, but in the building trades and in the store.

But the question that confronts the farmer is what he is to do about his farm. He has a large number of acres of productive land. It is ready for cultivation and has been made to yield in abundance. But this very fact has tended to lead the farmer astray, in the light of present conditions.

The only practical thing for the farmer to do now is to limit the number of acres he places under cultivation, and make those cultivated do their full duty.

Prepare well for each crop. Have the land in faultless condition and make a liberal use of fertilizers of one kind or another and undertake to cultivate no more than can reasonably be taken care of by the force that in all probability will be at command during the season. Every crop should be planned from start to finish before it is begun.

Right along this line another thought presents itself and that is this: This country is suffering from a lack of an intelligent diversity of crops.

Our people must learn, if they would be prosperous, to live at home and board at the same place.

In this heaven-favored land of Eastern Carolina it is plainly foolish for our farmers to risk their all on one or two single lines of production, such as cotton or tobacco. No up-to-date farmer should think of resting until he has produced enough to carry him through the year without a cent of expense to his "money crops."

When a farmer stakes his all on a tobacco crop he necessarily puts himself at the mercy of the American Tobacco Company that now dominates the market. If the A. T. Co. does not want the farmers' tobacco the latter is then left flat with a limited supply of money from his "money crops," and his year's supplies to buy—such supplies as could be raised on his farm.

There are too many "money crops" in this favored section for the farmer to rest on one or two alone. There are too many demands for farm produce for the farmer to be content to buy these necessities—and that too from a really less favored section of the Union.

The Vine of the Spout.

Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

She washes and irons all day;
Her tired old hands are shabby and thin,
And her hair, once yellow, is gray.
She stands near a window to labor,
And every few moments looks out
And murmurs, "You're mine," to the
small, sickly vine
That's climbing the old water spout
She waters it well in the twilight
And tenderly touches the leaves
As they nod in the zephyrs that some-
times get lost
So far from the grass and the trees,
She knows every tendril it carries,
Each bud is a care, without doubt.
For she loves—with a love that is sent
from above—
That vine on the old water spout.

She is wrinkled and ragged and tired,
Her children have left her, I know,
To fight the battle of life once again—
She fought it for them long ago.
Friendless, alone, uncherished,
Her mother-love will not die out,
So she croons an old tune, all the af-
ternoon,
To the vine on the old water spout.

It may be the world doesn't need her,
It may be the world doesn't care
For the old, lonely soul whose eyes are
so dim,
Whose voice is thin as her hair.
It may be the world has forgotten—
And yet I haven't a doubt,
God planted that seed—for He saw
there was need,
For the vine on the water spout.

Negro Race Decadence.

Charlotte Observer.

The statistician of the New York Times has been probing into the twelfth census and concludes that the exhibit of the compilation possesses a melancholy interest for those who indulge in the hope of a great future for the negro in this country. He finds that in fifty cities in all sections of the country the death rate among the negroes was greater than the birth rate. For example, in Boston, during the census year, there were 13,991 births and 11,227 deaths of white persons, the excess of births being 2,764; while among the negroes the births numbered 240 and the deaths 327—a death excess of 87. Greater New York shows that the births of whites numbered 96,164, and the deaths 79,229—a birth excess of 16,935. The births of negroes were 1,430 and the deaths 1,970, the deaths exceeding the births 540. As to Buffalo, Chicago and St. Louis a like comparison of birth and death rates was made, with similar results. New Orleans, which was expected to show an excess of births over deaths among the whites, the report for the negroes being births, 1,735; deaths, 3,310, or a death excess of 1,575.

In the country at large, including the cities, the increase for whites between 1890 and 1899 was 24.9 per cent., and for blacks 13.5 per cent. The white increase between 1890 and 1900 was 20.7 per cent., and the increase of blacks 18 per cent. These figures, however, are accompanied by explanations that make the reported increase of 13.5 per cent. in the eleventh census too small and the gain reported in the following census of 18 per cent. consequently too large.

A contemporary asks the solution of this tendency of so "virile a race as the negro to extinction"—this "contrast with the evident conditions during slavery." To our mind, it is plain. During slavery the "down-trodden race" was, as a rule, free from worry, had a plenty of wholesome food, was kept properly clad, and was made to take care of itself and its progeny. No one in the South would re-establish the institution of slavery, but such figures as The Times' statistician produces, and his remark that "it is evident that one of the lessons the black race must learn is how to keep itself on earth," are among the many proofs that that institution was not so iniquitous as it has been painted.

Everybody Knows.

Selected.

Everybody knows that there is and probably always will be sickness, pain, suffering and sorrow in this world, and a multitude of things which cause unhappiness, and which we would gladly have otherwise.

Everybody also knows that if everybody would try to make the world happier it could be made vastly happier than it is.

And how many good things we have to be thankful for—the flowers, the fruits, the harvest, the seasons, day and night, the sun, moon and stars, the power to enjoy all the beauties of nature and art with the eye, all the sweet harmonies of music with the ear, the odors of flowers with the nostrils, the foods that give us health and strength, the blessed sleep that comes without price to the poorest.

How a single mistake in the construction of one of the thousand parts that compose our bodies would torture us! How a single mistake in the great plan of the universe would involve our planet in ruin! How important each to the whole! It is asserted by scientists that if only the small birds on this earth were destroyed, all vegetation, because of the enormous increase of insects, would be eaten by them, and every human being and every animal would perish.

It is far beyond our reach to comprehend the power that governs all these things, but it is not beyond our reach to get some glimpses of the wisdom and goodness manifested in what some call the laws of nature, and others the laws of God.

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE

Taking when you take Groves' Tasteless Chiff Tonic because the formula is plainly printed on every bottle showing that it is simply Iron and Quinine in tasteless form. No Cure, No Pay. 50c.

Making a Man.

New Orleans Picayune.

Hurry the baby as fast as you can,
Hurry him, worry him, make him a man.
Off with his baby clothes, get him in pants,
Feed him on brain food, make him advance.
Hurry him soon as he is able to walk
Into a grammar school, cram him with facts,
Fill his poor head full of figures and facts,
Keep on a jumping them in till it cracks.
Once boys grew up at a rational rate,
Now we develop a man while you wait.
Rush him through college, compel him to grab
Of every known subject a dip and a dab.
Get him in business and after the cash,
All by the time he can grow a mustache.
Let him forget he was ever a boy.
Make him his god and his jungle his joy.
Keep him a-bustling and clear out of breath
Until he wins—nervous prostration and death.

Threatening the President.

By Publishers' Press.

Oyster Bay.—A man supposed to be demented made an attempt last night to reach President Roosevelt and was arrested by the secret service men. On his person was found a 32-calibre revolver and it is believed that he intended assassinating the President.

The secret service men detailed as guard in front of the house who was standing in the roadway about 10 o'clock last night when an unknown man drove up in a carriage. He was held up a hundred feet from the house and announced that he had an engagement to meet the President. He gave his name as Frank Weibronner and said he lived in Syosset, a small town seven miles from Oyster Bay. He stated that the President had telegraphed him to come to Sagamore Hill immediately. The guard examined his list and found no such man among those expected by the President. He told Weibronner this, and ordered him to drive on. The latter objected but finally left after being threatened with arrest. He returned a half-hour later and again insisted that the President was very anxious to see him on a matter of important business. He was again refused entrance and again departed apparently much chagrined at his failure to see the President. Three-quarters of an hour later he appeared again and this time the secret service guard decided to check him up as a matter of precaution. As Weibronner is about six feet tall and very peculiarly built, the guard called another man and the two placed him under arrest. He was searched on the spot and a 34-calibre revolver, every chamber loaded, was found in his pocket. He is about 28 years old and weighs about 200 pounds. Weibronner was taken to Oyster Bay and incarcerated in the village lock-up. This morning he was questioned and from his answers it was plain that he is demented. He will be thoroughly examined later in the day.

FOR OVER SIXTY YEARS.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for sixty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in ever part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other.

If men were protected from liquor as carefully before they go to jail as they are after they get there, they wouldn't go at all.

DEWITT IS THE NAME.

When you go to buy Witch Hazel Salve for the name DEWITT is on every box. The pure, unadulterated Witch Hazel is used in making Dr. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, which is the best salve for cuts, burns, bruises, boils, eczema, and piles. The popularity of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, due to its many cures, has caused numerous worthless counterfeits to be placed on the market. The genuine bears the name of E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

Which are you going to vote for this year, your boys or hoodles and beer? Better lose your vote, if necessary, than your boys.

EAT ALL YOU WANT.

Persons troubled with indigestion or dyspepsia can eat all they want if they will take Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. This remedy prepares the stomach for the reception, retention, digestion and assimilation of all the wholesome food that may be eaten, and enables the digestive organs to transform the same into the kind of blood that gives health and strength. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

\$100 REWARD \$100.

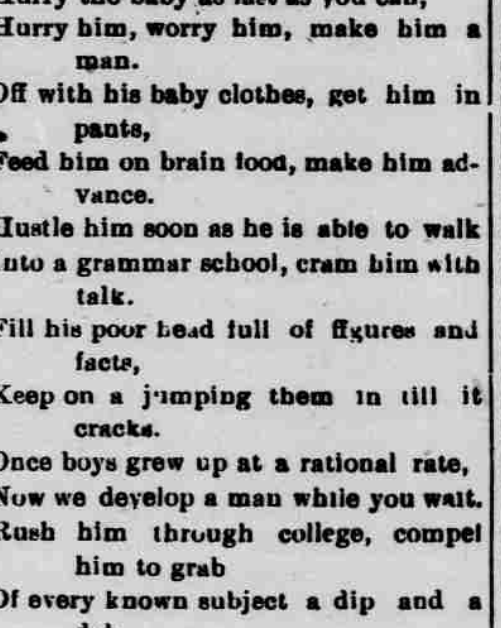
The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by all druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

NERVOUS PROSTRATION

CURED BY PE-RU-NA.



Mr. Hal P. Denton, Chief Department Publicity and Promotion of National Export Exposition, writes:
Philadelphia, Dec. 20, 1900.
The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O. Gentlemen:—"Toward the latter part of August I found myself in a very much run-down condition. I suffered particularly from catarrh of the stomach, aggravated no doubt by the responsibilities and worried incident to the exploitation of a great international exposition. What I ate distressed me and I would lie awake at night 'threshing over,' if I may use that expression, the affairs of the previous day.
"My family physician said I had nervous prostration and recommended a sea voyage. I gradually grew worse. A kind friend whom I had known in Ohio recommended Peruna. Though skeptical, I finally yielded to his advice. After using one bottle I was much improved and with the fifth bottle came complete recovery. I am in perfect health to-day and owe everything to Peruna."
Very truly yours,
HAL P. DENTON.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice free.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus Ohio.

Judge Douglas, president of the Missouri Historical Society, has announced that a number of the historical places of the state will soon be marked by tablets. A fund for this purpose has been placed in the hands of the society.

THE DEATH PENALTY

A little thing sometimes results in death. Thus a mere scratch, insignificant cuts or puny boils have paid the death penalty. It is wise to have Bucklen's Arnica Salve ever handy. It's the best salve on earth and will prevent fatality when Burns, Scalds, Ulcers and Piles threaten. Only 25c. at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s drug store.

According to recent experiments by Dr. Spring, of Lintich, the blue color of the atmosphere is due to the oxygen it contains and not, as heretofore believed, to the effect to fine particles of dust.

Mrs. Mollie Allen, of South Fork, Ky., says she has prevented attacks of cholera morbus by taking Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets when she felt an attack coming on. Such attacks are usually caused by indigestion and these Tablets are just what is needed to cleanse the stomach and ward off the approaching attack. Attacks of bilious colic may be prevented in the same way. For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, and Leggett's drug store, Hobgood.

SUICIDE PREVENTED.

The startling announcement that a preventative of suicide had been discovered will interest many. A run-down system, or despondency invariably precedes suicide and something has been found to prevent that condition which makes suicide likely. At the first thought of self destruction take Electric Bitters. It being a great tonic and nerve strengthener the nerves and build up the system. It's a great Stomach, Liver and Kidney regulator. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by E. T. Whitehead & Co., druggists.

During the past year California produced twice as much gold as Alaska, and Colorado produced more than three times as much.

POTENT PILL PLEASURE.

The pills that are potent in their action and pleasant in effect are DeWitt's Little Early Risers. W. S. Philpot of Albany, Ga., says: "During a bilious attack I took one. Small as it was it did me more good than calomel, blue-mass or any other pills I ever took and at the same time it effected me pleasantly. Little Early Risers are certainly an ideal pill." Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund its money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

To Cure a Cold in One Day
Cures Grip in Two Days.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets & Malt.
on every box 25c.