

THE COMMONWEALTH

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

OBSERVATIONS OF PASSING EVENTS.

WHILE the farmers of the South are greatly interested in cotton, and perhaps more interested in that just now than any other product, there are other things which should claim a good share of their thought. The following paragraph by the Wilmington Messenger is timely: "While the Southern farmers are paying so much attention to the price of cotton they should not forget that the South is interested in another important world crop. The corn crop of the United States is an immense affair and the South is very much interested in it because our section contributes largely to the total of the product of the American fields. The estimate of the yield this year of corn in the United States is nearly three billion bushels. This is almost beyond the mental grasp of a person, still the figures represent the amount of corn actually raised and the South had its share in producing this large crop. This shows that we can do something more than raise cotton."

THAT is what Henry W. Grady said about cotton, and many people concur with him in his opinion of the great staple. One day the price will rise and for no reason that men can see the next day it will tumble back perhaps to points below where it was the day before it rose. It is somewhat like the man who stands on the corner and by an almost invisible string pulls a jumping jack and makes him cut capers, all the time calling to passers-by that any one can do it. Those who wonder at the jumping-jack do not see the fine rubber string which the trickster pulls. So most of us cannot see the wire-pulling and sharp manipulating which the cotton speculators are constantly engaged in while the price of cotton bobs up and down. If the farmers of the South will hold together through the plans and principles of the Southern Cotton Association, they will alter a while be able to dictate to the speculators and spinners, and when the price of cotton moves the farmers will then have as much to do with it as anybody else. There is only one condition, and that is stick together and work the plans.

NEXT week will be the return of the season for thanksgiving. The 30th day of this month has been set apart by the President of this country as the day in which all the people should give thanks. Many are making preparations already for the manner in which they will spend the day; but will there not be much and many things done on that day which will be far from thanksgiving? The excursions that will be packed to the great base-ball and foot-ball games will show almost anything else than a spirit of thanksgiving. We are not saying anything against base-ball or foot-ball, per se, but we do believe that it is a poor way to celebrate a day of thanksgiving. It looks much like many have forgotten the real significance of a thanksgiving day, if they ever knew it, and turn it into a day of revelry rather than a day of thanksgiving. It is right and proper for the people all over the land to meet and give thanks and make contributions towards caring for the poor and the orphans about us; but to turn the day into one of hilarity and revelry is quite inconsistent with the purpose of the occasion.

NOTHING costs one less than courtesy and nothing adds more to one's social assets. A courteous person is always an agreeable person, and one who is agreeable is interesting, and few people, if any, can touch another for good until he has in some way interested him. So courtesy becomes the key that unlocks in the life of another those recesses that must be opened before he can be reached for good. Then, as doing good should be the chief desire and aim of all, it follows that all should cultivate the grace of courtesy. This premise followed to its logical conclusion would bring results of great good and happiness to the world and would be a means of making the world better. But there are many who do not and will not accept our proposition that doing good should be the chief aim of all. Many act as if they thought the chief aim of life should be to make money; for so intense are their feelings and efforts for the "almighty dollar," they will not stop to be courteous a moment to a passing stranger. Some who themselves are uniformly courteous and who do not see much of the rough world may be inclined to think this a hard saying; but he who touches much of mankind and at many points will find here and there a person who is too eager for money to be courteous to one from whom he sees no chance of extracting some kind of gain. Let us be glad that there are so many courteous people and that we have the opportunity and help of their touch, and do our best to set the good example to those who are discourteous by being uniformly courteous ourselves. We can set no example of greater beauty or of more delightful charm than the example of courtesy.

DANIEL WEBSTER.

A Man at Whom Every One Would Take a Second Look.

Professor George F. Fisher in Scribner's. It was after a season of seclusion in Marshfield, whither he retired after the nomination of General Taylor, as Achilles retired to his tent, and when he came to Worcester to deliver a speech in favor of the candidate, that I saw pass with stately tread through the dense throng gathered of an evening in a spacious hall to hear him and heard one say to another in an audible whisper, "Just look at him!" Such impressions were not confined to New England or to this side of the Atlantic. Wherever Webster went he was one whom no one met at first but took a second and wondering look.

In England his person, his manners and his intellectual traits elicited glowing tributes of admiration from Anglican sources most worthy of respect. Sydney Smith his form and aspect were lauded in a homely simile characteristic of the author's wit. Such men as Henry Hallam, not given to extravagance, expressed an unstinted admiration. Carlyle was generally not disposed to utter cynical comments on things and persons American. To him Webster seemed a "parliamentary Hercules," besides being a "dignified, perfectly bred man." The honor, partaking almost of awe, with which schoolboys in Massachusetts in the forties regarded him and recited extracts from his speeches can at this day hardly be realized. His writings remain to attest the power as well as the purity and simplicity of his style. We often bear now praise of what is termed his Saxon vocabulary. A mistake is here implied. Webster was conversant with and used with unparpassed effect the Saxon side of the English vocabulary. His style, however, was much enriched by the Latin contents of our English tongue, which he interwove with not less propriety and effect.

When is a Woman Old?

Notwithstanding the abundance of discussion, serious and otherwise, during the last few months, as to an age-limit of the usefulness of men, the newspapers have kept a chivalric silence as to the age at which women should be retired from active service. There are certainly some offices which they would have to leave undone if they were to be laid aside when they reach the age of forty.

For example, there is the art of being a grandmother—one of the most agreeable and useful of a woman's accomplishments. It has the joys of motherhood without its responsibilities. The grandmother at forty is only the beginning of a grandmother. At sixty she has a small store of experiences of whooping cough and college "serapes" and love affairs and weddings on which she may draw as occasion requires. But at eighty the accumulation is really splendid, and yields a new treasure for each grandchild.

There is no advice which so commends itself to the boys and girls as the advice of the right sort of a grandmother—sympathetic without foolishness and courageous without sternness or narrowness. The grace and the repose of the grandmother preserve ideals for the younger generation which the strenuous demands of the world too often force the mother to neglect. The art of staying at home and yet keeping a travelled mind and spirit is not acquired before seventy. Travels beside a fireplace are grandmother's cure for restlessness, as well as for ignorance.

"What are you going to do with your leisure?" asked a friend of a woman of seventy, who was resigning some of her life-long duties to other hands. "I am going to have it," replied the wise old woman, "and that will be enough pleasure for the next ten years. By that time I may want to do something else with it."

Plainly she did not need to be pushed off the stage at a fixed age. Croup is quickly relieved, and Whooping Cough will not "run its course" if you use the original Bee's Laxative Honey and Tar. This Cough Syrup is different from all others because it acts on the bowels. You can not cure Croup and Whooping Cough until you rid the system of all congestion, by working off the cold through a copious action of the bowels. Bee's Laxative Honey and Tar does this, and cures all Coughs, Croup, Whooping Cough, etc. No opiates. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, Leggett's drug store, Hobgood.

ROOM.

By Henry Johnstone in The Outlook. What's life in a city? There's no room to spare. Men are crowded in corners and scantied of air; Too near to be neighbors, too fretful for friends. Each man justles each as he seeks his own ends. There are folk underneath us, and folk overhead, And the noise of the street comes to vex you in bed: The jangle of car-bells, the cab-whistle shrill, All the hum and the whir and the dust of the mill That is grinding all day and grows louder at night, Conspires against comfort and banish delight. Ah, God, for the country—the singing of the birds, The laughter of children, the loving of herds, Green grass and blue heavens, bright water, clean air, And room enough, room enough, and to spare!

Cleanliness in the Grocery.

Merchants Journal. Few dealers in groceries seem to appreciate what a valuable asset is cleanliness. It not only serves to attract customers but will give the store a reputation for high-class service which a slovenly competitor cannot earn. Eternal vigilance is all that can give the store an established reputation for cleanliness. Floors must be kept clean, shelves and counters dusted, perishable articles covered to keep out flies, articles which are easily injured by exposure must be kept in airtight show cases.

The store should be so ventilated that rancid and disagreeable odors will never be allowed to accumulate. Greasy barrels and tubs should be placed so that they will not come into contact with women's skirts, and counters and scales should be kept free from anything which is liable to soil the clothing of customers. Women customers should not be compelled to walk about the store with their skirts tightly drawn about them for fear that they will come in contact with a protruding nail, or soil them in pushing through narrow aisles on uneven counters and displays.

Build Well in Youth.

"Every moment you now lose," wrote Lord Chesterfield to his son, "is so much character and advantage lost; as, on the other hand, every moment you now employ usefully is so much time wisely laid out at prodigious interest." That statement holds perfectly in the commercial world to-day. The young man who neglects to take advantage of the present moment is losing the birthright given him by the gods in his abundance of enthusiasm and energy and is binding himself to the rack of labor in the future years, when he will feel so much less life doing, but must toil from force of necessity. On the other hand, the young man who builds the foundation for a good business career in early youth finds himself in middle life wielding power that is very agreeable; he is his own master—master of his own time—and that is best of all. If he has also been industrious the chances are that he has acquired no expensive or luxurious habits; therefore, he does not need to be immensely rich to be doing well, and he can take part in the affairs of the city, State and nation with a free hand. The harvest sown in youth is reaped leisurely and agreeably and the world knows no such name as "hard time" for him.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE.

A powder for the feet. It cures Swollen, Sore, Hot, Callous, Aching, Sweating Feet, Corns and Bunions. At all druggists and shoe stores, 25c Ask today. More women would go in for velvet culture if they could buy things for a song. If you are troubled with indigestion, constipation, sour stomach, or any other pain, Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will make you well and keep you well. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, Jno. N. Brown, Halifax.

Patience—What do you understand is the normal temperature of the body?

Patience—Well, it all depends. In most places it is about 100, but in Boston I believe it is about 115.—Yokers Boston-man. Pain may go by the name of rheumatism, neuralgia, lumbago, pleurisy. No matter what name the pains are called, Hollister's Rocky Tea will drive them away. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, Jno. N. Brown, Halifax. After singling the boy to sleep a woman proceeds to talk her husband to sleep. The original is always the best—imitations are cheap. Bee's Laxative Honey and Tar is the original Laxative Cough Syrup. It is different from all others; it is better than all others, because it cures all coughs and colds and leaves the system stronger than before. The letter B in red is on every package. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, Leggett's drug store, Hobgood.

DO YOU GET UP WITH A LAME BACK?

Kidney Trouble Makes You Miserable.

Almost everybody who reads the newspapers is sure to know of the wonderful cures made by Dr. Kilmor's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy. It is the great medical triumph of the nineteenth century; discovered after years of scientific research by Dr. Kilmor, the eminent kidney and bladder specialist, and is wonderfully successful in promptly curing lame back, kidney, bladder, uric acid troubles and Bright's Disease, which is the worst form of kidney trouble. Dr. Kilmor's Swamp-Root is not recommended for everything but if you have kidney, liver or bladder trouble it will be found just the remedy you need. It has been tested in so many ways, in hospital work, in private practice, among the helpless too poor to purchase relief and has proved so successful in every case that a special arrangement has been made by which all readers of this paper who have not already tried it, may have a sample bottle sent free by mail, also a booklet giving more about Swamp-Root and how to find out if you have kidney or bladder trouble. When writing mention reading this generous offer in this paper and send your address to Dr. Kilmor & Co., Birmingham, N. Y. The regular fifty cent and one dollar bottles, dollar sizes are sold by all good druggists. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmor's Swamp-Root, and the address Birmingham, N. Y., on every bottle.

Origin of "Windfall."

When my uncle first started in business as a general merchant in a country town it was in partnership with a young fellow about his own age. Both boys were very enthusiastic about their work, and after long days behind the counter they would go to their room above the store and continue to "talk shop" far into the night. My uncle's partner was particularly engrossed in his work, and often his sleep was disturbed by customers and big sales. One night his nightmare reached the climax. Evidently the dreamer was just in the act of selling cotton goods, for my uncle felt his nightshirt go "frit-frit" straight up the back, while his partner was calmly saying:—"Two yards, Madam?"—Lippincott's.



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A Day's Relief for Day People. Bids Good-bye to Headaches and Renewed Vigor. A specific for Constipation, indigestion, flatulence, biliousness, nervousness, dizziness, neuralgia, rheumatism, lumbago, pleurisy, etc. It is different from all others; it is better than all others, because it cures all coughs and colds and leaves the system stronger than before. The letter B in red is on every package. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, Leggett's drug store, Hobgood.

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