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E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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THE COMMONWEALTH.

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SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1907.

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All the blood in your body passes through your kidneys once every three minutes. The kidneys are your blood purifiers, they filter out the waste or impurities in the blood. If they are sick or out of order, they fail to do their work. Pains, aches and rheumatism come from excess of uric acid in the blood, due to neglected kidney trouble.

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KILL THE COUGH AND CURE THE LUNGS
WITH Dr. King's New Discovery
FOR COUGHS, COLDS AND ALL THROAT AND LUNG TROUBLES.
GUARANTEED SATISFACTORY OR MONEY REFUNDED.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Observations of Passing Events.

AND now comes gray winter slowly on. Scarcely had the gorgeous tints of autumn appeared when the brown of winter began to intrude; and, even before we can realize it, the earth is gray and the forests brown. In but a few days more the trees will be bare. Winter will soon be upon us! How beautifully has God reconciled his laws in all their intricacies! Man by nature is averse to sameness. To him monotony is unbearable. God in his omniscience provided for this eternal longing and gave to man the change of seasons with all their attendant pleasures. And how clearly did He match them with the changes of feeling and habit from childhood to old age. Spring, with her life and sparkle and glitter, has been fittingly compared to youth and its natural vivacity; Summer casts her glowing sunshine like the even effort of mature manhood; then comes Autumn, when life has passed the meridian and all activity of youth and manhood has ripened into the beautiful experience of beginning old age. Winter brings old age, when man with trembling step and palsied hand approaches the grave, which but divides him from the springtime of another life—the life beyond the grave.

ONCE more Thanksgiving comes around, with its "possum and taters" its pumpkin pie, its turkey and cranberry! With its coming it behooves us to recall its origin and purpose. Thanksgiving is our National holiday. It had its origin in the gray dawn of our nation's history, when a handful of colonists opened their hearts to God in thanksgiving for carrying them through a severe winter and giving them a bountiful harvest. Let us all, then, according to the example set by our forefathers, thank God for the blessings we have received; and in our thanking let us remember that none but the unselfish can be truly thankful. Therefore while we turn our thoughts to the groaning table and glowing fireside of our own home, let us remember the thousands of homeless orphans that fill our various Asylums throughout the State, and make a suitable offering to some one of them according to the blessings we have received. The work of the orphan homes appeals strongly to our judgment and to our sympathies. It merits our heartiest support. The Thanksgiving season has been set apart by the people of North Carolina as a time of special effort for aid to them. These thank-offerings are a real factor in their maintenance and improvement. They are beautiful expressions of the spirit of gratitude, and must be pleasing to the One who, through his servant said, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

"NOWHERE," says Collier's, "is the struggle for existence more incessant, more remorseless, than in the vegetable world." This poet of science has been recently reconfirmed by the announcement of superintendent Parsons, that the soil of Central Park, New York, is played out. The trees are dying, the grass is thinning, and nothing will save it but a re-coating with fresh, new soil. It has been known for a long time that the death-rate of the beautiful trees in the English park is enormous. Orchardists discovered this antagonism practically a decade ago, and the up-to-date orchardist keeps his soil bare and brown by thorough cultivation. Continuing Collier's gives the following on the results of recent experiments along this line. "That the grass from the soil substances that were needed for the nourishment of the trees, and vice versa, was the first exclamation: that the trees deprived the grass beneath them of sunlight and water. This exclamation, however, would not stand the test of experiment, no matter how abundantly fertilizers of all sorts were applied to the trees of the grass-grown orchard, the trees still refused to yield their best quality of apples, and tended to die, and, on the other hand, no matter how high up pruning was carried, and how thoroughly the sunlight was permitted to penetrate to the very roots of the trees, grass would not flourish within the sphere of influence of trees. So that the orchardist who tried to grow two crops at once, both the subject was taken up by the National Bureau of Agriculture both in France and in the United States, and after prolonged research the principal cause was discovered to be the somewhat unexpected one of the formation of substances in the soil by the grass which are directly toxic or injurious to trees. Seedlings and young trees were planted in pots and boxes filled with the same soil, and subjected to exactly the same conditions of moisture, heat, and light. Part of these were then sown with grasses of various sorts, as well as clover, peas, and various other crops, and the remainder left bare, but thoroughly cultivated. The result almost invariably was that those seedlings whose soil was kept clear of growth grew faster and more vigorously than any of the others, although some crops like clover and peas seemed to interfere only slightly with their growth; grass was most injurious of all. Thinking that the amount of cultivation and aeration of the soil might differ, two sets of seedlings were then planted, one in a soil shaken out of freshly dug old sod, and thus presumably charged with the toxins; and the other in fresh soil from a plowed field, and both thoroughly cultivated. Again the difference was all in favor of the ungrassed soil. A dozen other variations of conditions were then made, as to fertilizer, moisture, heat, etc., but with practically one result. Possibly in future some method of detoxicating or purifying the soil of these products may be devised. It may be possible to renew the soil of Central Park by some less radical and expensive procedure than that of complete removal and substitution. It is even believed that a similar process of auto-intoxication plays a considerable part in the so-called "going stale," or loss of fertility in ground in which the same crop has been grown a number of seasons in succession; and that part of the value of that time-honored device of lying fallow is due to the opportunity given both for weeds to neutralize or take up some of those toxic products, and for the rain, the sun, and the wind to wash, blow, and oxidize them out of the soil."

Blotches, pimples, coarse pores, blackheads are unsightly and denote impure blood. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will drive them away. 35c Tea or Tablets. E. T. Whitehead & Co.

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Another Chance.

(Biblical Recorder.)
Mr. Gordon wasted no time in business hours. When he wanted a new suit of clothes the tailor came to his office and measured him there. On one of these occasions, as they passed through to an inner room, the tailor came face to face with the new book-keeper, and there was an evident, although silent and embarrassed recognition, which Mr. Gordon noticed.

He turned it over in his mind several times while the tailor was measuring him. As he replaced his coat, and the tailor rolled up his tape to go, Mr. Gordon said to him, "I want you to tell me what you know about that man."

"I hate to tell you, Mr. Gordon," said the tailor, "and yet I think I ought. That man is a convict. He stole from a firm I buy from. He's just out of prison."

"Thank you," said Mr. Gordon. "Nothing is to be said to any one else, you understand, but I wanted to know."

Mr. Gordon was a man of prompt action. His decision was immediate, and his impulse to put it into effect was so swift that his hand was on the bell before he thought twice. But before ringing he stopped for a second thought.

"Of course I must discharge him," he said. "In a business like mine I can't have any one round that I can't trust. And yet it's a little hard, if the fellow really meant to do better. I see now why he offered himself at such low wages, and why he keeps so carefully inside."

He opened the cash-book, and looked over the entries since the new book-keeper came. The work was done with almost painful accuracy. Mr. Gordon read them through and ran over the balances. It was all straight this far.

"Of course it is," he said to himself. "But how long will it continue so? I never can be sure what day he will break again in the old place. Business is business. I must have men whom I can trust."

So he rang the bell. The new book-keeper came in, his prison pallor intensified by his fear. He tried to walk erect, but Mr. Gordon thought of the lock-step. It was strange, he thought, that he had not noticed these things in the beginning.

PLEA FOR DUMB ANIMALS.

Women Under Plumes Restless.

The following correspondence in the News and Observer is quite interesting: Statesville, N. C.—Like Davenport, who is doing much good, Rev. C. A. Jenkins, of Statesville, is pleading for the dumb animals which are tortured for man's pleasure. At the First Baptist church, Sunday afternoon Mr. Jenkins preached a strong sermon on the treatment of dumb animals and the relation between men and animals. He first read the first chapter of Genesis, telling of the creation of the animals and all other things and then took for his text Deuteronomy 22, 6 and 7:

"If a bird's nest chance to be before thee in the way in any tree, or on the ground, whether they be young ones or eggs, and the dam sitting upon the young or upon the eggs, thou shalt not take the dam with the young: 'But thou shalt in any wise let the dam go and take the young to thee; that may be well with thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days.'

Rev. Mr. Jenkins began his remarks by stating that there was too little said in the pulpit, papers, etc., about our relation to the animals and how they should be treated. God made the animals before he made man. They are our fellow creatures, and they have some claims and rights. God thought enough of the birds and other animals as to include them in the commandments and to instruct the Israelites as to how they should treat them. He said that some people went to the extreme about their pet animals, and condemned the poodle dog fad which existed among the women who prefer dogs to children and the fad of erecting monuments to dogs, cats and other such pets. He would prefer this extreme to the cruel extreme, however. He illustrated the effect of a kind word to a dog or cat and the faithfulness of these animals, citing instances of where dogs had laid down their lives for their masters.

After pleading for the dogs and cats Mr. Jenkins turned the course of his remarks to the birds and their relation to the women's hats. The women were hit hard and those in the audience who were guilty of this evil became very restless. He pictured the cruel way by which these wings and heads of birds were torn from the living birds and how the wingless birds were thrown to the ground to await a horrible death after their plumes had been torn from them. He cited cases of where the most beautiful birds had been exterminated from certain sections by this practice and style of wearing them on hats. He also told of the immense business done by the hunters who secure the wings, etc., and the wholesale houses which furnish them to the milliners. Some of the statistics and figures in regard to the amount of business done by some of these bird-wing concerns were astonishing.

The cock fight was condemned and a plea was made for better methods of shipping poultry. The men who shoot pigeons for sport and the fox hunters who have foxes brought from a distance to this section to be chased and cruelly torn to pieces by dogs for man's pleasure were given a hard lick. It is alright to hunt the fox and destroy it where it is a pest, but it is wrong and cruel to bring them here just for the pleasure of killing them. The over-loaded goat carts and the boys who beat the goats were mentioned and the fad of docking horses and using check reins which cause horses much pain and inconvenience were condemned. God knew better how to finish up a horse than man does. The old cow which is left tied out in the hot sun in summer and allowed to freeze in the winter was also among the list of the mistreated.

Mr. Jenkins concluded his most impressive remarks by saying that we should remember that animals have feelings and we should let them know we have religion by our actions towards them and their treatment at our hands.

We see dumb animals cruelly mistreated every day of our lives and if all ministers would plead for the animals from the pulpit there would be less cruelty. There are societies in most cities which look after the mistreaters of dumb animals but there is no such society in Statesville. There should be and will probably be if others will take the stand that Rev. Mr. Jenkins has taken.

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