

THE COMMONWEALTH.

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Published Every Thursday.

Entered at the post office at Scotland Neck, N. C., as Second-Class Matter.

Thursday, June 11, 1908.

Publisher's Announcement.

It is a settled point in newspaper ethics that editors and publishers are not responsible for the views of correspondents, and the publication of correspondence does not imply that the editor or publisher endorses the communication. This COMMONWEALTH adheres to these general principles.

Hon. D. M. Furches, former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, died at his home in Statesville Monday, June 8. He had been more or less prominent in the Republican party but never an ardent politician.

The high price of corn and hay this season has had good effect on some farmers, let us hope; for the acreage in corn seems to be a good deal larger than usual, and this is the only way to make farming a safe and profitable business.

Governor R. B. Glenn has been asked to second the nomination of W. J. Bryan in the National Democratic Convention in Denver. Governor Glenn can do it as well as any admirer Mr. Bryan has in the United States and the friends of both hope he will do it.

President George T. Winston, of the A. & M. College at Raleigh, offered his resignation some days ago. His resignation was a surprise to the people of the State and many regret to lose his service at that great institution. His successor has not yet been chosen.

As the time comes on a space in most of the counties for nominating men for various offices, it behoves the citizens of the State everywhere to name good men in whom the people have confidence. The State's interests ought to be in the hands of such men from township constable to Governor.

The News and Observer observed some days ago that "dark horse" talk concerning the nominee for Governor by the North Carolina State Democratic Convention is not popular. It thinks that Messrs. Horne, Kitchin and Craig have made such a strong canvas that it is not at all probable any other man will be thought of in the convention.

A merchant who does a good business, but not a large business, said this week that these dull times are caused by the lack of home supplies. He said that people generally have to buy their meat, bread, hay and other supplies for their homes and farms, and only the larger merchants and those who sell on time can carry such trade well. And every word he said was true.

To a man who said that business is too dull to advertise we replied that dull times to a business man should have the same effect that grass has on the farmer. When the farmer sees that his crop is suffering by reason of the presence of grass he puts forth all the more energy to change the conditions. So when a merchant finds that his business is suffering by reason of the absence of customers, he should go to work in earnest to change conditions by becoming a live and persistent advertiser.

Halifax Faces.

(Cor. to The Commonwealth.)

Halifax, N. C., June 9, 1908.

Miss Susie Mountcastle, who has been teaching the Halifax High School here this year, returned to her home in Emporia last week.

Joe Butts, Jr., was here Sunday visiting his people.

Miss Lucy Butts has been spending several days in Weldon this week.

Miss Susie Gilliam has returned home for her vacation after teaching several months in Henderson.

Mrs. W. H. Hays, Miss May Bell and Master James have returned to their home in Elm City.

Mr. E. L. Travis is spending this week in Asheville, as a delegate to the Convention of "The Order of the Eastern Star."

Rev. A. G. Willcox preached here on Sunday morning, but had to go home in the afternoon because of the illness of a son.

CUT IT OUT.

The Raleigh News and Observer and the Charlotte Observer took very opposite views about the defeat of Hoke Smith for Governor of Georgia, the Charlotte Observer rejoicing at Governor Smith's defeat and the News and Observer deplored it. They have a perfect right to differ in their opinions about such a matter, and we make that part of it no affair of ours, but we can not quite excuse the Charlotte Observer for its editorial profanity. With thousands of others in North Carolina, we have long admired the ability of that good newspaper, but we submit that it went a word or two too far in its editorial utterances of June 5th. We recently heard a great and good man in a public address declare that people ought to be very careful how they use certain words, and "hell" was one of them. We can not think that the Observer would like often to use such expressions as it did Friday in which occurred the word which the good man we have referred to said we ought to avoid.

WORD FOR HOME MARKETS.

Sometimes the saying that "distance lends enchantment to the view" has more truth in it than we suppose. The following editorial observations by the Norfolk Landmark are timely and mean a great deal:

"An interesting phenomenon is the destruction, by orders from health boards, of immense quantities of strawberries and other perishable food in Northern cities, where the commission merchants have been unable to sell the overstock at even two or three cents a quart.

"Is it not possible that if these berries had been offered for sale in Southern home markets, at really low prices as of old, the result would have been a profit to the farmer instead of the heavy loss which he has sustained in his eagerness to play for high prices in the North? How many times have strawberries been offered at retail at a price as low as five cents a quart around here this season?

"Similarly, we note that hundreds of thousands of pounds of American meats are being shipped back from Europe, because the foreign markets are overstocked and the American market yields better returns. The business of despising the local market to play for the outside market may be overdone."

A GREATER DEVELOPMENT.

North Carolina has already taken place in the front rank as one of the most progressive States in the South. But there are still greater developments just ahead of us.

Ranking amongst the first in the number of cotton mills, it will soon be a leader in this industry; and there is every reason why such should be the case. We raise a considerable quantity of cotton, the climate is fine, farm products are plentiful and so mill people can live reasonably cheap, and other things enter into the conditions which make it possible and probable for a greater development.

The settling of the liquor question by popular vote is going to figure largely in bringing about greater development. There will no longer be the opportunity for laboring men so inclined to spend their week's earnings at some convenient place for the purchase of liquor, and many a man who has been accustomed to waste his own earnings and a part of the earnings of his family will now be able to live better by using his money for the comfort of his family instead of throwing it away at a bar-room. This will bring about an era of better prosperity which will impress people of capital outside of the State; and so investment by outside capital will be increased.

The outlook for larger and better development is indeed flattering, and those of our people now in active life who live another decade will see North Carolina a greater and better and more prosperous State.

Jefferson Davis' Advice.

(Charlotte News)

The crowning event of the week closing to-day was the celebrations throughout the South of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Jefferson Davis. This year the tributes paid to the leader of the Lost Cause seemed to have been inspired by fresher and deeper love than ever before. The day was observed as it never was before. The South does not forget its honored dead. Each year makes the place of Davis and the other chieftains of the Confederacy more secure in the great heart of the South.

A contemporary quotes an extract from the last speech of President Jefferson Davis. We wish to reproduce the quotation, for it holds a lesson for us of this generation:

"The faces I see before me are those of young men. Had not you been this I would not have appeared alone in a defense of my Southland, but for love of her I break my silence and speak to you. The past is dead; let it bury its dead, its hopes and aspirations. Before you lies the future of golden endeavor, full of national glory before which the world will stand amazed. Let me beseech you to lay aside all rancor and all bitter sectional feeling and take your place in the ranks of those who will bring about conciliation out of which will be shed a re-united country."

Nobler sentiment was never expressed. And coming from Davis, after his career of defeat and sorrow, these words bear double meaning. Such sentiment could only spring from a great mind, or rather from a great heart, for they are not mere idle words.

The man who had lost all upon which his heart was bent; who had suffered the stings of abuse from myriad tongues; whose motives had been misinterpreted and too often wilfully misrepresented; for whom remained only a cup of sorrow and regrets, and who, in the face of all, could point the minds of young men to the future; who could preach the doctrine of love and fellowship with his former enemies, was indeed of noble mould.

What infinite pathos in these words! What nobility, what a broad spirit of forgiveness and of hope in the future! With such leaders to bear the standard against odds, and later to give such advice in defeat, is it strange that the South fought as it did, or that it has prospered so since the great struggle?

Most Profitable Acres.

(Westminster Gazette)

The possibilities of profitable gardening in England are exemplified by an acre of land cultivated on the French system of extensive culture, which in the last completed year is said to have yielded 625 pounds in gross returns.

This probably constitutes a record for England, the nearest approach known to the writer being an acre of land, the property of a seedsman on the Great Western line between London and Oxford, which has yielded in one year flower seeds to the value of 270 pounds.

In Samona 60 pounds to 80 pounds is the average yield an acre of land planted in cocoa; in Georgia 80 pounds worth of egg-plants have been picked from a single acre, and pine-apple farms in the West Indies often pay as much as 100 pounds an acre.

Such yields as these, however, are trivial compared with that of an acre of vineyard in the Moselle wine growing district which was sold a few years ago for nearly 24,000 pounds, and which produces a crop worth 2,500 pounds; or with that acre of land in Tibet on which grows the sacred "tree of a thousand images," the leaves of which yield an annual revenue exceeding 3,000 pounds.

Drowned in a Mud Hole.

(Raleigh Times Star)

New Bern, N. C., June 8.—The two-year-old daughter of Alderman E. T. Hollowell was drowned in a mud hole about 3:30 Sunday afternoon. The little one wandered away and fell into a ditch fifty yards from the house, where the water was about thirty inches deep. She had been missed not longer than fifteen minutes when the searchers went out, but she was dead when found.

School Closing.

(Cor. to The Commonwealth.)

On Wednesday afternoon May 27, at the home of Mrs. P. E. White; Mrs. C. F. White served cream to her school children, patrons, and some friends. It marked the closing of a well attended seven months school. Cake and cream were in abundance and all pronounced it a most enjoyable occasion.

Save Your Bank Account.

Have your painter use the L. & M. PURE PAINT, because L. & M. guarantee your painter's work; it's double insurance. 4 gallons L. & M. Paint and 3 gallons linseed oil, make 7 gallons paint at cost of \$1.20 per gallon.

Hardy Hdwe. Co., Scotland Neck, R. H. Salsbury & Bros., Hamilton, N. C. L. & M. Paint Agents.

Death of Young Mr. Fitzpatrick.

(Cor. to The Commonwealth.)

HALIFAX, N. C., June 8, 1908. Mr. James Fitzpatrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Fitzpatrick, of Crowells, N. C., died at Hotel Roanoke on Wednesday night, June 4th, very suddenly. The young man had been in exceedingly poor health for about a year, and had been a constant searcher for health. Father and mother had expended much time and money in pursuit of relief for him, but with little avail. He was brought to Halifax about two months ago to be under the special care of Dr. H. B. Furgerson, who did all in his power to bring about satisfactory results. He was surrounded by loving relatives and friends, who united in their efforts to alleviate suffering, while his mother was constantly by him to hear the slightest whisper and to encourage all she could. All had hoped that his condition was improving gradually, but surely. The deceased had attained his 24th year. He possessed in a large measure those admirable qualities that go far toward making the life what it should be. Having a bright and buoyant nature, it was only natural that he clung to the hope of health eventually.

It was presumed that he was on the sure road to final recovery, and no one expected the end would come so suddenly and unexpectedly. God knows what is best for each of us, and while "we see through a glass darkly," and fail to comprehend that these providential workings of His will seem to us as chastisement, yet, they must be to us lessons of admonition, and should create within us incentives for a higher, better life here, that there may be that complete fulness of life realized in the life to come.

There are left a father and mother, several sisters and one brother. To these we offer our sincere sympathy, and commend them to Him who is able to solace the heart with His balm of love and to give needed grace and strength in this hour of need.

The remains were placed in the Catholic Church, Father O'Brien conducted the funeral rites on Sunday morning. From there the remains were conveyed to his home and placed in the family cemetery.

W. F. C.

Mr. S. S. Alsop.

(Gaithersburg)

The death of Mr. S. S. Alsop at his home here, which occurred at about 8 o'clock Sunday night, was quite a shock to the community, notwithstanding his death was momentarily expected. He had been in bad health for nearly a year and a part of the time his condition was critical; however, he was able to be down town the first of last week. On Friday he was taken very ill and continued so until his death.

Mr. Alsop was about 64 years old and well known throughout Halifax and adjoining counties. He came to Enfield about 40 years ago from Fredericksburg, Va., and had lived here ever since, being actively engaged in the practice of law, and for several years the editor of the Ledger, which discontinued last December on account of his health. He was married twice, his first wife being Miss Pattie Burnett, who died about 1880, and his second marriage was about four years ago to Miss Tempie Battle of Nash county. He is survived by his widow and a son, Mr. S. B. Alsop, of Mortimer, and a daughter, Mrs. G. G. O'Neill, of Asheville.

Such yields as these, however, are trivial compared with that of an acre of vineyard in the Moselle wine growing district which was sold a few years ago for nearly 24,000 pounds, and which produces a crop worth 2,500 pounds; or with that acre of land in Tibet on which grows the sacred "tree of a thousand images," the leaves of which yield an annual revenue exceeding 3,000 pounds.

The funeral services were held in the Baptist church, of which he was a member, and were conducted by the pastor, the Rev. C. G. Lowe assisted by Revs. Dr. Mercer, of Rocky Mount; Rogers, of Whitakers; and J. E. Holden, of the M. E. Church here. His remains were laid to rest in Elmwood Cemetery at 5 o'clock Tuesday evening.

Dawson Items.

(Correspondence to The Commonwealth.)

The crops in this section are looking fine. We have had some good seasons and the farmers are very much encouraged this year.

Mr. Ernest Lawrence, of Weldon, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Lawrence, for a few days. Miss Katie Weeks, from Scotland Neck, is visiting relatives and friends at Dawson.

We are sorry to learn that our friend, Mr. Lynn Branch, rural carrier from Enfield, is very sick with fever.

A very worthy colored man, John Whitaker, had the misfortune to lose a fine mule Sunday. Another mule kicked it.

We attended the burial services at Crowells Sunday afternoon of Mr. James Fitzpatrick, son of Mr. N. Fitzpatrick. He was buried with Catholic ceremonies, which were quite a new observation to a good many.

Mr. Bradford Cook gave us a fine Sunday-school lecture Sunday morning. His subject was "Religion and Reform." He handled it well.

About Conventions.

(Graham Gleaner.)

Most of us are so poorly informed that we conclude whatever custom or thing now exists is just as it has ever been, and are not mindful of the fact that things grow.

Just now, as convention is a word, familiar to everybody the following facts from an authority on public topics will be of interest:

The national convention is an out-growth of state conventions. The first party convention to nominate a governor was held in Pennsylvania in 1808. The plan extended to other States, and was quite generally adapted in the early thirties. Andrew Jackson decided that the easiest way to secure the nomination of Martin Van Buren as his successor was to call a national Democratic convention, made up of delegates who were in favor of his candidate. He was not certain that he could accomplish the result he sought in the old way. Accordingly, a presidential convention was called in 1836. Jackson's lieutenants did their work well, and Van Buren was nominated. A national convention had been held in 1832 to endorse the previous nomination of Jackson by various states, and to nominate a Vice-President. But the Van Buren convention of 1836 was the first of the modern type.

A Basket Picnic.

(Cor. to The Commonwealth.)

HOBGOOD, N. C., June 9, 1908. On next Friday there will be a basket picnic at the school-house in this place, given under the auspices of the Sunday schools.

Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

In the afternoon the following program will be rendered by five little girls. These children have gotten up this program as a means of filling some mite boxes, given out at the Baptist Sunday School, on Sunday the 31st of March. These boxes are for the Children's Day excursion.

They will charge a small admission and serve cream and cake afterwards.

PROGRAMME.

Song—Meet me on the Warpath—Class of five.

Recitation—Confused—Katherine White.

Recitation—Dreadful Epidemic—Sadie Harrell.

Recitation—Stalely verses—Helene White.

Song—Raise your Hands—Class.

Recitation—The plaintive kettle—Barian White.

Dialogue—Who made all things—Class.

Vocal Solo—Not half has ever been told—Helene White.

Recitation—A dreadful quarrel—Hazel Armstrong.

Recitation—Lest another stumble—Helene White.

Song—My old Kentucky Home—Class.

Recitation—Katharine's pig—Hazel Armstrong.

Vocal Solo—When the Bluebirds nest again—Marion White.

Recitation—The dead kitten—Marion White.

Vocal Solo—In the neighborhood of Love—Hazel Armstrong.

Agents Wanted.

11x20 Crayon Portraits, frames 10 cents and up, sheet pictures one cent each. You can make 400 per cent profit or \$36.00 per week. Catalogue and Samples Free. —FRANK W. WILLIAMS COMPANY, 1208 W. Taylor St., Chicago, Ill.

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