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VOL. XXIV. New Series Vol. 11.--6-18

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1908.

NUMBER 45.

Women as Well as Men Are Made Miserable by Kidney Trouble.

Kidney trouble preys upon the mind, discourages and lessens ambition; beauty, vigor and cheerfulness soon disappear when the kidneys are out of order or diseased.

Kidney trouble has become so prevalent that it is not uncommon for a child to be born afflicted with weak kidneys. If the child urinates too often, if the scalds the flesh or if, when the child is an age when it should be able to control the passage, it is yet afflicted with wetting, depend upon it, the cause of the difficulty is kidney trouble, and the first care should be towards the treatment of the important organs. This unpleasant trouble is due to a diseased condition of the kidneys and bladder and not to a habit as most people suppose.

Women as well as men are made miserable with kidney and bladder trouble. Both need the same great remedy. Its mild and the immediate effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It is sold by druggists, in fifty-cent and one dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling all about it, including many of the thousands of testimonial letters received from sufferers cured. In writing Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure and mention this paper.

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Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root, and the address Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

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THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

OBSESVATIONS OF PASSING EVENTS.

Declamations—The Blue Back

THERE is much to be commended in the present enthusiasm for educational development in North Carolina and throughout the South, but some who revert to things and customs and systems of a former time fear that in some respects the schools of our time are neglecting certain training which was held necessary by our predecessors in school work as highly important in the proper development of every school boy. We refer particularly to the old time declamation and the study of the "blue back" speller. In former times patrons of the "old field school" frequently listened to the ardent declamation by the awkward country boy and therefrom received a faith in the boy's future which, when expressed to him lifted a horizon which could have come into his view from no other source. This faith conceived for the boy's future, and expressed for him, has often been the guiding star to high and noble attainments for our country's distinguished men who rose from obscurity by dint of their own perseverance linked with the hope that grew out of a faith inspired by their effort at simple declamation. So far as our own observation goes, the primary and higher schools of the present have discarded the old custom of having boys to declaim. Let it be restored and let every book bag be supplied with a copy of Webster's Blue Back Speller, and the declamations well practiced and the "Blue Back" well learned will again be a stimulous to the development of great powers which otherwise might remain latent.

What Now?

ANOTHER great battle of ballots has been fought by the American people. The result of this contest is expressed in the majority of the votes which were cast for Mr. Taft for President; and while disappointments are as far-reaching as the zeal of the Democratic party was intense, those disappointments should not lie in the way of the progress and material prosperity of the country. The great Southern section of this Union voted solidly for Mr. Bryan, and now that the election is over the people in the South doubtless will wisely forget any and all difference which would hinder the rightful development of the wonderful resources of this great section of country. The Wilmington Star in a timely and sensible editorial discusses the situation, saying that the South should do two things: Lay aside all political differences and unite all energies in the one purpose to make the South even a greater section than it already is. Discussing this feature of the duty of the Southern people the Star says: "The other thing for the people of the South to do is, now that the several months' excitement of a political campaign has come to an end, for all to turn their attention to what our section so much needs—united action and activity in industrial and commercial development of our section. They should turn from politics to business, and in this, political lines should be wiped out. They are all Southerners—Democrats and Republicans—and they all want to see the South prosper and progress. This can be brought about only by united action. Then let our people put aside politics and turn to the development of our section. They can do this and yet not yield one iota in their allegiance to their party when the time comes to divide on political questions, but don't let them divide on matters which concern the material interests of all just because they are divided on political questions."

Will The Farmers Do It?

ELECTION day is always a stopping time for intemperate political enthusiasm. Whether wisely or unwisely, with reason or without reason, men get into a sort of "double-quick" in the political race in which they are personally interested or indirectly interested for others; and they lose sight of many things upon which depend the highest and best interests. It is sometimes said that lawyers run politics and that others follow their lead, but as a matter of fact many farmers become as much interested and devote as much time to the political issues at hand as any other class of people. Perhaps the campaign which has just closed, elicited the interest of the farmers as much as any campaign since the Civil War. Because of this fact the farmers have to a great degree lost sight of the vast importance of maintaining and holding in tact their great and useful organization, the Southern Cotton Association. Except in agricultural journals, for the past few weeks, the press of the country has had little to say about the importance of united purposes amongst the farmers to maintain good prices for cotton and to raise the price, if possible, to a figure which will justify them in making cotton the chief money product of their farms. Now that the election is over, excitement somewhat forgotten, will the farmers come to themselves, turn to their own, and once more unite their efforts and energies for perfecting such organization as will secure for them the returns for their cotton crop to which they are justly entitled? From its organization in 1905, THE COMMONWEALTH has believed in the Southern Cotton Association. In these columns time and again we have endeavored to set forth the great advantages that grow out of the organization and the profits to the South in the millions of dollars which we believe have been realized in good prices for cotton through the effect and influence of this movement. We trust that farmers will not now, by longer indifference, lose the advantage which they have already gained in this work, but will make strenuous effort to make their organization still more effective. Will they do it?

TOO MANY OPPORTUNITIES?

The Country Boy Is Greatly Favored in Surroundings.

RIGHT THINKING BRINGS SUCCESS.

(Success Magazine.)

It takes a strong purpose and a great deal of determination to resist the thousand-and-one distractions in city life and concentrate one's mind upon self-improvement.

There is such a thing as having too many opportunities, too many facilities. As a rule, boys who are born and brought up in the midst of libraries, books, and schools, become indifferent to the value of these opportunities; while in the country, where books are rare and opportunities for education limited, the ambitious boy is more anxious to make the most of his time, to seize every opportunity for self-culture with avidity, to redeem himself from mediocrity.

One of the greatest dangers of city life is that of becoming surperficial. Where there are so many editions of the daily papers every day, we get in the habit of "skimming," which is very dangerous; we just glance at a paper for a few minutes and throw it aside—just look at the headings and a few lines of the most important paragraphs, then lay the paper away. This desultory habit is suicidal to all deep and lasting culture. After we acquire this habit, it is almost impossible to get rid of it.

No great and lasting success can be attained until one has formed a habit of continuous, persistent thinking along fundamental lines. A little dipping into this and that, a few minutes reading with very little thinking, or contemplation, or reviewing of what we read, will result in a most shallow life.

Easy access to many books has been a stumbling-block in many a career. It is natural for us to depreciate what is common, and easy to obtain. Perhaps, if Lincoln had been reared in a large city, in the midst of great libraries and schools, he might not have been so well educated as he was. He did not mind walking through the forest many miles to borrow a coveted book, and he considered it the greatest luxury imaginable to have an opportunity of devouring its precious pages, lying on the floor of the log cabin before the old fireplace, for candles and lamps were luxuries in which the Lincolns could not indulge. He would sit up nearly all night poring over the precious contents of a book as if he never expected to see another. Half a dozen books constituted his whole library, but these he knew thoroughly. He did not skim them over, he devoured them; he read them over and over again until he could almost repeat them by heart. Many of the great gaints in American history never had access to libraries in their youth, but what few books they could get hold of, they almost learned by heart.

In cities, books, pictures, schools, and works of art are so plentiful, a youth is likely to become so familiar with them that he does not half appreciate their value. A few good books read and digested and re-read would do more toward forming a solid foundation for a successful life than thousands of books skimmed over.

Many young people of to-day can not recite the names even of the books which they read six months ago, any more than they can recite the articles which they merely scanned in the daily paper.

This habit of skimming over books and papers is not only fatal to all genuine culture, but it helps to form superficial habits generally. The mind become demoralized when you do things in a passive way; for there is nothing which will tend to keep it from grasping and seizing hold of ideas, more than the habit of crowding upon it pictures, half-pictures, in such quick succession that no lasting impression is possible. We read the dailies without the slightest effort to remember or to retain what we read. The mind is not active, it is not held accountable for everything which comes to it, but it is allowed just to glace at scores of items within a few minutes, without feeling held persistently to any one thought.

Great readers and great thinkers try to keep out of the city as much as possible. They long for the quiet hours of the country, where they can think and read without distraction or interruption.

Of course there are hundreds and thousands of people with a persistent and determined purpose sufficient to enable them to read and study systematically in the midst of the most distracting and demoralizing surroundings of city life; but, on the other hand, we shall find that a large part of the great thinking of the world is done in the country, or at least in the suburbs of cities.

Buying a Paper.

(Arthur T. Hadley, LL. D. in Youth's Companion.)

It is, unfortunately, the case that the newspapers are chiefly run for the benefit of the latter class. A man of this sort buys a newspaper that tells him things that he likes; he refuses to buy a newspaper which tells him things that he does not like, even though they may be true.

But it is not possible for a country to be well-governed unless the people who do the reading are in the habit of weighing evidence. If they shut their eyes to all facts except those that they like, the government will be at the mercy of passion and prejudice.

If every boy can understand that it is a political duty to give to the public business of the country the same kind of treatment that a successful man gives his private business, and to adapt his conduct to the facts instead of trying to adapt the facts to his conduct, our public business will quickly be brought up to the same level as our best private business. And there is no way in which this can be done so surely as by beginning at the bottom and reading newspapers in that spirit.

We may apply this spirit not only to the news columns, but to the editorial. The boy who wants to have the country well governed should demand of the editor that he give him more logic and less rhetoric than he does at present. What passes as a well-written editorial to-day is usually one which is so constructed as to excite the feelings of the reader. This is rhetoric. The result of rhetoric is that a man gets into such a mental state that he is ready to act without knowing fully what he is doing.

There is another type of editorial which does not arouse the reader's feelings so much or give such pleasure and assurance of what he ought to do, but which enables him to find out what the facts really mean. This is logic. The man who is governed by logic will not hit nearly so many blows as the man who is governed by rhetoric; but those which he does hit will tell.

Rhetoric produces a vast exercise of power with very little result. Logic is what really gets things done in the way the people intend. The boy or man who is governed by rhetoric becomes the tool of somebody else. The boy or man who is governed by logic is a force to be reckoned with on his account, A nation composed of such men is irresistible.

Which of these things are the boys of to-day getting ready to demand from the newspapers of to-morrow? Upon the answer to this question the future of America very largely depends. If we answer it wrongly, we shall be at the mercy of circumstances. If we answer it righly, we shall be able to control them.

DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills are unequaled in cases of weak back, backache, inflammation of the bladder, rheumatic pains, and all urinary disorders. They are antiseptic and act promptly. Don't delay, for delays are dangerous. Get DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

VENTRILOQUISM AMONG BIRDS.

Some Observations of the Accomplishments of Animals.

THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS INHERENT.

(November St. Nicholas.)

There are many accomplishments which the lower animals seem to possess inherently, but which man can only gain through great application.

It would take a long time for a boy to learn to make the sort of snare that a spider spins instinctively, and a colony of beavers can build a better dam than can a crowd of untrained men.

One of the human accomplishments hard to learn is ventriloquism. It seems to be a gift which comes to but few of the human species; yet among birds there are species every individual of which possess the power of making the voice seem to come from another spot than that in which the owner is located.

There seems to be little reason for this in most cases, but still there must be some, for nature is very economical in bestowing her gifts, and one may be sure that the possession of the power argues its usefulness. The first example of ventriloquism which will occur to most people is the voice of the mourning dove. I suppose that every boy has been fooled by this bird. I know that I was, and was delighted when I discovered, after walking around a tree in the orchard, that the voice did not come from far away but close at hand.

When the mourning dove utters his call he swells up air-sacs in his breast and neck, and these act a sort of sounding chamber, which tends to hold and repress the sound, as a sound is made in a barrell. The emu has the same quality in his voice. It is as though these birds swallow their voices.

The crow has some notes which are very ventriloquial in quality. One note in particular is much like the bark of a distant dog, so much so, in fact, that I had trouble in convincing my friend that it was the voice of a crow about three hundred feet away and not that of a distant dog. The chickadee has a call-note of such quality that its source is always uncertain until the bird is located.

The oven bird's "teacher! teacher" always seems to come from several feet higher than where the bird is actually standing.

The thrushes, at least the wood thrush and the robin, have a peculiar habit of singing to themselves, as it were. Often, as I have been sitting in the woods, a wood thrush has been singing, say, thirty feet away, which I supposed was at least 200 yards away until I discovered the bird. The whispered song is perfect so far as phrasing and notes are concerned, but in a very low key.

I have heard a European thrush sing in the cage of the zoo when the notes could not be heard farther than fifteen feet. With my ear within three feet the song was as perfect and beautiful as in the ordinary way.

Why these birds sing so, I have no idea.

The peculiar wattles on the neck of a guinea fowl had no significance to me until one day when I was making a careful drawing of a wild guinea fowl. The wild guinea cock has wattles as the domestic one, only exaggerated. I noticed that when the cock's beak was toward me his harsh call was louder. Then I noticed that when his beak was open the lower mandible, being lowered, almost filled the space between the two side wattles, thus making a cup, and that the notes were thrown by a sort of megaphone, or just as a boy throws his voice by making a cup of his hands.

Torturing eczema spreads its burning area every day. Doan's Ointment quickly stops its sreading, instantly relieves the itching, cures it permanently. At any drug store.

The Leaves.

(By Marion Couthouy Smith.)

In the smoky, sultry haze,
In the mild mid-autumn weather,
The leaves are gathering, circling,
dancing, dropping down together.
They fall with a subtle sound,
With a dry, soft, fairy clamor;
They flash like flakes of yellow light
in the veiled sun's dreamy glamour.
They drop around my feet,
They run and whirl and flutter;
Everywhere is their ghostly flight,
and the sighing song they utter.
Their song is as old as Time,
Old as the dream of dying;
It bears the moan of death-struck
Life, and the call of Hope replying.
And the flame of their golden hue
Is lit with the old-time fire
That shines on the somber brows of
Death, drawing the soul's desire.
This is the fall, the sigh—
Sad as the grave, yet tender,
Telling of life that is whirled along
in helpless, strange surrender.
This is the flight, the song,—
This is the autumn's story,—
The frost, and the flame, and the
flickering hope, that points to an
unknown glory.

Her Own Way.

(By Anna Burnham Bryant.)

When Polly goes into the parlor to
play,
She never minds what the little notes
say,
Nor peeps at a music-book.
"I play by ear," says the little dear
(When some of us think the music's
queer),
So why should I need to
look?"

When Polly goes into the kitchen to
cook,
She never looks at a cookery-book
Nor a sign of a receipe;
It's a dot of this and a dab of that,
And a twirl of the wrist and a pinch
and a pat—
I cook by hand," says she.

Hold Your Tobacco.

[Wilson Times.]

We approached a prominent tobacconist this morning who is in a position to know and informed him that we had heard that the large tobacco buyers had found it difficult to handle this crop of tobacco because of the rapidity with which it had been marketed.

He replied that this was true and that instead of selling what the buyers had expected would most likely be sold by January 1, had already come on the market.

To use the words of the gentleman, "We have handled in ninety days four million pounds of tobacco, and I don't hardly see how we done it. It has taxed our capacity to the utmost."

We believe it would be a good idea for the farmers, in view of the above to sell less freely, in order to give the buyers a chance to get straight.

The heavy weight of receipts is sufficient to bring about a bearish feeling, and this feeling should not be accentuated by the pressure of tobacco to sell on the part of the farmers, who have learned this lesson by the way in which they slowly marketed their cotton a few years ago, thus enabling the trade to slowly assimilate it.

Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup not only heals irritation and allays inflammation, thereby stopping the cough, but it moves the bowels gently and in that way drives the cold from the system. Contains no opiates. It is pleasant to take, and children especially like the taste, so nearly like maple sugar. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

"As long as the South remains solid the Democrats can never win," is all rot. As long as money talks there is no chance.—Greensboro Record.

Kodol contains the same digestive juices that are found in an ordinary healthy stomach, and there is, therefore, no question but what any form of stomach trouble, Indigestion or Nervous Dyspepsia, will yield readily, yet naturally, to a short treatment of Kodol. Try it today on our guarantee. Take it for a little while, as that is all you will need to take. Kodol digests what you eat and makes the stomach sweet. It is sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.