

THE COMMONWEALTH.

Published Every Thursday
BY
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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 a communication does not mean that the editor or publisher endorses the communication. This COMMONWEALTH adheres to these general principles.

HAVE HISTORICAL EVENTS BECOME "STUNTS"?

Holidays are good things, but like everything else, they can be run in the ground—there can be too many of them. Whether North Carolina has too few, too many, or just a sufficiency, is a question we shall not discuss at present. Those who wish to believe that "holidays are too much with us" read Editor Archibald Johnson's vigorous and mighty protest against them in an issue of the Charity and Children of recent date. He may be right, he may be wrong. We do not take issue with him on that point. We do take exception, however, to the fact that he was to such an extent over-zealous in attempting to impress his belief upon the people that holidays are too frequent in North Carolina that he TRIED to belittle an event in North Carolina history that should be the boast of her citizens, the pride of her patriots; attempted to treat as insignificant an event in the history of independence that has made April 12th "the proudest date in North Carolina history."

In the following words does he attempt to treat as naught and place in insignificance the event of the passing of the Halifax Resolution which, says R. D. W. Connor, Esq., "was the first declaration in favor of independence by any American colony": "Some sort of stunt was pulled off in Halifax a hundred or two years ago and under a patriotic impulse the members decided that the proper thing would be to stop the horse in the midst of the furrow on each anniversary of this Halifax day and 'take out' for a whole day." Mr. Johnson contends the Assembly made a mistake; that the Halifax event was nothing more than a "stunt." Of course the Editor is right, North Carolina's representatives were wrong.

Suppose there are eight men in office who, it is generally thought, are equal to the task of performing the duties the office imposes, would any one say should the people place a more efficient man in that office, a man whom the office needed—would any one say that the people had made themselves laughing stock? They certainly would not. They might say take the less capable man out of office, so as not to have too many men in office, but that is all they would be justified in saying. What right then has any man to say that a representative body made a foolish mistake when it made April 12th a legal holiday, when it is generally known that April 12th is a date that stands out as the most significant date in North Carolina history and for that reason is to be commemorated above all others? All that any man can possibly be justified in saying is that there are too many holidays in North Carolina; some of them should be wiped out—if he knows of any that should—the Halifax holiday commemorates the most significant date in North Carolina history. Therefore let it stand.

SUGGESTIONS TO FARMERS.

In the editorial columns of the Progressive Farmer of April 29th, under the article, "Some Busy Season Suggestions," appear several very timely and valuable suggestions to farmers. In the last paragraph of this article the following excellent advice is given:

"Have a definite plan of real farming; grow a variety of crops; use the best methods possible; don't attempt more than you can do; do what you do well; don't lose your grip on your business, and don't imagine that it will pay you to run on worry and thus wear yourself out at the beginning of the season."

WELL-TIMED BOOMERANG.

The following editorial item in the News and Observer is a well-timed boomerang on old-Time Republican mismanagement:

"The biographies of members of Congress, furnished by the members themselves, afford interesting reading. There is one paragraph in the biography of Representative Grant, the new Republican member from the Tenth district, that is illuminating. It says, 'there were no schools in that remote part of the country prior to 1876, except a free school here and there.' Of course not. The Republicans stole the school fund of the State and provided no adequate schools for such country boys as young Grant. It was not until the Democrats elected Vance Governor in 1876—the date fixed by Grant himself—that improvement was made in the public schools. According to the testimony of Congressman Grant, he and other youths owe their lack of educational advantages largely to the incompetent Republican administration that cursed North Carolina until Vance drove that party from power."

ECONOMY AND FORESIGHT.

It is not so much what we have as the way we use it that determines its value. Says the Catawba County News:

"One great reason why our friends north of Mason and Dixon line have taken the lead in making money is the fact that they utilize every part of everything they deal with. If a beef is killed, not only is the flesh of the animal used, but his hair, his hide, his horns, his hoofs, and every part of the animal is turned into account, while with us practically all is lost save the flesh. This is true of timber, we see a fine tree cut down and only a few feet of it used and the rest go to waste, while they might work up every foot of it."

Isn't it strange that it is taking us such a long time to learn this lesson of economy? We throw away that in the South every year which, if we would save and convert into money, would build up our industries, increase our wealth and further our interests.

It is not only this lesson of economy that we have failed to learn, however, but we have failed to learn the lesson of far-sightedness. Every year we send our money North and West to buy at exorbitant prices those things which we can and should make at home. If we would only foresee our indispensable need of these things, and use our resources with this need in view, we could keep our money at home and use it for our own upbuilding, instead of letting it go to enrich a people who took no part in its making.

When will we learn these two lessons and begin to save and to see ahead? It is high time that we were doing it.

When we have learned these two lessons, what with the lesson we are already learning, namely, that the more of our raw material we keep at home and convert into articles we need, instead of sending it away and having to buy the converted material at a much higher price, the better off we are, we will have taken a long stride in the right direction, and will have carried the South a long way toward gaining the prestige she justly deserves.

Marriage at Dawsons.

(From the Halifax Correspondent.)

At the residence of the bride at Dawsons on Sunday, April 25th, Rev. D. E. Vipperman joined in holy wedlock Mr. William E. Lawrence, of Enfield, and Miss Jessie E. Messenger. The groom is a very competent business man, respected and admired for his manly qualities, while the bride has the confidence, love and esteem of quite a large circle of friends, being a member of Dawsons Baptist Church, and useful as a Christian. Her life has made a deep impress for good in the community in which she has lived, and 'tis with reluctance her friends resign her to her life companion. Miss Messenger was for quite a while, organist for the church and acted as secretary for the Sunday-school. In fact in what ever sphere she has been placed, her life has made a valuable addition.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence left after the ceremony for Petersburg, Richmond and Washington, and will be at home to their friends after May 3rd, in Enfield, N. C.

The Noble Horse.

Perhaps the most useful animal known to man is the horse. This spirited and proud animal not only shares the pleasures of his master but also the fatigues of war, and the glory of the combat. Equally daring as his rider the horse sees the danger and braves it; inspired at the clash of arms he loves it. He feels pleasure in the chase and freely submits to the arm which guides him and even seems to consult the desires of his driver. He makes use of all his strength, exerts himself beyond it and sometimes gives his life for the pleasure of his master.

The horse is like the boy, his education commences with the loss of his liberty. The horse of all animals is that which with great stature has the most complete proportions and elegance compared with every other animal he appears superior in these respects. The horse seems desirous of raising himself above his state of a quadruped by holding up his head and in this noble attire he looks man square in the face, as if he means to say, give me a plenty of home raised corn and good hay and I can do your work. All I charge is what I eat and kind treatment. The curry-comb is all right as far as it goes but it will not do for half of my feed as claimed by some.

The horse shows good keeping as quick as anything you know. Any one can tell in a moment when a horse is well fed and otherwise well cared for. It is a shame in a county like this for some horses to be worked hard, poorly fed and badly treated. I believe it should be against the law of the land, or in other words the law should be enforced. A big corn crop will help a great deal along this line. Look at the horse which gets a plenty of home raised grain and hay and you can tell him at first sight; his eyes are lively and large, his step quick, his ears well made and of equal proportion, his main suits well his head, ornaments his neck and gives him an air of strength and pride, and his large bushy tail covers and terminates advantageously the extremities of his body. The prosperity of any country is more or less watched with interest by the pretty horses it can show.

Home raised feed makes pretty horses and strong mules, just what our farmer friends all need.

J. D. RAY.

President Taft to Attract an Immense Crowd.

Charlotte N. C., April 28.—It has been arranged definitely that President William H. Taft will deliver his address on the Twentieth of May, at which time this city will celebrate the 134th anniversary of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, from the reviewing stand which is now being erected in front of the Mecklenburg county court house and surrounding the monument commemorating the signing of this immortal document. This stand will probably be the largest ever erected in the State and the indications are that it will be crowded to its utmost capacity, judging from the demand for tickets from Charlotte as well as other towns in North and South Carolina. General admission to the stand will be \$1.00 and to reserved seats \$2.00, the latter giving the occupants an opportunity to be near the President during the parade and while he is making his address.

The committees in charge of the celebration are making every effort to arrange for accommodations for the entertainment of the thousands of visitors who will be here on this historic occasion. With the excellent hotel facilities of the city in addition to the several hundred boarding houses there is no fear on the part of the central committee that Charlotte will be amply prepared to care for all that will come. Already the city has begun decorating for the event, the prospects being that several days before the celebration the streets will be a blaze of glory for the reception of the troops who will reach here several days before the arrival of President Taft.

The James Adams Show.

The James Adams Big 10c Show, under canvas, which is to appear here during the coming week, is said to be the largest and best vaudeville organization on the road, traveling as it does in two handsome private cars, and carrying its own band and orchestra.

A new sensational feature of the show is Mr. Adams' wonderful and astounding "electrical act." Mr. Adams has a current of electricity, 150,000 volts strong, passed through his body, and paper or any other combustible substance, coming in contact with his body immediately catches fire and burns.

Directors of Bank of Halifax Meet.

(Cor. to The Commonwealth.)
The Directors of The Bank of Halifax met here on Friday, April 23rd. The net earnings for the year were found to be 16 per cent.; of this amount 6 per cent. was declared as dividends, 6 per cent. was carried over to the surplus fund, and 4 per cent. to the undivided profits. This makes a very creditable showing, considering the fact that the institution is comparatively in its infancy, having been in business a little over two years. Eight per cent. was declared the first year. The Directors of the bank, are men of good sound judgment and enjoy the united confidence of the public. The President is recognized all over the State as a man of very fine business qualifications. Mr. T. H. Gregory, the cashier, one of our home boys, by strict adherence to business principles, courteous treatment and application to duty, has won the confidence of all those who transact business with the Bank.

New Trial Denied the Coopers.

(By the Associated Press.)
Nashville, Tenn., April 27.—Judge Wm. H. Hart, today overruled the motion for new trial in the case of Col. Duncan B. Cooper and Robin J. Cooper, his son, both convicted of the murder of former U. S. Senator Carmack. The court's opinion was that there was no ground for setting aside the verdict of the trial jury. The defense at once gave notice of an appeal to the Tennessee Supreme Court. The appeal was granted.

The bonds remain the same and the same bondsmen qualified. The defense demanded thirty days in which to file a bill of exceptions. Decision on this point was deferred till Saturday.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.

Mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by all Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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THE STIEFF PLAYER-PIANO

This is the greatest musical invention of the age, and should be in every music-loving home. It is a regular high grade, upright piano that you can play in the old way, but it has an inside mechanism that, by the insertion of a music roll, enables any intelligent person, by following simple directions, to play any piece of music no matter how difficult.

Every member of the family becomes a musician; the pleasure and satisfaction are simply immense.

Let us tell you more about this great instrument, and how easy it is to own one. Write to-day, to

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[Please mention this paper.]

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For any occasion when you have to make a gift, write us about it, and let us make suggestions.

No matter how small, we want to do business with you. We reply promptly, and when we get your idea, we send things from which to make your selection. You return the balance and pay for what you keep.

It is simple, easy and satisfactory. You take no risk, and buy as low as if in the store. Ours is the

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OF COURSE YOU KNOW THAT IT DOES, AND IF IT PAYS TO PAINT, IT PAYS TO USE THE BEST PAINT. WE SELL THE

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Have Not Changed Brands Because the Sherwin-Williams Has Given Satisfaction.

We could handle a paint that we would get more profit out of than we could SHERWIN-WILLIAMS, but we feel that we cannot afford to run the risk of handling a paint that might not be good. We prefer to make less profit and give our customers a GOOD paint than to make more profit on an inferior paint.

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Where Perfect Fit is Assured.

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Washington, North Carolina.

Sale of Land.

By virtue of power vested in me by the laws of the State of North Carolina as executor of W. A. Dunn, Trustee, in that deed of trust executed to him by Bryant Smith and wife on the 18th day of May, 1904, of record in the office of Register of Deeds for Halifax County in Book 145 on page 513, I shall sell for cash at Public auction in the Town of Scotland Neck to the highest bidder on Saturday the 1st day of May, 1909, at 12 O'clock Noon, the following described parcel of real estate, lying, being, and situate in the County of Halifax and State of North Carolina, to-wit:

Beginning in White's Mill, Shields' corner, thence with Shields' line N. 88 E to a corner pine to which Shields' wire fence is fastened thence S 18 E 20 1-2 poles, thence S 76 1-2 W to the run of the Mill Swamp, thence along the mill-run to the beginning, and containing fifty acres, more or less, and being the same land that was conveyed to the said Bryant Smith by J. B. Edwards and George Johnson on the 24th day of March, 1904, to which reference is made.

This March 29, 1909.
NOAH BIGGS, Executor,
of W. A. Dunn, Trustee.
Albion Dunn, Att'y. 4-1-5t.

DEWITT'S CARBOLIZED WITCH HAZEL SALVE For Piles, Burns, Sores.

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You Can Get Them From The Scotland Neck Guano Company in the Following Brands:

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Seed for Sale by Chas. J. Shields Direct from the Originator, W. A. Simpkins.

SIMPKINS PROLIFIC THE EARLIEST OF ALL

Fayetteville, Arkansas, Feb. 1909.
Mr. W. A. Simpkins, Raleigh, N. C.
Dear Sir:—I am writing to you regarding cotton seed. Simpkins' prolific variety. In our variety test at the six substations and at our station it averaged first. It ranked first at two of the experimental stations and third at two of them and averaged first out of 28 varieties tested. We are very much pleased with it.

We will continue our variety work again this year and will send you of your seed in it. We will be glad to give this variety such consideration as it deserves in our annual report next year.

Very truly yours,
MARTIN NELSON, Agent.

A supply of these Seed, sacked, ready for delivery now on hand.

Write, 'phone or see

CHAS. J. SHIELDS