# THE COMMONWEALTH. $=$ 

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|  |  | COTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1911. |  |  |  |  |
|  | NEWS FROM HALIFAX. <br> Finest Melon Crop In Years-Average Cotion Crop-Other News. <br> Halifax, N. C., Aug. 22.-Watermelons this season have been decidedly more plentiful and much better in quality and size than for a number of years, and in most cases the price has been fair. One of our friends informed us a few days ago that from two hundred hills he has already marketed between sixty and seventy-five dollars worth, while many have been given away and eaten by the family. <br> Mr. Chas. H. Dickens, who has charge of the J. H. Durham farm, one mile from town, reports the finest melon of the season, weighing sixty-one pounds, and states that \|thirteen people tried to make way with it and really left the rind and seed. <br> Halifax county was largely represented here Monday and Tuesday, and no doubt the crowd will be large ail the week. We talked with a good many about crops, and from many we learned that the cotton crop especially will not be so good as was expected a few weeks ago. Of course some were agreed that it would be above the average, while others contended that it would not be above the ordinary. <br> Mrs. Edgar N. Ricks and her four sons, of Mount Olive, came last week to visit Mrs. H. B. Furgerson and Mrs. D. C. Fenner. <br> Miss Lucy Butts returned Saturday from West Point, where for several weeks she has been visiting relatives and friends. <br> Mrs. Edward Gilliam and little son, who for some time have been visiting Mrs. George Gilliam, left for their home in Gastonia last Satday. <br> Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Butts, of Rosemary, have been here several days to see Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Butts. <br> John H. Fenner, Jr., of Rocky Mount, spent the week-end with his father and mother. <br> Mrs. E. N. Ricks joined her husband here Monday on his way to New York city to purchase fall and | winter goods. Miss Nell Nelson accompanied them and will take in Atlantic City before her return. <br> Mr. and Mrs. Will E. Fenner and Master Julian Baker, of Rocky Mount, have been visiting several days Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Fenner. <br> Miss Agnes Norman, of Littleton, spent last week here the guest of Misses Alice, Lizzie and Mary Hale. <br> E. W. Foster, of Greenville, spent the week-end with his family. <br> Misses Ida and Bessie Twisdata have returned from a vist to Spring Hill. <br> Mr. and Mrs. Henry Marshall, of Clarkton, have been here several days to see Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Daniel and Miss Ursala. <br> Mr. Nicholas Shearin, of Pinner's Point, came Monday to visit his father, Mr. Geo. W. Stearin. <br> Miss Alice Hale left for Littleton Saturday to visit the Misses Norman. <br> W. F. C. <br> Five Uangers. <br> If our government is destined to be enduring it must do away with the following obstacles: <br> Divorce, which strikes at the root of the family and society. <br> The imperfect and vicious system of education which undermines the religion of our youth. <br> The desecration of the Christian Sabbath, which tends to obliterate in our adult population the salutary ferr of God and the homage that we owe him. <br> The gross and systematic election frauds. <br> Lastly, the unreasonable delay in carrying into effect the sentences of courts and the numerous subterfuges by which criminals evade the execution of the laws. <br> To one of the five obstacles or vices I have just enumerated may be traced our insatiable greed for gain, the co-existence of colossal wealth with abject poverty, the extravagance of the rich, the discontent of the poor, our eager and impetuous rushing through life agd every other moral and social delinqueney.-Cardinal Gibbons. | A FINE, RONEST BOY. <br> How Sam Kept His Reputation and Giot The Money. <br> John McEnroe tells of a little colored boy on the "hill" who took a pocket-book to the principal of his school. <br> "I found this in the hall, Mr. Chalks," he said. "It's got a dollar bill and fifteen pennies in it." <br> "Leave it here for a few days," said the school man. <br> "But what if nobody belongs to it? Do I get it for mine?" <br> "Yes." <br> The colored boy went away, and in a few hours a little Italian boy rapped on the principal's door. <br> "I lost my mother's money," he said sheepishly. "I brung, it to school and now I ain't got it." <br> "Was the money in a purse?" <br> "Yes, sir; a leather purse." <br> "How much did you have?", <br> "A dollar and fifteen cents." <br> "Can you describe the money?" <br> "They was, now-let me see-they was a half dollar, and, now, two quarters, and a dime and a nickel." <br> "A pocket-book was found to-day, but you have not described the money," said the principal. "I am inclined to think you are a little rascal. I believe that you and the boy who found the money are working in collusion and that he put you up to come here. You ought to get together better on your facts." <br> The little Italian denied everything and made his escape. <br> A week later the principal turned the treasure over to the colored boy, no other claimant having appeared. <br> "You are a fine, honest boy, Sammy." said Mr. Chalks. "You will enjoy the mone; much moze now than if you had spent it without trying to find the owner." <br> "Yes, sir," replied the virtuous Samuel, modestly. <br> Next day a truant officer overheard a conversation between the "Did you, honest find a pocketbook, Sam?" <br> "And you took it'to Mr. Chalks?" <br> "Sarre I did," said the darkey; "But I got the money changed first." -Newark News. | The Gourd. <br> Old Man Pearsall, of Rocky Point, who came into the Press Convention at Wrightsville, last year, toting a jug of prebistoric wine dug from an Indian mound, which he intended to present to his friend, Josephus Daniels, has sent to The Wilmington Star a clean, well-headed water gourk, "to be used as a mascot to keep off hookworm, appendicitis, anthrox, trichinosis, pellagra and all those other ailments that people didn't uster to have when they drank out of gourds." Colonel Pearsail, discussing on the gourd, says, "This member of the cucurbitaceous family is of remote antiquity. The prophet Jonah had a fine one growing over his 'shack' and a worm stung it and it withered, leaving poor old Jonah with the hot sun broiling down upon his head. In old times 'before the war,' there were all kinds of uses to which gourds were put; the most important were the salt gourds-no family was without one-the soap gourd, the milk gourd, the grease gourd for lard (they raised bushel gourds then), the dip gourd, but the gourd I thought the most of then was the cider gourd. It held over two quarts and hung over the cider barrel, and you could drink and drink, and nobody cared how much you drank. There weren't any chills or ftever then, especially when the cider got hard." Doesn't that make one hark back to barefoot days on the farm? We have often shocked our friends by expressions of our bad taste, but it is a fact that any day we would rather reach down into a pebbly-bottomed spring with a long handled gourd, than to pull a bottle of extra dry out of a basket of crushed ice.-Charlotte Chronicle. <br> She-I'm afraid, Tom, dear, you will find me a mine of faults. He Darling, it shall be the sweetest labor of my life to correct them. She (flaring up)-Indeed you shan't!Boston Transcript. <br> Baby won't suffer five minutes with croup if you apply Dr. Thomas' Eclectic Oil at once. Acts like magic. | SCRWAB TOLD SECRET. <br> How Great Steel Magnate Acted When Telling of Trus's Birth. <br> Chas M. Schwab yesterday proclaimed himself the father of the United States Steel Corporation. It was in his brain that the giant combine had birth, and it was the financial genius of J. Pierpont Morgan that gave it sustenance. <br> This was told by Mr. Schwab to the congressional committee investigating the steel trust. He declared it was the first time he has ever told of the genius of the corporation. As its first president he helped nurture it into lusty strength. That it was not a trust he protested with an earnestness bordering on eloquence. Although now at the head of the combine's most powerful rival, the Bethlehem Steel Company, he had not not one word of criticism to make. <br> Mr. Schwab's attitude was aggressive, his manner was frank, and at times he turned upon his inquisitors and shot questions at them which they could not answer, or at least, did not. Judge Bartlet wanted to know why, if the cost of production in the United States was no greater than in foreign countries, Germany could land its steel in Pittsburg cheaper than the domestic product. but he failed to find out. <br> "If Germany or some other foreign country should invade this market with cut prices would you meet the cuts?" he asked. <br> "Undoubtedly we all would," quickly replied Mr. Schwab.-New York American. <br> Operation Thought Sure. <br> Ferris, Tex.-In a letter. from this place, Mary Kilman, says: "I was confined to my bed for three months, with womanly troubles, and during this time suffered untold during this time suffered untold agony. The doctor said an operation was inevitable. I tried Cardui. Now I am well, and able, to do a great part of my work." Thousands of part of my work." Thousands of ladies have testified to the benefit obtained from Cardui, the woman's obtained tonic. It prevents unnecessary womanly pains and builds up womanly strength. It is a true tonic. It will help you. help you. | STOPP <br> and think how important it is to have your glasses fit correctly. Investigate the reputation of your optician, for much depends upon your eyes. <br> We Invite Investigation. <br> We have complete grinding plants at all our stores, and duplicate accurately and promptly the most difficult lenses. <br> Remember, <br> all our men are experts and we absolutely guarantee you entire satisfaction. <br> "Make Us Your Opticians." GS.StallOjtical Go <br> ( Successore to TUCKER, HALL \& CO. <br> Opticians of The Best Sort <br> 53 Granby Street, <br> NORFOLK. RICHMOND. ROANOKE. <br> F. A. RIFF, <br> oppician <br> Scotland Neek, N. C. <br> Eyes examined fres. Broken lenses matched and frames repaired. All glasses strictly cash. <br> W. E. MARILS \& BRO. <br> Scotland Neck, N. C. <br> We do all kinds of lathe and machine work, repair engines and boilers and run a generai repair shop. Horse-shoeing a specialty. |
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