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BENJ. H. SWAIN, OWNER AND EDITOR.

VOL. III.

WINDSOR, BERTIE COUNTY, N. C., WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1888.

NO. 22.

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ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
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THE CRESCENT MOON.

When this new moon is old,
And all the shadowy space
Her slender arms embrace
Hath been filled up with gold,
What fortune shall we trace—
When this new moon is old?

Now crescent is her light,
And crescent the young leaves,
While May, the charmer, weaves,
Through all the dim-lit night,
And half-seen bloom deceives—
Now crescent is her light!

When this new moon is old,
And clearer on our ways
Hath bent her laming rays,
What fate shall we behold,
As face to face we gaze—
When this new moon is old?

Now crescent is her light,
And still the violent blows,
The orchards hold their snows;
Sealed are the lilies white,
Undreamed of is the rose—
Now crescent is her light!

When this new moon is old,
The lily then shall yield
What in the bud lies sealed,
The rose shall then unfold,
The heart be full revealed—
When this new moon is old!

END OF THE TRADE DOLLARS.

On a recent Friday afternoon the last "melt" of the 3,485,533 trade dollars which have been received at the United States assay office in Wall street, since the act of Congress authorizing their purchase went into effect, was completed and the limpid silver was poured into the molds and transformed into silver bricks, 1,100 to 2,200 ounces in weight. A "melt" of silver at the assay office means 5,000 ounces. Therefore, in order to make way with the whole number of this 3,500,000 of trade dollars about 700 "melts" were necessary. A reporter chanced to be necessary and stood near the crucible when these last representatives of a dead currency slowly lost their individuality and became a shapeless glittering mass. When the last "melt" of the trade dollars had been poured into the molds and made into brick, the reporter observed that two small quantities, perhaps of a grain or two each, were put into little receptacles and sent to the assaying room. "These," explained Assistant Assayer J. T. Wilder, "are the samples for assaying. Two are taken from each 'melt.' They are each assayed by different persons and their work must tally. If it does not, the work is repeated. If the two assays still fail to agree the whole melt is remelted and fresh samples taken. Then the process is gone through with again.

"The greatest care is taken," said Mr. Wilder, "to guard against inaccuracies. The assaying is done by the Gay Lussac method. The exact amount of metal is weighed and dissolved in nitric acid. Then enough chlorine is added to precipitate precisely a drachm of pure silver. The solution is then shaken for three minutes in a shaking machine (run by steam), after which it is allowed to settle. More salt water is added, every atom of which is taken account of, and if any silver remains in solution it shows a slight cloudiness. The operation is repeated until no cloudiness appears, showing that no silver remains in solution; that it has all been precipitated. Then a calculation is made as to the exact fineness of the samples of silver in the trade dollar, which is corrected by silver proofs. When the fineness is thoroughly ascertained it is stamped upon the bar or brick which has been formed by the melted dollars, together with the value, weight, melt number and number of the bar. Then the bar or brick is sent to the 'inclosure' before mentioned, where the other 'trade dollar' bricks are kept under a combination safe lock. The combination of this, as well as of the other safe locks in the building, is known only to Superintendent Mason and one other trusted official."—New York Tribune.

TO STRENGTHEN MEMORY.

In the last number of Dress a writer quotes an extended account from Thurlow Weed of how he strengthened his memory. Mr. Weed tells that he suffered in early life from a defective memory, and thought that he could never succeed as a politician because he did not remember people and incidents except as they especially interested him. To overcome this he began a habit of, at its close, recalling everything that had happened during the day. Soon he made this resume aloud to his wife: "Every night, the last thing before retiring—one would have expected Thurlow Weed to have said "going to bed"—I told her everything that I could remember that had happened to me or about me during the day. I generally recalled the very dishes I had had for breakfast, dinner and tea; the people I had seen and what they said; the editorials I had written for my paper, giving her brief extracts of them. I mentioned all the letters I had sent and received, and the very language used as nearly as possible; when I had walked or ridden. I told her everything that had come within my observation. I found I could say my lessons better and better every day. * * * I am indebted to his discipline for a memory of somewhat unusual tenacity."

JOURNALISM AND ITS FEW PRIZES.

It has its fascinations and its ecstasies: The most honest man in the world may find congenial work in it, and it offers a few prizes of a truly dazzling character. Nevertheless, upon the whole, I say, leave it to the left out; leave it to the adventurers; leave it to the good fellows who have been educated out of the ordinary vocations, but not into the extraordinary. Leave it to the sublime tramps of the intellectual world. It is not yet a profession to choose, but one to fall back upon. If a young man feels drawn to it by an irresistible attraction, let him strike at once into the road that leads to mastery, and that road generally begins at the case of the compositor. This is the age of business; and over no kind of industry does he exercise a sway so absolute as over the industry of the mind. Nor can this materially change until education concerns itself most with those faculties and powers which fit men for leadership and the educated man of necessity controls the uneducated.

SOME LEADING FARM PRODUCTS.

The hay crop is the most valuable in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The maize or Indian corn crop is predominant in Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Florida.

Wheat is the leading crop in Maryland, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Cotton is the most valuable product of South Carolina, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia.

In Louisiana the sugar product is next in value to the cotton.

The only State in which the oat product comes second in importance is New York.—Norfolk Journal of Commerce.

THE TOBACCO CROP IN THE UNITED STATES.

In Massachusetts the value of the tobacco crop is less than the product of potatoes, and more than the oat crop.
In Connecticut the value of the tobacco raised is more than potatoes, and less than the hay crop.

In Maryland the four principal crops are in order, wheat, corn, hay and tobacco.

The four leading agricultural products of Virginia are in the order named, corn, wheat, tobacco and hay.

In Kentucky, the greatest tobacco growing State, the four leading products are, corn, tobacco, wheat and hay.

Florida has for its four most valuable products, corn, cotton, oats and tobacco.

It is only in the six States above named that the value of tobacco crops comes within the four principal products.

In no State does tobacco come first in value. In Kentucky tobacco takes the second place, in Massachusetts and Virginia, the third place, and in Maryland and Florida the fourth place in statistical value.—Norfolk Journal of Commerce.

A HINT TO OUR PRISON REFORMERS.

A curious step has just been taken in the administration of justice to criminals in Belgium. M. Lejeune, Minister of Justice, is the author of a law according to which criminals of a type receive no punishment for the first offense.

First offenders will be tried, lectured and sentenced, but the sentence will not be carried out. If convicted a second time, however, the criminal will be treated with the greatest severity, and in addition to serving out the sentence meted out to him for his second crime he will undergo the punishment for which he was first let off. The law will release thousands of King Leopold's subjects who are now in jail. It is believed it will have a wholesome effect in preventing criminals from becoming hardened and repeating their wickedness through dread of sentences behind them.

NO THRONE IN SIGHT.

One day a week or two ago a lady from Philadelphia brought a letter of introduction to President Cleveland that insured her a private interview. She was accompanied by a bright little son, aged six years. The President received them in his office, and sat by his desk and talked in his friendly way with his visitor. Presently the mother noticed her boy frowning and sulking in his chair. She whispered an inquiry as to the cause of his apparent trouble. "Why, mamma, he isn't sitting on a throne, and he has no crown on his head. He is only a man."—Washington Capital.

EUNICE "CORNERS" HER MAMMA.

Little Eunice, between three and four years old, had to be punished one day, her mother prefacing the operation with the remark that she was sorry to do it; she only did it because she loved her so much, etc. At night after the little girl was in bed, she called her mother to her, threw her arms around her neck and said: "Mamma, we love one another, don't we?" "Yes, dear." "You don't like to punish me, do you?" "No, I do not." "You would rather punish your own self, wouldn't you, mamma?" "Yes." "Well, then, mamma, I wish you would."—Chicago Advance.

INTELLIGENCE OF RATS.

Rats are usually considered noxious animals and little mercy is shown to them. Doubtless they were created for a useful purpose—perhaps to act as scavengers and help to remove offensive objects. When they destroy young ducks and chickens, or pillage grain in the stables, it is right to keep them down. At a country house, where they had become very troublesome, a barrel was sunk in the ground behind the stable yard and half filled with water. A flat stick was balanced as a swivel over it, and a bait put on the end over the water. Next morning the bait was gone, but no drowned rat was in the water. The coach-

man pointed out from the marks left on the wood, that a large rat had sat on the shore end of the stick while a smaller rat had in safety removed the bait from the other end.

One of the more humane ways to get rid of rats is to run coal tar into the holes now and then. The rats are exceeding particular about their fur coats and do not enjoy coming in contact with the tar.

A PROPHECY OF EVIL.

Germany is discussing the authenticity of a prophecy attributed to a friar in a Bavarian convent, who lived in the Seventeenth century, as it completely foreshadowed the strange complication of evils with which Germany is threatened. The effect of the prophecy is alleged to be that a Hohenzollern prince would unite all the German states under one crown; that he would live to be 96; that he would be predeceased by his son, and that the successor to the throne would have but one hand. According to his prophecy the emperor would still have had five years to live, and the doctors say the crown prince may live for four. [Since this was written he has died.—Ed.] As to the rest, crown Prince William has had a shrivelled arm from his birth. It is said that documentary proof of this remarkable vaticination can be produced, but it is not stated that any one has seen it. The above shows how little truth there is in this and like prophecies.—Ex.

A CHEAP TRAMP THROUGH AFRICA.

Dr. Krause, who failed to get to Timbuctoo last year because he would not pretend to be Mohammedan, distinguished himself on that journey by making the cheapest trip on record. He set out from Acera on the Gold Coast with a capital of just \$27.50, traveled North to within a short distance of Timbuctoo and wended his way back to the coast, happy in the fact that he had found a fever point that kept him in good health after his quinine gave out. He journeyed alone, had no weapon of any sort, begged his way or exchanged medical services for food and shelter, and actually traveled about two thousand miles, much of it through unknown country. It has been supposed that Africa was a poor place for tramps, but the exploit of Dr. Krause, who, by the way, is a very competent explorer, may be commended to the attention of any of the brotherhood who find the pickings poor at home.—New York Sun.

WOMAN'S INNOCENT WAY.

What a woman doesn't know about newspapers isn't worth knowing. The other morning Mrs. B. was talking to her husband. "I notice by the Tribune that Mr. Jones died on Sunday. 'It is a mistake, my dear,'" replied the husband; "he died on Monday." "But the paper said Sunday." "I know it, but it was an error in the print." "I thought so, too, at first, but I got a half dozen copies of the paper, and it was the same in all of them. They certainly couldn't have made the mistake over and over again." The husband tried to convince her, but it was no use, and he gave it up.

MAKING A MICROSCOPE ENGINE.

W. A. Lyman, of Milford, Connecticut, is making the smallest possible specimen of an engine. It will be made with a silver half dollar. The boiler is to hold about eight drops of water, but with four drops the engine can be worked several minutes. When finished, it is to be placed under a glass case three quarters of an inch in diameter and an inch and one eighth in height. Some of the parts will be so fine and delicate that they cannot be made without the use of a magnifying glass.—N. Y. World.

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