FRANKLIN. N. C., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1906.

he pale and misty particles of Time Hover about us; scarce our eyes can see Youth's far-off dream of what we were Life's truth, which once we would redeem with rhyme, that provide instead a world-worn panto-

tunning river of expediency frowned the hopes that Fortune held upon the track so many climb?

strive to speak what all the carth has Why labor at a work the ages plan?— Life has been lived so oft an outworn

thing!
| back! The time-sweet and of a bird,
| back! The time-sweet and of a bird,
| bw es a flower; and see-sh, some to The endless aspiration of the spring.

The fu I throat of the world is charged with

Enger for life, life unashamed and strong-This is desire fulfilled. Exalted, free, The spirit gains her ether, scornfully Denies existence that is dark or wrong,

Morning and twillight melt with ecstasy

In the high heat of noon. Simply to be,

l'alpitant where the green spring forces

This is enough, to see the song begin Which shall be finished in some field afar. Laugh that the hight may still contain a kiff.

Not lity mean your impotence of grace. Life is a song, lift up your care-free face Gladly and gratefully toward the sun.

—Helen Hay Whitney.

"See this big moth, father," I cried.

Going to the portrait of the old gen-

tleman I raised the candle suddenly,

"There! you've blown out the light!

In the dim light I glanced hastily

to see a well dilated pupil in the pale

blue eyes. To say that I was fright-

Once more I raised the candle which

What I had seen, I had seen, but how

was I to convince father of the fact.

leaving it on the table. Boing Sehind

the bed where the eyes could not fol-

low, I wrote rapidly on a bit of paper.

Again pretending to catch a moth I

called father. The moment he saw

confessed afterward that he had expe-

rienced the same sensation of a pres-

We heard voices below: a door shut

and a hand stretched out to the valise

Father argued that the men would

We touched the ground safely

Horrors! what did we hear! I clutch-

ed father's arm and we cowered down

was not time to examine their spoils.

"They'll not wake till morning,"

"We thought them suspicious charac-

ters," the farmer said, "and only to-

were a gang of counterfeiters, their

chief being the blue-eyed man with the

broken nose. The authorities were

prepared to search the place tomor

Neighbors were collected, horses

At daylight the constables from the

brought out, and we started in pursuit.

never captured.

father said. "Be careful, lad."

"Can I catch it for my collection?"

close to the picture.

smaller.

## A MIDNIGHT RUN.

"Please leave Jim at home this trip," , in darkness and contracts in a strong ther said, when father suggested light. I do not know what induced aking me with him, as he often did in me to take one of the candles and go the holidays. I was a lad of twelve and father, who was a contractor, had big job on a new railway. The obet of this journey was to pay the men, the paymaster being Ill. "I don't like you to carry so much and was certain that I saw the pupils ney," mother complained. "It's of the blue eyes grow smaller and

"Not a bit of it, Mary; don't worry, Not a creature knows that I am taking another move with the light, to see it. Besides, we are ahead of pay day." But mother was not satisfied, watch- pupil. ig us wistfully from the doorstep the next morning when we started for the office. A messenger from the bank rought the money, which was put ato father's valise. My bag was only half full and exactly like father's in ened would be to put it mildly. I was

size and color. perfectly terrified-ghosts and goblins be sure that we kept a careful eye on see they could hear-I dared not speak. the valise.

It was dark when we reached Out- I had relighted. Had I been dreaming? n, and after a poor suppor at the The eyes in the portrait were dark only hotel we waited for the stage brown which was to take us to our destinaion-twelve miles distant. The stage, drawn by two bony horses, rumbled up He, meantime, had repacked the vallee, to the sidewalk.

"Where's Bill?" father asked, for the burly driver always amused him with his quaint remarks.

"Guess Bill can't drive this here stage tonight," the landlord answered. my ghastly face he realized that some-Them old horses skeered at some- thing serious had happened. But for thing this morning and upset the rig. the money he might have laughed at an' Bill, he's a-lyin' upstairs with a my fears, but he was superstitious and

Billy's substitute was anything but attractive. I have seldom seen a more ence in the room. He scribbled a few disagreeable face. His eyes were lines, telling me to watch him and small and shifting; his month drawn wait. down. He was polite, however, and put out his hand for the valises. and then silence fell. We blew out the lights and pretended to retire. Then

"Never mind," said father, careless-"They will not be in the way, father got up quietly, took everything since we are the only passengers." The night was dark and gloomy An was the duplicate of his, and stuffed unaccountable depression came over it with heavy bedding, locking and us. Going through the village father strapping it and putting it on the tatold me that it had once been of some ble. Cramming everything in the importance, but a rival town had precious valies, he put it in the bed. drawn awey business and people, add- We were dressed except for our boots ing that it was sad to see "such beauti- We left the French window afar and tul nouses going to decay."

got into bed. The moon came up and "We will pass a house said to be shone into the room. inunted." father went on "A man was found dead in his room and the came in a sleepy voice from father and lace became so terrifying to the fam- presently loud snores could be heard By that they left it hurriedly not even from his side of the bed. An hour passed. I kept shivering and seemed

taking their furniture." I wished that father would not dwell to see mother watching us anxiously; on such unpleasant subjects, for it would we never see her dear face gave me a horrid sensation of fear. again? Suddenly we heard stealthy

Where did the accident happen this steps and nudged each other. The norning?" we inquired of the driver, snoring became buddet. Peeping Near the haunted house was the through half-thut lids, we saw a reply. The horses seemed nervous and shadowy form creeping in the window

the place," the driver cried, on the table. Then cautiously and se it! the beasts seem to noiselessly man and bag disappeared. it." At the same instant the nimals shied violently, and take their plunder to a distant room terrified ould speak the left wheels to open it, and that if they found them had go a a ditch and the tig pole selves tricked our fate would be seal-The man jumped out, ed. Signing me to follow, father slipwe were unburt and and the valise we gained the veranda, elinging to our luggage, going down the ladder, which creaked ofessed great concern, under our weight. Great heavens! II h annoyed at the acci- it should fall!

"I mu

ed the horses and tried gon, but so much damage Moving in the shadow of the building, e that it was impossible we reached the barn; hiding behind it. "Can we get a wagon in the high, rank burdocks. The door

opened, and four men came out laden nothing nearer than the with trunks and bags. They hastened man declared, "and I must to a wagon already loaded. The poor and hitch them old stage horses were harnessed to it. n rubbing his it was evidently a "fitting." There

> in give you a the blue-eyed man whispered hoarsely by daybreak." "The old one is snoring like a rusty o alternative, "aw." To our unspeakable relief they jump nsion. The nan with an ed in and drove rapidly toward Oakh large pale ton, evidently to catch an early train. When they disappeared we ran rapidly kindly, saying down the road. At last we reached a house. Waking the inmates we told shelter. After our story. One by one the family hurerry wood fire. ried down, and a little brown-haired inducted to a big girl was greatly excited, watching us

windows opened curiously. ing that the veranda was night a hint was given me that they lated and that a long fention to the room. A ked bed stood at one he centre a table on row." were two lighted candles. It nainted walls and dark wains- And here I may as well say they were their gift frames tarnished and Opposite the tables were por- village went with us to the haunted

ome people in the dress of house, where were found evidences of counterfeiter's work and signs of a gan to prepare for bed. Father hasty departure. They had probably d his valise on the table, taking been warned of the intended raid, an father's journey with the money and ifferent articles and laying some money parcels on top. I wanhad delayed their flitting in order to d about looking at everything. I secure it, in both cases causing the breaking down of the stage. an uncanny feeling and a sensathought with glee how enraged they and that some one was breathing must have been when they opened the

In examining the house they found pointing to the life-sized face the secret of the blue eyes. In an adhandsome old gentleman with "He seems to look at

joining room bung a picture. Taking It down we saw that the plaster had ben removed and the canvas exposed Over the eyes were cleverly arranged do so more easity. Thus I saw his

That night's adventure gave me the chance of finding a treasure, for the little girl whom I met for the first time that night is now my wife. She declares, however, that it was not a case of "love at first sight." That a more grotesque little figure she never saw, with staring eyes, hair standing on end, clothes covered with burrs, and a red necktle neatly tied under one ear.-Michigan Farmer.

AUDIT GAME SWINDLE.

Applicant for Loan Pays to Have His Books Examined-Geta Nothing, It is hard to keep track of the easy noney games that are going on in this town all the time. The man who pays the bill is usually the one who is looking for money that is not easy. He is short himself, and he is seeking some the to help him out. When he has had his little dose of experience he is shorter than when he

A new phase of the swindle might be called the audit game. A man needing enpital is likely to be taked n by men who advertise that they have unlimited capital to put out in safe ventures. He knows that his own business is pretty well founded and he nibbles at the balt.

At the office indicated he gets a cordial welcome. He would like to "Oh, that moth!" I said and made borrow money, would he? Well, he again the sharp contraction of the has come to the right place, but it is only fair to warn him that the shop cares to do business only with high

grade business men. The applicant, however, is a little wary. He would like some assurances on his part that the men he is to deal with are all right. The man who receives him calls his attention We left town at 11 o'clock. You may were in the very air. If ghosts could to several prospersus looking men sitting in an inner office looking over securities. He points these men out as rich and as always seeking safe investments. Bömetimes the caller is introduced to one of these men, who mildly acknowledges that he has money, but who makes it known at once that he has no desire to handle any proposition that isn't safe. He nods to the first man, and tells the visitor to make plain his proposition to him. If it seems to be good, he will be glad to look it over.

Here is where the bunco game gins. The office man again says that his clients must be sure before they invest. It will be necessary to make an exhaustive examination of the arplicant's books. It is only right that the applicant should pay for this. According to the nature of the business in which he is engaged, the price will be from \$100 to \$500. The lender-to-be assures the applicant that there will of which she had been the victim .not be the slightest difficulty in getting the loan. But the money must out of my bag, which, you remember, be advanced to pay for the examina-

The applicant is by this time so confident that he will get the money that he pays the advance required. tion of the applicant's business shows a condition which makes it undesir-

able for them to thyest in it. A promoter who has investigated several of these concerns said to a Sun Reporter that there are scores of men engaged in this game.-New

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

York Sun.

The most remarkable movement of our times is expressed in the statement that "the world is eating up its mane and alighted on the soft soil sheep." In Germany the flocks have decreased over 60 percent since 1873, and this in only an extreme instance of what is going on elsewhere. The increasing price of beef is given as one reason of the eating up of the sheep; the dread of tuberculosis is

At a recent sale in London a quarto volume containing the second part And when they aided her to remount of Shakespeare's "Henry IV," and she was so indignant she forgot to bearing the date of 1605 was sold for \$2,500. This volume, which was inscribed with William Penn's auto graph, was one of five early Shakespeare quartos belonging to George Carrington, who had owned them for many years without realizing their great value to collectors of rare books. The entire five were sold for

A Sullivan county dead man sang at his own funeral. A phonograph was placed on his coffin. When the religious ceremony was over the phonograph was turned on and the church listened to the dead man's voice rendering one of his favorite hymns,

-Kansas City Star. watch for them and give the alarm when danger approaches are operating in Alameda, Cal., with success, The police have a description of the

Taking four heads of human hair of different colors but equal weight, it has been found that the number of hairs per head varies as follows: Red, 90,000; black, 103,000; brown, 109,000; blonde, 140,000. Dark brown hair is the color most frequently found in England, the proportions averaging as follows: Red-haired people, 30; black, 67; fair, 108; light Four hundred and fifty hairs of aver age thickness laid side by side would

A fire which broke out at the tor of a 200-foot mast in South Boston belonging to a local space-telegraph station, proved to be quite beyond the ingenuity and resources of the city fire department. The mast was confoot gaff. It was then determined to make an effort to scale the pole, and four firemen undertook to raise a section of hose within reaching distance of the flame. They cambed 10 feet apart, and while the weight of the one severely taxed their combined th, their efforts were success

MARRIED THE WRONG MEN.

Instances From Austria and France Where Women Wed Their Doubles. A strange case of matrimonial fraud has lately occurred at Vienna

A woman of the lower middle class married a man whom she took to be a Herr Weiss, her fiance, returning after a year's absence in America to make her his wife. In less than a month he robbed her of her savings and then suddenly disappeared.

A month later she received a letter from America regretting that the writer had been too ill to return at the time agreed, but stating that he was about to sail, and that immediately on his arrival would fulfil his promise by leading her to the altar. The letter was signed "Herrmann Welss."

The poor woman was thrown into a sad condition of perplexity and apprehension, and her worst fears were realized when, on her correspondent's arrival, she recognized that she had been imposed upon by a callods impostor whose resemblance to the real Simon nure was marvellously striklng. It subsequently transpired that the genuine Herrmann Weiss had while in America foregathered with his double, who had ascertained sufficient of the former's history and prospects to enable him to carry out with success his base scheme of deception and heartless robbery.

When Chude Bonnat, a baker of Marseilles, was in hiding from the police, who held a warrant for his arrest on a serious charge, he managed to communicate with an acquaintance, one Leriot, who in every respect was his exact double, and conjured him on the strength of their old friendship to promise that, should any misfortune befall him, he would, by impersonating him-nn easy enough task by reason of the striking resemblance existing between them-keep from the oung woman to whom he gaged the knowledge of her lover's shame. Leriot gave his promise, which sat but lightly on conscience, as one to be kept or broken as whim might direct.

However, when Bonnat a day or two later fell into the hands of justice Leriot sought out the young woman, of whom he had no previous knowledge, with the result that his susceptible heart was so touched that he entered into the fulfilment of his promise with surprising zeal. So well, indeed, did he enact the role of Boilnot that he in a short while espoused latter's flance. The couple led a life of complete happiness, which was in no wise dinimed when some year's later, on the convict's release, the wife first discovered the fraud

Hurt Only in Feelings.

What promised to be a serious ac cident on Riverside Drive the other day was turned into a comedy for the benefit of the throng of promenaders. The examiners come around all right; A young woman in the nattiest of They go over the books and ask a lot riding costumes, mounted on a handof wise questions, but are non-com- some bay reached a point opposite mital. In due time the applicant gets | 103d street, when the saddle girth The young woman made i to the conclusion that the examina- frantic effort to retain her balance, gave a shrick of dismay and clutched at the horse's mane.

Several men among the promenaders dashed to her rescue. The horse frightened at the noise and commotion, began to prance. Women screamed as they saw visions of the dragging a helpless rider at the stir-

Lut the unexpected happened. The rider's foot did not catch in the stirrup. She lost her hold on the horse's in a sitting position. Instead of running away, the horse turned and rubbed his muzzle against his former rider's shoulder as though to say, What on earth is the matter with you, anyway?" The heroic rescuers had no more to do than to raise a crimson-faced girl to her feet, assist habit and tighten the saddle girth. thank her would-be preservers .- New

What Women Can Do For a Town. When I was a young man I lived in an old Maryland town. In the centre of the town was a wide, fortorn market place. There was an old market house and another building which held the town engine and the fire bell. I visited the old town recently. The market house and the engine house were gone to other quarters and the old market place is transformed into beautiful lawns, flower beds and neat walks-all done by the ladies of the town. Would that the women of every country town would take hold of matters in the same way and transform the waste places into beauty spots to delight the eye. This means you and your town.-W. F. Massey, in Practical Farmer.

A story is told of the wonderful cure from deafness of a patient who was recommended to hear a Wagner opera, and to sit near the orchestra by the trombones. The physician accompanied his patient, and sat beside him. Suddenly, while the crash of the instruments was at its loudest, the deaf man found he could hear. "Doctor," he almost shricked, "I can hear!" The doctor gave no sign that he noticed the remark. "I tell you, doctor," repeated the patient, in ecstacy, "you have saved me! I have recovered my hearing." Still the physician was silent. He had become deaf him self.-Harper's Weekly.

George Harris, a student in Cam-University, compiled these Turkish proverbs while on a recent

visit to Constantinople: "They divided the flowers and the ose fell to the lot of the thorns." "When the horse dies his master tears off his iron shoes." The good men do isn't equal to the

"When death presses up against the wall of the

those of any other creature living on SERPENT'S WISDOM A land in this part of the world; MYTH. their graceful movement in symmetrical curves, and to the fact that they

never make a superfluous motion.

Observation also shows that they

serve a useful purpose in ridding the

land of grasshoppers and other pests

inimical to agriculturists.

tribute to them.

snakes, like chicken.

proached his heat and asked if there

assured there was not, the company

BLIND BUT PLAY FOOTBALL.

Kentucky Youths Have Nerve and

Rely on Keen Sense of Sound.

ball, some sensible, some from those who don't know a football from a

free lunch, but who are ready to fall

in behind any clamor, there he one in-

stitute down in Kentucky whose play-

ere have made no complaint and who

are blind. The Kentucky Institute

for the Blind has a football eleven,

and it is no imitation game they play,

either. They are sightless but

movements of their opponents.

around bruising tandems and the like.

They do more line bucking than any-

thing else, and now and then throw

interference at an opposing end with

enough precision to put him out of the

play. Also, like the Elis and Quakers.

the blind boys make agility cope with

The blind players use a round ball

because it is easier to handle, and do

only direct passing to avoid fumbles.

When a certain "hole" has been sig

nalled for, they get together and help

the runner as much as any other team

would. Their attack is versatile, and

the handleap they suffer on the de

fence is offset not a little by the foot-

ball axiom that a strong offence is

Those who have seen the blind

players in action say they are rugged

and speedy and slam into an opposi-

tion which they cannot see with fear-

lessness and determination. Keen

eyesight is considered one of the es-

sentials of football, yet these youths,

who play in the darkness play it well.

And they get lots of enjoyment out of

Boy's Chances in Life.

"One chance in nine thousand.

That's the chance you have, boys, of

being recognized as a successful man

of affairs if you only provide yourself

with a common school education," said

a lecturer at a boys' club the other

evening. "This is not my own opinion

or somebody's guess, but the report of

the United States Bureau of Educa-

tion," said he, in explaining his re-

mark. "It is not very encouraging to

many of you, who early have to be-

come wage-earners. The same report

tells us that a high school education

increases a boy's chance about twenty-

two times, while a college training in-

creases the young man's chance ten

while making up your plan of life."-

opposing weight.

the best defence.

vigorous game.

warriors.

our own."

With all the hullabaloo against foot-

been made.-New York Sun.

SNAKES GOOD AS FOOD, BUT NOT AS PETS, SAYS A SCIENTIST.

Blue Racers the Most Delicate Eating -Snakes Not Hostile to Man-Their Cunning and Curlosity-Good Points About Them-Snake

"Snakes are all right as food, but very unantisfactory as pets, for the reason that they have no psychological nature," said a scentist now conhected with Harvard university.

During a six years' residence in the west he made a close study of snakes and their ways. Having them in his study unconfined and about his premises in numbers, he became familiar

The wisdom of the serpent he prohounces a myth, though he admits that snakes have much cunning, are wily to a degree and perfectly understand their power and limitations. For example, a rattlesnake does not retreat in baste when disturbed Realizing that its bite ends the game, it is invariably deliberate, but if left to itself in its own good time it makes

Other venomous anakes also recede slowly, understanding as does the fattler, that they are equal to most emergencies. Contrary to the common notion, snakes are not hostile to man, The most venomous and powerful were supposed to be chicken until it will run from man if possible. It is chanced that a student discovered a only in self-defence that any poisonous snake strikes.

That a rattlesnake rattles to give warning of its presence is a popular fallacy. It really does nothing of the could make use of that bone. Being The tails of all snakes quiver when they are excited and therefore the rattle is heard when disturbed. Why it has rattles on its tail no one From one snake 35 sandwiches had

has been able to find out. It would be, according to this student of snakes, quite absurd to conclude that the handsome, independent, husky rattlesnake is instinctively or otherwise considerate of others in giving warning of its presence. As are all snakes, it is simply negative in its attitude toward others, save when the instinct of self preservation is aroused, when it becomes positive

in self defence. The chief difference between the ways of a poisonous snake and of one whose bite is no worse than the sting of a mosquito, is in the deliberate withdrawal of the one and the hasty retreat of the other in case of danger. The large majority of snakes are quite harmless and slip away with all speed at the approach of either a human being or an animal, knowing that the ability to conceal themselves is their one means of preservation.

While not crediting snakes with wisdom, it is stated that in many ways they are the reverse of stupid They are very curious, and when they can do so without danger to themselves, they examine an unfamiliar object with keen and repeated atten-

It is related by this scientist that in attempting to capture a water snake he put his foot on it in the soft ooze at the creek side, but failed to hold it. To see what the snake would do, he stood perfectly still, and in a few moments it came back and, swimming slowly round and round boot examined it most carefully not as might be supposed, by looking at it, but by touching it at every point with its tongue, not once, but again

and again. The quick thrusting out and draw ing in of the tongue is a snake's way of finding out what things about it mean. The tongue is its most important sense organ. It really has very little sensation elsewhere, and those that are most poisonous can, if not restrained or hurt, be moved about with impunity,

Yet those who handle and study snakes constantly invariably hold them by the back of the neck, as a cat does a kitten, and both seize and liberate them with alacrity. Before they are seized the rule is to keep out of striking distance, which one-third the length of the snake.

In the college town where these studies of snakes were made the antipathy and horror with which they are ordinarily regarded "no longer prevails. On one occasion a city visitor at the scientist's house announced in terror that there was a snake on the steps of the porch.

'Yes, it's sunning itself," her hostess replied easily. "I often fear soone will step on it. For several years it has been about the grounds. It is quite harmless, though occasionally t captures and devours a young robin. Snakes are so very fond of birds. and they require live food."

For some years a large pilot snake, picked up on a Michigan prairie and named Daisy, was almost constantly with this man, who, to know snakes, made companions of them. Often it wound itself about his arm and it seemed to like being there,

The dainties that snakes love provided and he constantly bestowed on Daisy such care and attention as was calculated to win a snake's affecions. The only result was that Daisy grew quite unafraid; seemed to prefer to take food from his hand and made no effort to escape, which was all that could be expected from a creature which has no affection for its young. Many snakes spurn their offspring from the first, others keep about with them for a week, giving them pointers as to how to get on in the world, and then leave them shift for themselves.

middle of April, coming out in the

times over those of the boy who stops Daisy when left to its own diver-sions followed the instinct which with a high school diploma "You see, then, that the college traduate has 200 times the opportunity gives its kind the name of pilot open to the boy with only a commor snake, and would make excursions up school education. These statistics may the supports of porches and the side not apply to us-te you er to me-but of a house or room, but was quite they are telling the true story when we consider all the people of this about. . In the fall it descended to the cellar, and winding itself up in "It is rather a cold-blooded argutight coil hibernated, without food, ment for higher education but it is from the middle of September to the

are being used as a popular form of whistled greeting in London.

THE PULPIT.

AN ELOQUENT SUNDAY SERMON BY DR. DONALD SAGE MACKAY.

Eubject. How to Grow a Soul.

Most particular as to their food, New York City. - Sunday morning, it snakes eat only that which they kill, the Collegate Church, the Rev. Donald Sage Mackay preached on "How to Grow a Soul." The text was from H Peter III:18: "Grow in grace and they judge of the fitness of their food by its motion, taking nothing which does not move swiftly. Field and in the knowledge of our Lord and mice and birds are dainties they espe-Saviour Jesus Christ." Dr. Mackay cially covet, and in hunting and cap-

turing them they display the gulle In the course of my reading the other and cunning which the scriptures atevening I came across this striking and suggestive sentence, "We can each grow a soul if we are willing to pay That they charm their prey is anthe price." These words set me think-ing. What a fremendous possibility other popular belief which is quite unsupported by fact. The creatures they God has placed in the grasp of each hiffit fear them, as a hungry snake one of us. We have in our power the opportunity of growing an immortal has a way of getting what it goes for, and, seeming to understand this, sout. That opportunity is this life-the a bird is so filled with terror when it question is, Are we willing to pay the sees a snake that often it is unable to dy and falls an easy victim to its

Do we realize what the growth of a nemy. It is this condition that leads and within us means? Do we realize to the generally accented conclusion what life is without a soul? We hear "soulless man." Usually we under-stand by that description a man de-void of the ordinary feelings of our that a snake has the power to coarm. As an article of dict, the blue racer, of all snakes is said to be the most delicate in flavor, as it is very cleanly common humanity, lacking in kindliin its habits and particular as to its ness and sympathy, and incapable of food. The flesh of the rattler is also generous action. True enough, but a perfectly wholesome and toothsome, soulless man in the real import of the having a flavor, like the flesh of most words, means a great deal more than that. To be soulless is to be dead at the vital centre of life. It is to be cor-At an exening entertainment, given rupt and degenerate at that point in at the home of this investigator, letcharacter from which the divice and immortal springs into power. Souledged sandwiches of finely minced snake meat were served, and lessness is spiritual degeneracy. It is what Paul calls "Dead in tresposses and sins, without hope and without peculiarly shaped bone. Twirling it between his thumb and finger he ap-God in the world."

Is it worth while, then, paying any price if we can start within ourselves this growth of an immortal soul? "We can each grow a soul," said the writer, "if we are willing to pay the price. Assuredly it is worth it, for this is the one and the only victorious life." More than that—this is the heart of all true religion. If our religion is not developing spiritual life within us our religion is vain. That is the great thought of Christ's teaching, and in that He has emphasized the deepest thought of all the great teachers of the world. You may remember, for in stance, the words of Socrates in Ms Defense, addressed to his accuars, when in describing the greatest vork a man could do he said, "For I d, nothing but go about amongst you, jersuad-ing you all alike, young and od, not to take thought of your person; or your properties, but to care about the greatest Improvement of your toul." Than that statement of the treat Greek teacher the Gospel of Chust can add no stronger emphasis to the tremen-dous significance which briongs to the growth of a soul.

And yet it is just at this point that, for most of as the real tragedy of spiritual experience in veils itself. What is it that most troubles you in ageous and play a spirited, skilful and "Our blindness is merely a handlcap," say these sightless gridiron your religious life, if at any moment your give yourself to honest self-exam-ination? What is the real discour-ement that haunts us even in our keen-est prayers and most fervent supplica-"We are strong, and we don't get laid out any more than other players do. And we manage to hold tions? Is it not just this-our utter poverty in soul growth, the dreadful An extremely acute sense of hear ing is one of the faculties that enable lack of any real evidence of progress in the blind players to overcome their spiritual things? Indged by the orwant of eyesight. Their highly dedinary standards of life our souls do veloped sense of sound enables them not grow. At the very best they sim-to tell where a play is going. If an ply stand still, so that spiritually, even of mental development? the best of us are pretty much as we wing the blind players endeavor to the same tendencies dominant, the mass there as quickly as possible. same temptations present. With others of us it is worse than that. In spite What Mr. Gregory, their coach, calls muscular action is another thing they of our prayers and aspirations we are rely on. They are able to thus divine to face the fact, that spiritually we grow more stunted and dwarfed as the years pass on. Our faith becomes less There are, of course, limitations to the ability of blind players, not felt fervid, the spirit of prayer dwindles, by those who can see, and out of the sense of God evaporates in the courtesy to them opposing teams do stifling atmosphere of selfishness and not try end running. They confine wordliness that wraps itself like a sea fog around us. That, I repeat, is the their attacks between tackles. But spiritual tragedy that plays itself out the blind players try end runs as well in the secret places of our lives; spiras other wide thrown maneuvres after the manner of Yale and Pennsylvania, itually we do not grow as we ought; our souls lack that touch of life which leading exponents of open play, and reveals itself in ever deepening whose game is not built entirely

strength and power.
Well, now having faced this two-fold fact—on the one hand that each of us can grow a soul if he is willing to pay the price, and on the other hand that soul-growth is not being realized within us as it ought-let us see this morning what are some of the condi-tions in obedience to which soui-growth may become a glorious reality for each

1. Let us recognize in the first place what the soul is, what it represents: By the soul, we mean something deep-er than "the muchine which ticks in the brain, that calculates and memorizes, that learns the tricks of trade and practices them in the world." That is not your soul, although I dare say it is the only apology for a soul some of us have. The soul is that in you and me which has kinship with God. It is the chamber in which the divine and immortal within us dwells. The soul is the holy of holles in a man's It is as Paul says, "The Temple te Holy Ghost." When, for inof the Holy Ghost." stance, you feel at times, as surely at ing yearning after God, to know Him, to be like Him, it is your soul that is speaking. It is the immortal within you, crying out for its kinship with God. The vitality of your soul, therefore, is the pledge of your immortality Destroy the soul, and you destroy that within you without which eternity is unthinkable. That is why Christ put unthinkable. That is way clinic but such emphasis on the awful possibility of losing the soul. "What shall it profit a man," He said, "if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Nothing can compensate that loss. Christ does not say that "gaining the world" necessarily means loss of the soul; what He says is, that a prize even so great as the attainment of the whole would not offset the loss of single individual soul. Do we realize

The first condition, therefore, in soul o recognize the infinite value of you as your one and only asset death, with ruthless fingers, strips you of all else. "Think of living," said Carlyle, "for wert thou the piti-fullest of all the sons of earth thy life is no idle dream. It is thine own, It is all that thou hast to face eternity with." True, but living without a sou is to make eternity a voidless blank. It is your soul within you, claiming its thinship with God, that is the only thing worth living for. That is the first point. When you recognise that, you have taken the first step in soul-

2. The second condition is to recon also clearly the great bindrance to soul-growth. It is futile to ask why our souls do not grow naturally, as, for instance, the body does. Spiritual development is one thing, natural growth is quite another thing. The fact must be prograised, excitain it how you will, that and because it tremendously hand.

conspire its ruin. In other words, our souls are in the grip of a deadly disense, which dwarfs and stunts them. What is flut disease? A correct diagnosis is the first step to complete the

Suppose for a moment you have a hov who, instead of growing into health and strength, is pinched and dwarfed and anemic in appearance. You take the lad to a physician, and he will tell you that that how of yours is really suffering from a wrong habit of life. He is not being neurished properly. His directive organs are being overloaded with food which he cannot assimilate. What the boy needs is not more food, but less; not richer diet. but simpler. Nature is being thwarted by artificial living, and artificial living is the seed-plot of disease. And the physician will doubtless tell you that, the boy being young, the cure is simple. He will say: "Give nature a chance it is even so with the health of the soul. Our souls are starved and stunted by a disease, which is created and aggravated by a wrong mode of life. We are so gorging our minds with all the elaborated and artificial forms of liv-Ing. that the spiritual within us is stiffed. Sin is the disease which kills the soul, but sin is simply a product of that sordid selfish life which clogs the great arteries of the soul. If deliberstely we follow a life which makes no provision for prayer and come with God, which cherishes evil habits and nourishes actions which begin and end in self, then we are deliberately killing the sou What, then is the price we to grow a soul? We made of life which make provision, not for alls us, and

the flesh, but of the pire things, purer, sweeter, simple atmosphere hat the soul will inevitally begin to grow. the requestrive powers are marvelous, but these powers must have their opportunity. Here, a a disease which is stunting and \$f\_w|y killing my soul—am I willing 5 fulfill the condition which will expire that disease, and make spirital growth a reality?

3. That ends to the third point. t condition? And who of wn strength is sufficient to What is Sudition? We cannot cer-cur own efforts, hope to re-natural tendencies within war against our souls. We hy any strivings of our own. force spiritual growth. If we are unable to add a cubit to our physical stature, much less can we add to our spiritual growth. Yet, the call of Christ is to "grow in grace, and in His likeness." What, then, is the secret of that growth? The Gospel of Christ is the answer. Our souls grow as they come into living touch with Him. We cannot transform ourselves, but we are transformed into His likeness, as we reflect the spirit of Jesus, and we reflect Jesus in the measure that we re-flect on Him. Make Christ the theme. of your daily prayer and meditation, of your daily prayer and mediately and every moment you spend in His presence is a springtide of spiritual growth within your soul. That growth you cannot check; no sin can hinder it you cannot cheek; no shi can inder it if you are living in the atmosphere of Christ's life. It is not our strivings and strugglings that add to the stature of the soul; it is our faith, simple as that of a little child which, laying hold

of the love of God revealed in Christgrace and into tils likeness.

Now, I ask, is there anything strange or mysterious about that? Is spiritual growth subject to laws any different from those which govern any process thought is to make that theme a potent influence in your life. The more deeply foundly it becomes a part of yourself.
All you have to do is to fulfil the condition of continuous thought, and the object of your thought reacts upon you and becomes a dominant factor of growth. We speak, for instance, of a man beling possessed by some master passion—it may be the love of money, or of power, or of sordid self-indul-gence, or of some higher interest, but whatever it is, the result is the Constant dwelling upon it moulds character into its likeness.

So it is with the soul that surrenders Itself to the influence of Jesus. As we think of Him, and as we enter into the spirit of His life, and breathe the at-mosphere of His love and purity, gradnally we are transformed, and the sou within us leaps up into glad recognition of its lawful Love. Every power we have, every faculty we possess becomes interpenetrated by His spirit, and because His spirit is life we live

Rowland Hill used to tell this story

of himself: "People say when I preach the Gospel very earnestly, 'How excited Mr. Hill gets.' Why," said he, "I was walking through Wotton-under-Edge the other day, and saw some men dig-ging gravel. All of a sudden the earth gave way and buried two or three of I ran off as fast as my old legs would carry me, and I sl 'Help! help! help!' but people did not say, 'Poor old Mr. Hill is getting dreadfully excited!'

"Oh, no! he might be as excited as he pleased when men's lives were in dan ger; but when a man's soul was in danger the proper thing would be to say to him very quietly and calmly, 'My dear friend, unless something shall interpose, and you shall one of these days become somewhat different from what you now are, it will not be quite so well for you in another world as perhaps, you might desire."

The models of fashion here capput even be certain of passing muster as he door mats in heaven.



Menibers of the ruling class working people by letting all their finger nails—except those of the index twine and curve in irregular spirals.

Paralytic Cured by Shock. An old woman in Germany had been bedridden on account of paralysis for ten years until recently, when a tem-pest in her neighborhood shock the