

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

Devoted to the Protection of Home and the Interests of the County.

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Thy Mother.

Lead thy mother tenderly
Down life's steep declivity,
Once her arm was thy support,
Now she leans on thine.
See upon her loving face
These deep lines of care;
Think it was her toil for thee
Left that record there.
Ne'er forget her tireless watch,
Kept by day and night,
Taking from her step the grace,
And from her eyes the sight.
Cherish well her faithful heart,
Which through weary years
Echoed with its sympathies
All thy smiles and tears.
Thank God for thy mother's love,
Guard the priceless boon;
For the bitter parting hour
Cometh all too soon.
When thy grateful tenderness
Looses power to save,
Earth will hold no dearer spot
Than thy mother's grave.
—Richmond Dispatch.

BILL ARP'S LETTER.

In Which He Discusses Matters of Interest.

Atlanta Constitution.

If the rain is to fall upon the just and the unjust there is something wrong with us at my house, for it don't come. May be we don't pray enough, or there is a Jonas in the ship, or something, I don't know what. I met a preacher yesterday and he said they had been mighty dry up in his neighborhood, and the brethren were alarmed and discouraged, and last Sunday they asked him to pray for rain, and he did so with faith and importunity, and while he was preaching the clouds gathered, and the thunder pealed, and the rain come down, and he closed his sermon and thought it the best time in the world to send round the hat, for the brethren were feeling good and thankful, and the hat come back with only three dollars in it, and the rain quit all of a sudden before they had half enough, and he did wonder at it for he thought surely they would have raised fifty, and so after dinner they held a church court and turned out three of the brethren for conjugal looseness and three more for habitual tightness and several for lying and cheating, and about the time they got through the rain begun again and they had a splendid season. Nevertheless we will make a little corn at my house and a power of fodder if we can save it, and we are going to press it and bale it as fast as it is cured and store it away in the barn for hard times, which I reckon are shore to come. The time is coming when every farmer must bale his forage in the field, and if he can't buy a Deadrick press he must join in with two or three neighbors and get one, and then he can pack it away in a small compass and can haul it to town and ship it anywhere where the price suits him. We've gotten through the board business at last, and they are all piled up and weighted down, and I feel like me and the boys ought to have a diploma or a medal or a degree of some sort like they give to these college boys when they make em master of arts before they know an art at all. I'm not much on epigrams, but then I would just as leave have mine to be Wm. Arp, the board gitter as to have a double D. that wasent deserved. Mr. Lincoln was a rail splitter and Joe Brown plowed a male ox on to their credit, and Mr. Grant broke hicks in a tan yard, which was honorable to him and I have thought that if he had kept at it it would have been better for the country, and for him too, wouldn't it? If a man is going to run a farm he must have experience in every branch of business and work with his hands as well as his head. Labor is not only honest but it is healthy. The anal and wedge is a better medicine than Simmons's liver regulator. Its the best appetizer, and the best digester and the best aperient in the world, and these patent medicines would soon perish out if they had to depend upon the laboring men for patronage. Judge Henderson asked me how many rails I could cut and split, in a day, and I told him about 200 in fair timber and he said it wasent so much in strength or in the kind of timber, but in the slight, of hand, for he knowed a man who cut three rail cuts off of a big blackgum and stuck his wedge in the small end of the upper cut and with one lick of the maul sent the wedge through all three of em and stuck it in the stump. Well, that beat me, for I have split blackgums crossways but I never could split em lengthways in my life.

But I hope the time is at hand when splitting rails will be one of the lost arts for timber is getting too scarce in this country to pile it up in fences to rot down again. The United States is paying a premium to settlers in the west for every acre planted out in timber while, our people are cutting it down and wasting it like it was a public nuisance. The stock law will force it upon our people before long for it is bound to come. We can afford to fence in our own cattle, but can't afford to

fence out everybody else. I had a good talk with Mr. Smith, of Oglethorpe, the chairman of the committee on agriculture. He is a farmer, he is, and a man of sense and judgment, and he told me they would recommend a law that would let us take a vote on it twice a year if we want to, and nobody was to vote but freeholders, and if a militia district wanted no fences they could have it so in that district, and when once started it would keep spreading and would eventually embrace the state. Our people would have to plant less cotton then, for they would have to raise grass for pasture and they would find it so profitable they would raise it for market. I met Cobe the other day and he told me he was raising cotton again, which he had sworn off from last year, but the poor fellow said he just couldn't help it for he was a poor man, and was always one year behind with his merchant, and his merchant told him if he didnt raise cotton he couldn't advance to him any more. That's what's the matter, and so the poor farmer and the merchant are getting deeper and deeper in the mire, and Cobe's cotton wont pay out, and next year he will have to hire out for a living. Well, this thing will cure itself after while I reckon.

Now we want railroads to take the place of dirt roads everywhere, for they can haul goods and produce cheaper than we can, and we farmers won't have to keep so many mules to eat up what we make. One pair of good mules will do all the work on a grass farm of a hundred acres and make the farmer more money than three pair raising cotton, and I can prove it. Give Mr. Cole his charter, and anybody else a charter. In fact I would pass a general law on the subject like they have in Tennessee, and let anybody build a railroad anywhere if they would pay for the right of way and conform to our laws and the regulations of the commission. Our only salvation and protection from monopoly is a healthy competition. Governor Colquitt told me that Mr. Cole intended his engineer to make special note of the water courses along the line and direct his survey in their favor, for he wanted to see hundreds of factories located along our descending streams for they would make business for his road and the time had come when northern capital and English capital was going to pour into this sunny land for investment, and our water powers would be sought for and paid for, and our timber would become valuable, and our young men would find profitable employment, and if we showed a liberal investing spirit, the taxable property of this state would be doubled in five years, and so I hope our law-makers will consider the matter wisely and say, gentlemen "come along with my money, we greet you."

BILL ARP.

P. S.—We country folks tender our sympathies to your city folks about your washing and hope you will be able to do decently clean. We have had little troubles of our own in that line and have found out two ways to get the washing done, strike or no strike. Me and the boys had to change garments so often this hot weather and use so many towels and things that our washer-women rebelled and didnt come after the clothes. When I interviewed her she said she was fed up with a rubbin and a scrubbin, that she had washed clothes by the dozen and by the hundred, but she had never washed em by the thousand before and she wasent gwine to do it. So I turned her off and hired her over again at a higher price, and everything goes on smoothly now. The other way is to do it yourself. B. A.

The other night when Bickles went home, he found his wife particularly respectable. She talked of the past with a retrospection, and looked to the future with a sigh.

"Oh, by the way," said Bickles, as he sat on the side of the bed pulling off his boots. "I saw a gentleman down town to-day who would give a \$1,000 to see you."

"Who was he? Does he live in Little Rock?"

"I don't know his name."

"I'll warrant that it was Oliver Gregg."

"No."

"Then he must be George Weatherston."

"Guess again, I might know his name if I were to hear it."

"Oh, I do wish I knew!" said the lady, exhibiting excitement. "Was it Oscar Peoples?"

"Guess again. I remember his name now."

"Harvey Gleekins."

"No; his name is Lucas Wentwig."

"I don't know a man by that name. Why would he give a \$1,000 to see me?"

"Because he's blind."

In Walker county, Alabama, is a natural bridge which rivals the one in Virginia. It is of sandstone, spans 120 feet, and is 70 feet high.

TWO CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.

Newton Enterprise.

A most shocking accident occurred in this county last Saturday evening. On Friday night, Adolphus Sigman, who lives about four miles east of Newton, returned from the head of the Western North Carolina Railroad, where he has been employed on the treatise building. Saturday evening about 7 o'clock he took from his wife a paper of blasting powder, which his wife described as being about a wash-pail full, and a piece of fuse. Sitting near the door, he opened the paper and placed it on the floor beside him. He took the fuse from the package and told his wife to bring him a coil of fire so that he could show his two little daughters, aged two and four years, who were standing near the powder, the working of the fuse, said he would light it and throw it in the yard. The fire was brought, and immediately on touching the fuse a spark fell into the powder and a fearful explosion immediately followed. The father was blown into the yard, and the two children were burned into a perfect crisp, from head to foot. Joe Wilson, colored, who lives about a quarter of a mile from Sigman's, heard the report, followed by fearful screams and cries for help. He and his wife ran to the place as quick as possible and found the father and mother in the yard extinguishing the clothes of the children which were almost consumed, while in the house, the beds and other most inflammable articles of furniture were just beginning to burn. These were extinguished without very serious damage. Dr. McNeil was sent for but could give but little relief to the suffering children. The younger died about 12 o'clock at night and the older at daylight the next morning, and were buried on Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Sigman were both severely burned, but neither seriously. Comment is unnecessary. Of fatal accidents from the careless use of powder this is one of the saddest which we have ever known.

THE TRADE IN FERTILIZERS.

The trade in fertilizers in this State is enormous. This season it would have been vastly greater than it was but for the inability of the railroads and steamship lines to furnish transportation during the winter and spring. It will be remembered there was much trouble on this account. So great was the pressure of freights, owing to the increase and development of business, that the railways had not sufficient rolling stock to transport the freights.

The amount of fertilizers, despite these drawbacks, reached the past season the enormous figures of 61,370 tons. This gives an idea of the extent of the business. We may safely say that one-third more would have been sent, but for the troubles about freights.

It should be understood that this amount of fertilizers was gathered from the figures given by the railroads. It is fair to presume that the tier of tobacco growing counties, on the northern border of the State, and the southern tier of cotton raising counties, purchased from points in Virginia and South Carolina as much as 100,000 tons, which was transported over railroads entirely within those States, and from which, of course, no reports were received.

The reporters by the officers of the Department of Agriculture care besides this statement as to the sale of fertilizers many other interesting facts.

There were made by the State Chemist 120 detailed analyses of fertilizers alone. Of chemicals used other fertilizers materials 20 analyses were made; of marls 20 analyses were made; of drinking waters there were 45, and of mineral waters 12 analyses. Besides this work a large number of analyses of soils, composts, etc., were made.—Raleigh Observer.

A FAMILY OF TWO HUNDRED CHILDREN.

Mrs. Julia Ann Estep, residing in Forestville, Va., is now in her 91st year, and has enjoyed good health until recently. She is the mother of twelve children—nine sons and three daughters; the grandmother of eighty-six children; the great-grandmother of 146 children; the great-great-grandmother of ten children—254 souls in all. One son has only one child, and another son only two children; so the other ten children of Mrs. Estep have eighty-three sons and daughters, an average of over eight to each. "More the merrier," it is said, and happiness greatly abounds in this household.—Shenandoah Valley.

Jackson, Tennessee, will have a cotton factory.

Twenty-seven bushels of wheat per acre harvested off of Strong Bros' 2,000 acre farm in Knox county, Tennessee.

YOUNG WOMEN IN A WHIRL WIND.

Americus (Ga.) Republican.

Mr. Z. T. Baiden gives us the following story of a whirlwind that visited his place about 12 o'clock on Monday, scaring all his hands and some visitors very badly. A whirlwind occurred in a twelve-acre cornfield that was about four feet in diameter and sometimes a hundred feet high. The body of it was perfectly black, with fire in the centre and emitted a strong sulphurous vapor that could be smelt three hundred yards from it. The whirlwind would divide into three and move rapidly over the field, twisting up the corn stalks by the roots and carrying them up. These three minor whirlwinds would then come together with a loud crash, cracking and burning and shoot high up into the heavens. Three young ladies who were visiting Mrs. Baiden went in about 150 feet to observe it, but received such a shower of burning sand upon their face and necks that they ran affrighted to the house. Mr. Baiden says that he cannot account for this strange phenomenon, and it certainly frightened all who saw it. The strange part was that it contained fire, yet did not appear to burn the corn that it did not tear up, and its sulphurous vapor sickened and burnt all who got close enough to get a full breath of it.

SELF CONTROL.

In some people passion and emotion are never checked, but allowed to burst out in a blaze whenever they come. Others suppress them by main force, and preserve a cautious exterior when there are raging fires within. Others are never excited over anything. Some govern themselves on some subjects but not on others. Very much can be done by culture to give the will control over the feelings. One of the very best means of culture is the persistent withdrawing of the mind from the subject which produces the emotion, concentrating it elsewhere. The man or woman who persistently permits the mind to dwell on disagreeable themes only spites him or herself. Children, of course have less control, and parents and teachers must help them to turn their attention from that which excites them to something else; but adults, when they act like children, ought to be ashamed of themselves. The value of self control as a hygienic agent is very great. It prevents the great waste of vitality in feeling, emotion and passion. It helps to give one a mastery over pain and distress, rather than it a mastery over us.

SLEEP.

There is no fact more clearly established in the physiology of man than this, that the brain expends its energies and itself during the hours of wakefulness, and that these are recuperated during sleep; if the recuperation does not equal the expenditure the brain withers; this is insanity. Thus it is that in early English history persons who were condemned to death by being prevented from sleeping always died raving maniacs; thus it is also that those who are starved to death become insane; the brain is not nourished and they cannot sleep. The practical references are three:

1st. Those who think most who do most brain work, require more sleep.

2d. That time "saved" from necessary sleep is infallibly destructive to mind, body, and estate.

3d. Give yourself, your children, your servants give all who are under you the fullest amount of sleep they will take, by compelling them to go to bed at some regular hour, and to rise in the morning the moment they awake of themselves, and within a fortnight nature, with almost the regularity of the rising sun, will undo the bonds of sleep the moment enough repose has been secured for the wants of the system. This is the only safe and sufficient rule, and as to the question how much sleep any one requires, each must be a rule for himself; great nature will never fail to write it out to the observer, under the regulations just given.—Hall's Journal of Health.

CHILD BORN WITHOUT EYES.—Another inexplicable freak of nature living curiosity, a child born without eyes has caused a good deal of wondering and comment in the Twelfth district of this county. It is now nearly a month old, the legitimate offspring of the parents, Green and Jane Valentine. Where the eyes should be there are two small apertures, but no sign of the eye-ball can be seen within. Some of our physicians are of the opinion that the eye-balls really exist in their proper place, but have been overgrown. A surgical operation will be made to ascertain the facts.—Newport (Tenn.) Sentinel.

The orange crop of Louisiana this year is a failure.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

From Sunday's Raleigh Observer.

At a recent missionary meeting of the Protestant Episcopal clergymen, it was stated that two years ago the income of their missionary societies was \$6,500,000, of which \$3,500,000 was given in England, \$1,750,000 in America, and \$1,250,000 in Germany.

Four generations were represented at a baptism in Trinity church, Albany, N. Y., on a Sunday recently, the child being attended by its mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, all of whom were presented to the bishop for confirmation and were received to their confirmation by the present rector.

Bishop Littlejohn, who is now in Europe, is credited with the remark that "the Church of England is further than ever from disestablishment," and that it has spent £200,000,000 during the last thirty years in building and repairing cathedrals and churches, and £30,000,000 in church schools.

The Baptist churches of central and eastern Europe have formed a union, embracing Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, Holland, Russia, Turkey and Poland, and extending even into Africa. In the last thirty years the membership of the Baptist churches in that region has increased from a few hundred to 30,000.

The consecration of St. Philip's Episcopal church at Durham, on Sunday last, was a very interesting ceremony. Bishop Lyman preached a masterly sermon, from 26th Psalm, 8th verse. His diction was perfect and delivery very eloquent and impressive. After which the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered. At night R. W. Mr. Bynum, of Winston, preached a very able sermon.

The report of the twenty-fourth international convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations and the Year Book for 1881-82, have been published in one volume, and contain much that is interesting in regard to the work of the associations all over the world. It is stated that the associations now own buildings free of debt valued at \$2,022,334 and building funds and other property amounting in value to \$653,469. There are now 210 secretaries and assistants employed, an increase of 32.

In Jackson a shot-gun belonging to Mr. William Griffith was loaded and hanging in a rack over the door, and during a heavy flash of lightning both barrels went off of their own accord.

A PROSPEROUS MAN.—Grant's income cannot be far from \$50,000 a year. He has an active interest in a New York business house which has been very successful. He gets perhaps \$25,000 a year from the railroad company, and the two funds raised by Jones and the Drexels for him amount to \$320,000. It is not true that he has sold his St. Louis farm.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

IN BED WITH A RATTLESNAKE.—Burlington, Iowa, July 20.—Mrs. Howard, now visiting at 426 South Oak street, was awakened last night by a strange sensation about her ankles, as if something was twisting around and binding them. Making a sudden spring from bed and crying for help, she discovered that she had thrown a large rattlesnake on the floor. It was killed with much difficulty, and measured, when stretched out at full length, 3½ feet.

A CHILD POISONED.—New Orleans, July 26.—Five children of Thos. Kitten, aged one, three, six, eight and ten years, were poisoned by a colored servant named Eliza Bartly, who put rat poison in their soup yesterday. The girl was arrested and confessed the crime. She says she put poison in the soup to make the children sick out of revenge, they having thrown rocks at her and called her a "nigger," and Mrs. Kitten was about to discharge her. The little girl aged three died yesterday afternoon, and it is hoped the child on will recover.

It is said soon after the train passed Walker Station, near Arlington, a deer jumped up near the railroad track and in its fright ran right through the train, jumping from one side of the track to the other through the baggage car, both doors of which were wide open. In its flight through the car, the deer was struck at the root of the tail by the sharp edge of the door on the opposite side from which he sprang, leaving his tail and a handful of hair behind him.

Baltimore has four beautiful parks for the benefit of its citizens. Druid hill park has 700 acres; Patterson park has 56 acres highly improved; Riverside park has 17½ acres handsomely embellished and improved; and Federal hill park with its 8½ acres. They all afford delightful attractions.

Says Reuben Knott unto his fair,
In language burning hot,
"Matilda, do you love me, dear?"
Says she, "I love you, Knott."
"Oh, say not so!" again he cried,
"Oh, share with me my lot!
Oh, say that you will be my bride!"
Says she, "I'll wed you, Knott."

"Oh, cruel fair, to serve me so!
I love you well, you wot!"
"I could not wed you, Reub," says she,
"For then I should be Knott."

A light breaks in on Reuben's mind,
And in his arms she got,
She looks demurely in his face,
And says, "Pray kiss me, Knott."
—Boston Transcript.

Sex to his fond father, who has asked him where he is in his class now: "Oh, pa, I've got a much better place than I had last quarter."

"Indeed? Well, where are you?"

"I'm fourteenth."

"Fourteenth, you little lazy bones! You were eighth last term. Do you call that a better place?"

"Yes, sir, it's nearer the stove."

The mountains of South Carolina are full of visitors.

The cotton worms are at work in sections of Louisiana.

The State dental association, of North Carolina, meets in Asheville this week.

The Mormon excitement keeps up in Coosa, Alabama, and new converts are being added.

Virginia, the first cultivator of tobacco, and which has raised this crop as its staple for a century and a half is growing disgusted with it. Cotton is replacing it. Nearly every county in southern Virginia is growing cotton, and the crop has crawled up from nothing to several thousand bales. The farmers hope it will soon rank among the cotton growing states of the union.

The school fund of Texas will also do a good day be enormous. That state has yet unold 40,000,000 acres of school land, which will probably bring to her public school fund \$100,000,000, a sum equal to the combined school funds of all the other states of the union. The university of Texas, soon to be established has more than \$500,000 with which to erect buildings, and a permanent endowment of between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000. Yet at present, education is at a very low ebb in the lone star state.

IMPORTANT OF THOROUGHNESS.

One of the most useful lessons a boy can learn, whether on the farm or elsewhere, is to do well whatever he undertakes. There is a growing tendency in all departments of labor to slight the work, to get along with as little manual labor as possible. Every progressive person welcomes the substitution of the use of machinery whenever it is possible for human labor, but whenever manual labor must be employed we would insist upon its being well done. We would also insist upon any machine used to facilitate work being so adjusted as to be the best of its kind, and capable of being run with the smallest possible expenditure of power.

Aids in farm work are seldom automatic; the use of animals, or of machinery, demands individual thought, skill and careful attention to detail. Even in the employment of a horse or an ox it is important that the teamster or plowman should so drive the team or attach it to the plow that the power shall be economized to the best advantage. Careless indifference is an offset to the best mechanical appliance. The economic value of cart or wagon may be lessened materially by neglect in oiling the axles. In a hundred ways may careful thought and study add to the power of team or machine.

It is never too early in the life of a boy to form habits of care-taking and thoroughness. There is an enormous surplus power stored in the strong, active, healthy boy, and if directed in proper channels it is capable of becoming an efficient force on the farm. A reckless boy will almost certainly become a reckless man. Caution and thoughtful consideration of matters in hand increase by cultivation, hence the importance of inculcating correct principles in the youthful mind.

The practical education of a boy were better confined to a few subjects, thoroughly mastered, than a superficial knowledge of a multitude of facts. To do a few things well is of more importance to youth or man than to perform all work slightly. Proper attention to little things, a place for everything and everything in its place, are important items in farm economy. Many boys and hired men have a provoking way of carelessly throwing down tools and implements where last used, and when subsequently wanted not knowing or remembering where to look for them. Beside the damage to the tools from exposure, the loss of time in hunting them up is very considerable.