THE ENTERPRISE.

MOORESVILLE, - - N. C

If these French duellists really mean business they will challenge each other to an automobile race hereafter.

American locomotives are to be introduced in Southern Asia. The American locomotive has become a conspicuous and indefatigable globe trotter.

It ought not to be necessary to warn people against taking refuge under a tree during a thunder shower. So many fatalities have arisen from this cause that it is inconceivable that there can be any one unaware of the danger of such a course.

If precedent has anything to do with it, no man who has reached the age of seventy will ever be President of the United States, for only five have ever attained that distinguished position who were over sixty—John Adams, sixty-two; Andrew Jackson, sixty-two; William Henry Harrison, sixty-eight; Zachary Taylor, sixty-five, and James Buchanan, sixty-six.

Insurance interests in the United States are assuming vast proportions. During 1900 the life companies alone distributed $273,590,876. About one-seventh of this enormous total was paid policy holders in dividends and in the purchase of surrendered policies, the remainder representing losses. The distribution averaged $1,000,000 for every working day of the year.

The directors of the Geological Survey of Canada says that practically nothing is known of one-third of the area of the Dominion. The unexplored lands comprise more than a million and a quarter of square miles. The largest unknown area comprises nearly the entire interior of the Peninsula of Labrador, covering 280,000 square miles. Dense forests of hard wood and mineral deposits of great value are reckoned among the chief sources of wealth waiting to be developed.

Forest Park, chosen as the site of the St. Louis Exposition, is the city's greatest and most centrally situated park. It is readily accessible, being the western terminus of practically all the cross town street railway lines. In addition, five steam railroads run in close proximity. Much of the park is in a natural condition, covered with large trees, and watered by the Des Peres River with its six small tributaries. It is not the intention to sacrifice this natural part of the park, known to its visitors as "the wilderness." Additional land must be acquired, in addition to the 668 acres of park area loaned by the city; and the 1500 acres of available ground on three sides of the park was a factor in determining the site. The presence of water in the park was also a consideration, as lakes and lagoons play an important part in exposition landscaping.

The Rogers will brings into sharp relief the distinction between the aristocratic and the democratic way of looking at posterity. In aristocratic countries the family is the ideal—to maintain the genealogical line, to sacrifice to it all the natural considerations of generosity and justice. In a democracy the family ideal does not appeal so strongly to the average man, observes the New York World. He has the broad and sane forward look which sees his family spreading out and out until it is lost in the great ocean of life. He thinks of providing for his immediate descendants, for all his children; and then, if he looks beyond, he thinks of the general welfare—the public good. In comparison with the high and generous and enlightened democratic ideal, how narrow, how petty, how irrational is the aristocratic "family pride" which dowers fools, perpetuates drones and gives to vice its golden opportunities!

"There is no question," says Dr. John H. Girdner, in Munsey's, "but that the confusing and discordant noises of large cities are detrimental to the health of those who are obliged to dwell in them for the greater part of the year. The injury to health from this source is not entirely of a local character. In fact, the irritation to the auditory apparatus—that is, the ear itself, its nerves, and its other appendages—is of less importance than the harm done to the brain and general nervous system by the roar and din of modern cities. Noise thus plays an important part in producing neurasthenia, or nervous prostration, a disease of cities and of modern civilization. Aside from the destructive effect on the general health, noise produces local changes in the ear itself which sometimes amount to chronic inflammation, and very often to partial deafness." Dr. Girdner advocates the prohibition of unnecessary noise by municipal ordinance.

A Spotted Tribe of People.

On the banks of the Perus, in South America, dwells a peculiar tribe of people who are spotted in a queer manner. All members of the tribe are similar in this respect, men, women and children being mottled black and white.

CROP CONDITIONS.

On the Whole the Past Week Was Favorable For Crops.

While on the whole the weather this week was an improvement on that of last, yet it cannot be said to be as satisfactory to the farmers as could be desired. In the eastern portion of the State conditions improved, but in the western there were excessively heavy rains, which washed lands badly and injured crops on the lowlands. More sunshine is needed in all sections. The temperature has averaged 2 degrees daily above normal. Cotton has not materially improved. In some places the growth is good, but it is fruiting badly and is shedding. In many places the bolls are rotting for want of sunshine.

The condition of corn has improved, especially on uplands and on red soils. On bottom lands the condition is not so good owing to heavy rains. The fields are very grassy. Late corn is doing well except in the western portion of the State, where it has had too much rain.

The cutting and curing of tobacco is being pushed, the color being good. Fodder-pulling is well advanced, except in the western portion, where the work has been retarded by rain; on uplands the work is being pushed, but on lowlands the crop is yet too green; there has been too much rain for saving the fall crop.

Farmers are breaking land for sowing. Wheat not threshed has been injured in the shock. Oats are good, but not plentiful some have been damaged in the shock; some sowing has been accomplished. Much hay has been cut, but more sunshine is needed for the work. Early sowed turnips are coming up to a good stand. Field peas are doing finely. Gardens have improved, but are very grassy. Cabbages are rotting. Potatoes are very promising. Very little improvement in fruit is noted. Rice is heading nicely.

Expenses Reduced.

The penitentiary has been maintained through the spring and summer without drawing on the State treasury for funds with which to meet expenses.

Mr. Nathan O'Berry, of the board of directors, who is in the city, stated that the operation of the prison with the available revenues of the institution had been made possible by the curtailment of expenses in every department of the institution.

The prison is being maintained at about half the cost in recent years." Mr. O'Berry said, "The average expense in conducting the institution has been about $8,500 per month. Formerly it was $16,000 per month. At every point possible expenses have been cut down. This fact has made it possible to manage the institution without drawing on the State Treasury."

The directors will not be able to make their report to the Governor for six weeks. Two experts, Senator Arrington and Mr. Long, have been going over the books of the institution for six weeks. The task is a big one and they are just about half through. The report will be a full one, and the officials say it will show exactly the financial status of the institution. As soon as completed the report will be submitted to Governor Aycock.

The crops on the State farms are in very good condition, so Mr. O'Berry states. The yield of the cotton crop is estimated at one thousand bales. The crop planted was for a yield of 1,400 bales. The corn crop is good, but the peanut crop is poor. The freshets in the spring destroyed and damaged the peanut crop. All the crops planted on the lowlands were a total loss, but those on the stiff lands are considered very good.

The management of the prison expects to deliver 100 convicts October 1st to begin work on the turnpike road from Marion to Bakersville. Later in the fall the number will be increased to 300. As fast as the farm crops are harvested the convicts will be sent to work on the road.

Dr. Smith's Successor.

Dr. James H. Douglas, of Blackstock, S. C., has been elected Professor of Physics and Astronomy at Davidson College, to take the place of Dr. Henry Louis Smith, the recently elected president. Prof. Douglas received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Johns Hopkins University last June, and is a teacher of long and successful experience.

Col. Latimer Dead.

Wilmington Star.

Col. Edward Savage Latimer, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Wilmington, died last evening at 6 o'clock at his home, 208 North Third street, after a lingering illness of several months.

Only this week Col. Latimer returned from a sanitarium in Baltimore, where he was under treatment of some of the most skilled physicians in the country, but all in vain. He gradually grew worse after his arrival at home and his death came not wholly unexpected, but as a shock to his family and numerous friends here and elsewhere.

Dr. Eben Alexander.

Salisbury Sun.

Dr. Eben Alexander, of the chair of the chair of Greek at the University of North Carolina and minister to Greece under President Cleveland, was in Salisbury last night. Dr. Alexander has been on a tramp through the mountains of Western North Carolina for the past month and has found much pleasure in the trip, though a trifle footsore at its conclusion. This distinguished citizen was greeted last night with pleasure by his Salisbury friends.

Notes and Briefs.

Two hundred fire chiefs of the United States and Canada convened at Indianapolis, Ind.

It is said that 7,000 persons intend to come back from Nome, Alaska, to the United States during the present season.

Former Postmaster John Andrews was shot and killed at Red Lodge, Mont., by John Romere, who mistook him for a bear.

MILLS MAKE GAINS

Latest Developments in Strike Situation.

SKILLED MEN GO BACK TO WORK.

A Number of Desertions From the Ranks of the Amalgamated Association.

Pittsburg, Pa., Special.—Developments Tuesday in the steel strike show decided gains for the manufacturers. The accession of 32 skilled men to the Star plant, the increased production at the Painter and the Lindsay and McCutcheon Mills, the defection from the strikers' ranks of 75 machinists and pipe cutters at the Continental Tube Works and 50 at the Pennsylvania Tube Works, the importation of 12 men to the Monessen Steel Hoop Mill and the installation of three mills on night turn at the Clark Mill, all point to an early resumption all along the line as viewed by the steel officials. The Amalgamated officials, however, make the claim that everything is progressing satisfactorily and say much of the supposed advantages of the manufacturers is bluff and cannot be made good. As an instance they cite the Lindsay and McCutcheon plant, where the company claims to have as many men at work as they can accommodate and turning out merchantable product. The Amalgamated people claim that James Hurley, vice president of the first district, visted the Lindsay and McCutcheon Mill in the guise of a roller seeking work. He made an inspection of the mill and according to the report there are 30 men at work, six of whom are skilled. The strikers also claim that at the Monessen plant the product turned out last week amounted to 250,000 pounds, whereas before the strike the daily output was 1,000,000 pounds.

Matters at McKeesport are quiet and to all appearances unchanged. Strikers point to the fact that the machinists who were persuaded to leave the National Tube Works did not go in as a victory for them. The much-talked-of start of the Demmler plant is still being discussed and the attempt to start is now scheduled for the latter part of the week. The management claims that the only thing holding them back is adequate protection for the workers, a full complement of whom they say are ready to go in. Mayor Black is still holding back his final answer to the request for police protection. It was reported Tuesday afternoon that the strikers at Duquesne intended to make another effort to close that plant by getting the open-hearth men out, but nothing definite on the subject can be learned.

1,000 Coal Miners Quit.

Oliver Springs, Tenn., Special—Union coal miners of this district are out owing to their failure to reach an agreement with the operators for a new scale. The scale for the past year expired Saturday night. No disorder is anticipated. The number of men out is 1,000. A few men are at work in the Tennessee Coal Company's and the Knoxville Iron Company's mines, but the Coal Creek Coal Company's and the Black Diamond Coal Company's mines are completely shut down. The Royal Coal and Coke Company is operating with its full force of men, having entered into arbitration with the miners, as did the Jellico operators.

Heavy Betting on Boat Races.

New York, Special.—J. Montgomery Smart, of the produce exchange, has received a dispatch from J. H. Kingsley, the agent of the English syndicate, which placed $150,000 on Shamrock II. at Pittsburg, saying he was ready with another $150,000 at the same odds, or half that sum. Mr. Smart immediately communicated with a Broadway broker, who arranged the former wager and has since put up $10,000 against $4,000 that the Shamrock will not lift the cup.

Big Racing Prizes.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—The racing privileges at the South Carolina Inter-State and West Indian Exposition were disposed of here for $35,000 to W. Brooks Harley and Co. Associated with Mr. Harley are H. C. Jordan and W. P. Nuckols, of Richmond, Va. The Wagener track will be put in excellent condition and ample facilities such as stables, grandstand, etc., will be furnished. Mr. Harley said that his associates and himself would offer $185,000 in purses during the continuance of the exposition and that he was confident they would be able to provide the visitors to the exposition with excellent sport in running, trotting and pacing events.

Boers Loot a Town.

Cape Town, By Cable.—A mounted force of Boers has looted Barrydale, in the Swellendam district, 140 miles from Cape Town. Scheeper's Boer command passed close to Montague yesterday and had a slight brush with the local scouts. They had spare horses and were apparently well equipped. A column of troops has gone in pursuit.

To Go Out of Commission.

Boston, Mass., Special.—The yacht Independence practically went out of commission Tuesday afternoon after she had raced over a course in Massachusetts Bay and beaten a fleet of fishemen ten miles on a 25-mile course. After the exhibition, the Independence sailed down the ship channel to Hull to await the disposition of her owner. It is believed that she will be dry-docked for dismantling next week.

Brief Mention.

Mr. Joseph Bryan of Richmond has bought his father's old homestead, in Gloucester county, recently owned by W. B. Withers, for $16,000.

At Williamsburg Wednesday Dr. L. S. Foster, superintendent of the Eastern State Hospital, was attacked and very badly beaten by E. T. Clowes, a discharged employe.

Mr. C. M. Randolph, who bought the Atlantic Hotel, Norfolk, on Wednesday for $300,000, says it is his individual purchase and not for a Richmond syndicate, as at first reported.

GENERAL TOON GETS WARM

Over the Exchange of Second-Hand School Books.

A Raleigh Special says: The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is not a little angry. The cause was a letter inclosing a little blank sent out by one of the companies which was lately awarded a contract for furnishing text-books. In the blank which is so arranged as to give the name of the pulpit and school, etc., a fixed and harsh rule is laid down as to the exchange of an old book for the new one; what shall be the condition of the old book, that it shall have been used by the pupil in person the first half of the present year, etc., and then giving the additional sum to be paid for the new book. The Superintendent laid the matter promptly before the Attorney General and said he would block this little game or know the reason why. He said two of the five book companies awarded the contracts were trying to work this game.

The following reply was made by the Attorney General to the Superintendent's inquiry:

Replying to your communication of this date with enclosure of Mr. Street Brewer, county superintendent of Sampson county, relative to the exchange of school books under the provisions of the act to establish a text-book commission, passed by the General Assembly at its last session. I have the honor to submit the following:

Section 10, of the said act provides: "That the contractor or contractors shall take up school books now in use in this State and receive the same in exchange of new books, allowing a price for such old books not less than 50 per cent. of the contract price of the new books." Paragraph 5 of this contract entered into between the State of North Carolina and the book contractors is as follows:

"That the said party of the second part further covenants and agrees to supply each and all of the books or publications embraced in this contract at the exchange price or prices herein named, in those cases where there is offered in part payment an old book which was in use in the State of North Carolina on the ... day of February, 1901, or which is in use on July 1st, 1901, or which is in use between said dates, and which is of like grade and upon the same subjects as the one for which it is taken in part payment provided that the time in which old books heretofore in use in the State of North Carolina can be exchanged for new books, be limited to July 1st, A. D., 1901." The text-book laws which is made a part of the contract declares that the exchangeable books shall be "books now in use in this State," the date February 8th, 1901, mentioned in the contract, being the date of the ratification of the act. In your letetr you say "If only the pupils of schools taught since February 1st, 1901, are allowed to exchange, then the exchange of books would benefit but a small part of the public school patrons," alluding to the date mentioned in this letter of Mr. Brewer. According to my construction of the law and the contract made with the contractors, the clause "school books now in use in this State" determines what books can be exchanged, and these words as used in the act mean those books taught in previous sessions of the school and such books as would be used by patrons in the schools of this State if the General Assembly had not enacted the present law porviding for the adoption of new books.

I do not think the certificate, a copy of which you enclose, and prepared by the contractor, to be signed by the teacher of the public school, and undertaking to define the conditions upon which an exchange of books can be effected by a public school patron is authorized under the text-book law. The statute does not confer upon the contractors authority to issue instructions to the managers of school book depositories, designed as their own interpretation of the conditions under which an exchange of school books can be effected, these questions being, in my opinion, within the jurisdiction of the State text-book commission to be determined in accordance with the law and the contract entered into with the publishers. Section 4 of the text-book law declares: "That the said commission may, from time to time, make any necessary regulations not contrary to the provisions of this act to secure the prompt distribution of a book herein provided for and the prompt and faithful performance of all contracts," and for this purpose it is expressly provided in the said act that the text-book commission shall maintain its organization during the five years which is the period fixed for the expiration of all contracts entered into between the State and the book contractors.

In my opinion the execution of the law with reference to the exchange of school books should not be attended by any difficulty. The law clearly contemplates that any book of a certain grade and on a certain subject which has been used in the public schools, and which is in a condition to be used, and would have been used but for the passage of the text-book law, can be exchanged for a book of a similar grade and on a similar subject at the contract absolutely without any conditions imposed by the contractors.

Chinese Authorized to Sign.

London, By Cable.—"Li Hung Chang has notified the ministers of the powers that the Chinese plenipotentiaries are now authorized to sign the protocol," says a dispatch to The Times, from Pekin, dated yesterday, "and has requested them to fix a date for the signing. An edict concerning the importation of arms was circulated among the ministers today. Two other edicts are still required to complete the protocol."

Militia Appropriation.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The apportionment of the militia appropriation to the Southern States is as follows: Alabama, $[illegible]; Arkansas, $16,993; Florida, $[illegible]; Georgia, $27,614; Kentucky, $27,614; Louisiana, $16,993; Maryland, $16,993; Mississippi, $19,117; Missouri, $56,111; North Carolina, $23,366; South Carolina, $19,117; Tennessee, $[illegible]; Texas, $31,862; Virginia, $25,[illegible].

The West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railroad has established a station at Harding, on the Belington extension.

LABOR DAY SPEECH

Hon. William Jennings Bryan Makes Characteristic Speech.

LABOR DAY GENERALLY OBSERVED

Mr. Bryan Advocates Close Organization and Opposes Strikes—Makes Vigorous Speech.

Kansas City, Special.—Labor Day was marked by the largest and most imposing parade of labor unions ever seen here and by the participation of Wm. J. Bryan in the procession and exercises. Eight thousand men marched through the streets grouped in their unions and each union wearing a distinguished uniform. Mr. Bryan occupied a carriage at the head of the line and was cheered as he was recognized. A striking feature of the parade was the hod-carriers' union, negroes, 225 men, led by a negro band.

The orator of the afternoon was Wm. J. Bryan, who was preceded by Mayor Reed. The pavilion at the park was crowded to suffocation. Mr. Bryan took for his text the Bible verse, "Muzzle not the ox that treadeth out the corn."

Mr. Bryan said "Each decade of our history shows greater production of wealth, and the men who produce it have less to show for it. Is this a good condition—a right condition? The solution of the problems that confront us is in legislation, not in legislation for or against classes, but for equal justice before the law. The strike is today the only weapon the laborer has but it is weak and ineffectual. If the laboring men were half as active on election day as they are in enforcement of their strikes, they would wield a force that would right the evils which beset them.

"The great danger of today is private monopoly. Not that any monopoly is worse than others, but the principle is bad which tolerates any private monopoly. I have heard that the true solution of the problem is for the laboring man to divide profits with the trusts. That has been given as an argument for the trusts. Such a thing would be immoral and impolitic. It would be like dividing the spoils of the highwayman. It would be permitting a man to rifle your pockets and then offer to divide the proceeds with you. Today the only people who sympathize with you are the others who toil in other parts of the Lord's vineyard. In the present great steel strike, where did the first expressions of sympathy come from? From Texas. They have no steel mills there; they are farmers; they are tillers of the soil and laborers, like yourself. I want to warn you to resist the overtures of the trust. Beware when corporations ask you to join them. The farmers can stand the encroachments of the trusts longer than you can. The farmers live off their farms. When trust prices get so high that the farmers cannot buy, they will eat the products of their own industry. Their wives can even go back to the primative method of making clothes by weaving. But when the farmer can no longer pay trust prices, then there will be no more demand for the products of your toil, and you can make no more wages.

The offer of the trusts to divide with the laboring man is a pitfall. Can you trust the corporations to divide honestly? No. How many of you would like to try a lawsuit, when the judge on the bench is the opposing party to the suit? There are good judges, good jurors, yet do you want judges and jurors to try your cases when they are interested in the outcome themselves? When you permit private monopoly to dictate terms of division, then you place yourselves wholly at their mercy. You allow them to water their stock and then expect them to divide with labor on a just bases. You are witnessing a battle between labor and the great steel trust. This trust was willing to unionize some of its mills but would have others open to non-union labor. Why? Because the trust wants some mills that it can depend on in the event of a strike. It is an unequal struggle, for the trust can close down its mills for years, but laboring men cannot live a year without work. It is your duty to crush monopolies with the best resources at your command, the ballot.

"Government by injunction is an iniquitous system, and one of the questions demanding attention at the hands of the American people. The courts are the servants of the people, and for a court to rule by injunction, is for a court to dispense with a jury and to condemn a man for violating a law that the court itself made. Under the process of government by injunction the court constitutes itself the power to make the laws, execute them and pass judgment on the offender. The whole thing is wrong. Under the system a number of employers can organize themselves, go into court and get an order prohibiting others from organizing for the same purpose. They can get an order prohibiting workingmen from getting other working men to refrain from working. The employers can organize to crush labor, but others are forbidden to organize. I am opposed to government by injunction, not that it is directed especially against the laboring man, but that it does away with trial by jury. It is menace, not only to one class, but to all. It is within the power of the laboring man to do away with the system."

Generally Observed in Texas.

Houston, Tex., Special.—Labor Day was observed by nearly every city in Texas and in a manner much more elaborate than has been the case in the past. At Houston the parade included about 3,00. Fort Worth surpassed that number. At Austin Governor Sayers was the orator of the day. Galveston has a picnic at Dickinson with several thousand people from Galveston and Houston.

Observed in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Special.—Labor Day was generally observed in this city. Business was practically suspended and the stock exchange, commercial intitutions and municipal departments were closed. There was a big demonstration by the trades unions at Washington Park, on the Delaware river, where sports, speech-making and jollification were the order during the entire day. Among the speakers was Max S. Hayes, of Cleveland. It is estimated that 100,000 union workmen participated in the celebration.

TRIED IT LONG AGO.

Manual Training In The Days of Bill Arp.

HOW IT PROVED TO BE A FAILURE

Boys Could Not Be Kept at the Plow or With the Hoe—The Old School master Had Hard Time.

Manual training is no new thing. About sixty years ago we boys had it at the Manual Labor school in old Gwinnett. We had to work with our hands three hours a day. We worked with the hoe or the ax or plowed corn and cotton or hauled wood or did some kind of farm work and the three hours of manual labor was intended to pay for our board. But that was a mistake. The boys didn't do one hour's faithful work; they frollicked. Captain Garmany, the old hero of Shepherd's plantation during the Creek war, was the overseer and he said he had rather fight Indians than watch those boys. He was a good-hearted, brave man, but he couldn't manage a hundred boys who hadn't been raised to work and whose fathers were rich and had negroes to work their farms. Most of these boys had been wild at home and had been sent to this school to be tamed and reformed. Poor Captain Garmany. He pleaded with them and took the foremost row and showed them how to hold the plow or split rails or grind the ax, but when he was watching and training one squad in one field another squad in another field would slip off and go in a washing. The old-fashioned wagons had lynch pins to hold the wheels on and sometimes the boys would lose a lynch pin on the way to the woods and the wheel would come off and they would go back to the blacksmith shop to get another pin and fool away the time until the three hours were out and not a load of wood hauled. Captain Garmany gave up in despair before the year was out and they tried another with no better success. As a general rule a rich man's son is not going to work with his hands. We had a very fine lot of boys from the best families, such as the Gouldings and Holts, of Columbus; the Lintons, of Athens; the Allens, of Clarkesville; the Hendricks, of Butts, and a lot of Harriges and Hoyles and Woffords and Johnsons, but they eat more than they earned and so the experiment proved a failure and the manual labor feature was abandoned and my father who had inaugurated it and was president of the board, had to foot the bill of $3,000 for its failure. Since that day it has been set down as a maxim that three hours of work of a rich man's son won't feed him. But these boys didn't turn out bad. Most of them made good scholars and good citizens. Thomas Allen became comptroller general of the state. Ned Goulding was colonel of the Ninth Georgia and William T. Wofford a brigadier general, and Dr. Jim Alexander and Dr. Hendricks stand high in their profession, Gib Wright and Bill Wright and Ramsay Alexander and James Maittle became judges of the circuit courts.

I was ruminating about good old Dr. Patterson, our principal—how fair he was and how faithful and indulgent and sometimes of a hot sultry afternoon, while we were blundering along through Caesar's commentaries he would go fast asleep in his chair and we would skip a whole paragraph and keep on reading and skipping until his book would fall on the floor and wake him up. Then he would hunt all about to find out where we were at but he never complained or made any sign of suspicion. I remember our debating society and how once a month on Friday evening we had to take sides and discuss some great question. About a dozen of the older boys were engaged in it and though I was the smallest, I was right smart and my father helped me and I held my own with the big boys. I remember when the question was who was the greatest man that ever lived and each boy had to choose a different man and advocate his claims. If two of more wanted the same man Dr. Patterson had to settle it. My father told me to choose Ben Franklin and I have never changed my opinion since, for I convinced myself that he was the best all round man that history tells of. He was the fifteenth of seventeen children, never went to school after he was 10 years old, was apprenticed to his brother, who was a printer; ran away from him when he was 17, hired to a printer in Philadelphia; next year was sent to London to buy stock for a new printing office, but the promised money was not sent, so he hired to another printer; after two years returned to Philadelphia, invented a copper plate press—the first in America—married Miss Deborah Read in 1820, when he was 24 years old; founded The Pennsylvania Gazette and rose to competence and renown. Founded the Philadelphia library in 1731; published Poor Richard's almanac for twenty-five years; in 1736 was chosen postmaster of Philadelphia; in 1743 founded the University of Pennsylvania; in 1744 founded the American Philosophical Society and the Academy of Sciences, investigated electricity and took rank with the great discoverers and was elected F. R. S. of London and Edinburgh. In 1753 was appointed postmaster general of the colonies. He was the defender of all colonial interests; was sent to England to have the stamp act repealed; labored hard to prevent war, but failed; came home and signed the Declaration of Independence; was sent to France to secure aid and recognition and succeeded; signed the treaty of peace at Paris in 1783; died in 1790; on motion of Mirabeau the national assembly of France put on mourning for him. In the constitutional convention of 1787 his last motion was that congress should open its sessions with prayer and this is done to this day.

What a record is that for a poor friendless, uneducated boy to make. I have recorded it in this letter as an example for poor boys everywhere.

The territory of Tennessee belonged originally to North Carolina and was called the territory of Washington. The settlers, however, named it Franklin and for three years it bore that name—the state of Franklin. In 1785, after North Carolina had ceded it to the United States, congress got to quarreling over the name and couldn't agree on either Washington or Franklin and compromised on the name of that long, crooked Indian river. Wasn't that a shame? It should be Franklin now.

Well, I gained my case in that debate—at least my father did, for he trained me. I gained it over Napoleon and Washington and Jefferson and Shakespeare and Newton and Demosthenes and others and am still proud to recall the victory.

But the fact remains that there is no greatest man. There is the greatest orator, the greatest philosopher and poet and preacher and statesman and general and discoverer and inventor and painter and sculptor, but each of these is greatest only in his own profession. Outside of that most of great men were weak and childish and some of them corrupt. Lord Bacon was perhaps the greatest writer on political economy and public morals but he accepted bribes while on the bench and publicly confessed it, and was deposed and fined 10,000 pounds and sent to prison. Pope says of him that he was the wisest, brightest and meanest of mankind. Sir Isaac Newton was so absent-minded that it made him appear ridiculous. When the fire burned him he called his servant and told him to move it back. It did not occur to him that he could move back himself. His favorite cat came into his room through a hole in the bottom of the door. When she had five kittens he ordered five smaller holes cut for them to pass in and out. Zerah Colburn was no doubt the greatest natural mathematician who ever lived. When he was 10years old he could multiply any number of numerals in his head and give the answer instantly, but he was almost an idiot about other things, and when 23 years old lost his faculty in figures. The admirable Crichton when 15 years old was the most learned classical scholar in Europe and could converse fluently in twenty languages, but could not do a sum in the simple rule of three. Goldsmith had no superior as a writer of pure English, both in prose and poetry, but he couldn't utter a respectable sentence in conversation. Dr. Johnson said of him: "He wrote like an angel and talked like a parrot." John Wesley was a very great preacher and a writer of sacred hymns, but he was not wise enough to choose a good wife nor great enough to subdue and keep her after he had chosen. When she left him he said: "I did not forsake her, I did not dismiss her, I will not recall her." Petruchio did not tame his Kate that way. Lord Bryon was an unprincipled rake. Napoleon left a dark cloud over his fame by divorcing Josephine. In fact almost every great genius had some defect or some foul blot in the make-up of his character. Our Heavenly Father did not choose to create one perfect man or woman, not one. Just think what faculties it would require in a man to be as great or orator as Demosthenes or Webster, as great a poet as Milton or Shakespeare, as great a philosopher as Plato or Socrates as great a preacher as Wesley or Jonathan Edwards, as great a composer as Mozart or Beethoven, as great a painter as Raphael or Michael Angelo, as great an astronomer as Newton or Galileo or as great a general and patriot as Washington—wouldn't he be a wonderful man? If there was such a man and he could live on and on the world wouldn't need kings or armies for he would rule it wisely and well and all the people would say amen.—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

CURIOUS BURIAL CUSTOMS.

Curious Coffins, with Elaborate and Costly Ornamentations.

On the Ivory Coast in West Africa, between the rivers Bandama and Nzi, there lives a curious negro tribe known as the Baule, and which is a mixture of several races. So curious is it that M. Maurice Delafosse, a colonial official, has thought it well worthy of study, and he now narrates some interesting facts about it.

The coffins used by these negroes, he says, are rectangular, and each is fashioned carefully out of a large block of acajou wood. The sides, moreover, are ornamented with colored bas-reliefs and the cover is usually wrought in most artistic style. As an example of such a cover, M. Delafosse presents one, which was made in 1895 for the mummy of a chieftain named Nyango Kuassi. On it the chieftain is represented as lying on a leopard skin, which has been artistically engraved, the spots therein being shown by squares, cut out of the wood.

Above the dead man is an engraving of an umbrella, the symbol of his high position on earth, and beneath it a box of cartridges has been drawn. On the left is represented a gold-hilted saber which he wore on parade, and above it is an engraving of his favorite drinking cup. On the right in like manner may be seen drawings of his dagger and of his gun. Below the corpse is a death's head and the figure of a woman, who is holding in her hand a saucer filled with bread. The death's head represents that one among the dead man's slaves, who, according to ancient custom, should have been sacrificed at the time of his death, but whose life was spared at the intercession of M. Delafosse.

Reason For Economy.

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No Trouble to Answer Questions.