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J. L. RAMSEY, Editor and Prop., Raleigh, N. C.

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The first bale of new cotton raised in Texas has been ginned and sold for \$225.

It is reported that J. P. Morgan is trying to purchase \$3,000,000 worth of paintings. We thought J. P. was something of a financier.

Texas has established a shotgun quarantine against consumptives. The only way in which they approve of death is when you are in front of a gun.

An exchange has an editorial: "The Passing of the Blockader."
Such an item may cause some people to sit by the road-side for a day or two.

An authority says that it is better for a girl to remain single than to marry a good looking man. The writer now understands why he was left all alone.

Montana varied the monotony by getting wrapped up in fourteen inches of snow the other day. Evidently they have forgotten that this is the good old summer time.

Gold notes of the denomination of \$10 will be put in circulation for the first time this month. Heretofore nothing less than \$20 bills were issued in the form of gold certificates.

The State Association of rural mail carriers is in session at Durham this week. We trust that one of them will purchase the celebrated Durham bull and that will hasten the delivery of mail on his route.

Two Rowan County girls, Misses Mary and Carrie Deal, aged fourteen and sixteen years, ran a reaper and finished harvesting the wheat crop when their father became sick. Boys, there is a good place to go wife-hutning a little later.

Is the world growing better? Yes. According to the Hickory Mercury a good many Catawba County farmers refused to attend a Fourth of July celebration in that town until they were assured that no little politicians were on the speaking program.

### PECULIAR PEOPLE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

A writer on the Atlanta Journal recently made a trip through this State. He found what he terms "peculiar people."

He first describes the Croatan Indians found in Robeson and Richmond Counties, which he claims have the appearance of having white blood in their veins, some of them being auburn-haired and having blue eyes. As a matter of course, the present generation of Croatans are not of pure Indian blood, hence his deductions are not entirely incorrect.

He also describes the "clay eaters" found in portions of the Piedmont section of the State. However, they are not of mixed blood. They are simply an ignorant lot of people who, while quite young, form the unnatural habit of eating clay gathered from gullies and even from chimneys, picking it out with nails or other pointed iron. "Clay eaters" are always diseased, and they grow more so as they get older. Most of them are as pale as a corpse.

An analysis of the soil where clay eaters live has shown that it contains arsenic and other stimulating elements. The habit is said to be prevalent in portions of Tyrol, Syria and Austria. Clay eaters seldom live to reach middle life, and it is gratifying to know that the number of these people with morbid appetites is gradually growing less.

#### QUITE A COMPLIMENT.

During the session of the Peace Conference at Lake Mohawk, N. Y., Justice Brewer, of the U. S. Supreme Court, referred to the manner in which North Carolina recently settled the bond claim against the State. He said:

"The defeated State, although feeling aggrieved by the judgment yet waived all question as to its enforcement and at the time appointed paid every dollar and cent of the debt. Not only was that a response of public opinion, but in addition it was a glorious tribute to the patriotism of the State of North Carolina, a State which gave us the Mecklenburg Resolutions, anticipating the Declaration of Independence! And I can but think her conduct far above that of the State of South Dakota, which willingly took a donation of bonds with the idea of collecting them from a sister State, in disregard of that generous feeling which should control all of the States of this Union."

This is most agreeable. If the value of such commendation as this from such a source could be measured in dollars and cents—which it cannot—North Carolina could have well afforded, had there been no other consideration in the case, to have paid the South Dakota claim for the sake of these words from the distinguished Justice. Our people will read them with a pleasure equal to that we have in printing ther.

# The Right Name.

Mr. August Sherpe, the popular overseer of the poor at Fort Madison, Ia., says: "Dr. King's New Life Pills are rightly named; they act more agreeably, do more good and make one feel better than any other laxative." Guaranteed to cure biliousness and constipation. 25c. at all druggists.

## Woman and the Schools.

Edward Everett Hale in his editorial page in the June Woman's Home Companion describes what women can do about good government. The venerable publicist believes that women should take more interest in school affairs, and says on this subject:

"In my page in the March Woman's Home Companion I had a good deal to say about what women can do in the penitentiaries and poorhouses, and I shall refer to this sort of work again. Here and now I want to talk of what women can do and ought to do in the public schools. I do not care so much whether they be chosen on the school committee, as they are in many States, or whether they act as what the lawyers would call Amicae Curiae, which means friends of the court. My sister Lucretia, well known to many of the readers of these lines, was one of the first women ever chosen to the school committee in Boston. Before she had been in office three months she told me that any intelligent man who knew the sort of thing; which were brought to her for advice by teachers and by mothers would say that the presence of one or more women in a school committee of a large city was absolutely necessary. If you think of it, forty different exigencies might arise in a month's time where the special suggestion of an intelligent woman would be desirable.

"For myself, in my daily work as a parish minister in a great city I find I have no friends or assistants who can help me better than the young ladies who have charge of the different rooms in the public schools. They are really what in the East we call ministers at large. My friend, Miss Maria Symonds would know, if a boy had no necktie or a ragged necktie, that there was a careless mother at home, or that there was no mother there, and in the latter case she would supply the vacancy in her kind care and oversight of Nahum or Thyphena, the motherless children.

"As I write I remember the instruction I once gave to one of the best of my office assistants and what came of it. He had reported one morning that Michael Shae had gone drunk again and was sent to the House of Correction for six months. We determined between us that we would find where the family had moved to and would suggest that thus and so should be done for the boys and this and that be done for the girls while there was no bread winner for the house. Very grand in us! The Christian Church was showing that it could care for what was lost. Yes! But before my excellent curate got around to the boarding house that evening he found that the public school teacher of the school where Nahum 'attended' had taken the whole family in charge and made all the plans which were needed.

"Now, what I am asking for your Excelsior Club or your Martha and Mary Club or your Egeria Club is that when a new school mistress is appointed she shall be sure of your cordial sympathy and help in any such duties."

As the News and Oserver seems to think that the tax assessment of the railroads should be doubled, it might be a good idea for the railroads to look up the tax valuation of the News and Observer and see if it is practicing what it preaches.

The city of Raleigh now has 8,000 more people than it had a month ago. If some of the other towns begin to raise sand about anything we will extend the limits again and take in Oberlin and other suburbs and add a few thousand more to our list. Raleigh is a hummer with sharp teeth.

## OPINIONS IN A NUTSHELL.

"Tariff talk is in the air," says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Mostly in the hot air, apparently.—Washington Herald.

Texas is about to establish a shotgun guarantine against consumptives. Don't go to Texas to die.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

There is no truth in the report that. Mark Twain and King Edward played leap-frog at the Windsor garden party.—New York Sun.

From the amount of heat Old Sol has been giving out lately he has evidently had those spots removed from his face.—Washington Post.

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It is a pleasant hot-weather reflection that the coming airship may make the North Pole a popular summer resort.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

For an impressive illustration of the meaning of the phrase "making up for lost time" just note what the weather is doing.—New York Tribune.

After a while Japan may come to the conclusion that she doesn't make such a great picture with a chip on her shoulder, after all.—Washington Post.

It should be remembered that Senator Knox has witnessed some notable illustrations of the campaign value of political courage.—New Sun.

J. P. Morgan is dickering for a \$3,000,000 art collection. He can afford it. He could buy a quarter of beef if he liked.—Nashville American.

June peas are with us, and the peach crop is beginning to come in. Who cares if the Beef Trust does raise its prices?—Philadelphia Inquirer.

The weather is so hot that it does not look as if the several Presidential candidates would be able to even saw wood with any comfort.—Philadelphia Press.

It is strange to hear that the mosquitoes are annoying the President at Sagamore Hill. What are the Secret Service men up to?—Philadelphia Press.

The Big Stick is well employed in "fanning" the soles of an Isthmian Canal Commission that is asleep on the bench while high expenses go on.

—New York World.

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We have had so many different kinds of weather on tap this past June that almost everybody must be satisfied at one time or another.— Philadelphia Ledger.

After the Meat Trust has been broken up by everybody refusing to eat meat, everybody will go barefooted to bust the Shoe Trust, of course.

—Philadelphia Press.

Pittsburg suggests automobile street sprinklers. Well, there really ought to be a closer relation between the automobile and the water wagon.

—Milwaukee Sentinel.

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Mr. Bernard Shaw is the only English author, and he is Irish, who could begin to make the fuss in this country that the only Mark is causing in London.—New York Sun.

The chief figure of The Hague is Andrew Carnegie, the peace champion, and the most prominent person in England just now is Mark Twain. Wit and money will do anything.—Philadelphia Ledger.