

Staunton Spectator



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We invite inspection of our Subscription List, by Advertisers, and assure them that they will find it the largest of any paper published in this city.

Our readers will find correct Schedules of four of the great railroads of the State regularly published in this paper—the C. & O., the Southern, the N. & W., and the Chesapeake Western.

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- 88 1/2 Acres of well improved land.....\$4,250
- 100 Acres of well improved land.....\$3,000
- 103 Acres of well improved land.....\$3,500
- 125 Acres of unimproved land.....\$2,625
- 222 Acres of well improved land.....\$6,660
- 76 Acres of well improved land.....\$6,000
- 280 Acres of well improved land.....\$8,400

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HAS BURNED 45 YEARS

ROMANCE HAS IT THAT BLAZE WAS STARTED BY REJECTED LOVER—ANOTHER VERSION IS THAT IT WAS CAUSED BY FOREST FIRES—HAS NEVER BEEN QUINCHED.

A telegram from Charleston, W. Va., says: On Paint creek, about 20 miles above this city, near the station at Standard, a coal mine is being mined. A fire about the origin of which an interesting romance is woven. At night the mountainside in which the mine is located is ablaze with a weird play of light; by day a column of smoke ascends like a monument. In truth, the mountain is afire, an unquenchable fire, as those who have already lost \$200,000 in a vain attempt to smother it will testify.

In the late fifties of the last century the Kanawha Coal and Oil Company was organized for the purpose of producing oil from coal found in the mountains divided by Paint creek. The vein located was a comparatively thin one, lying in the heart of a thick seam of the bituminous coal. The company was busy with its operations when the civil war broke out, but continued at work for some time thereafter.

The superintendent was a blunt old Englishman named Gordon, who had a handsome daughter, Rowena, who was the delight of her father's heart and the despair of the young men of the neighborhood. There was the usual courting and flirting, with the usual final selection of one man and the inevitable preparations for the wedding. The lucky man was one Adkins, a native of the mountains, a strapping young fellow, who had won the father's favor as a workman even before he won the daughter's esteem as a lover. Thus the course of true love seemed to run smooth.

But the war came and the Paint Creek section was as badly torn by opposing factions as any other small part of the entire country. The natives were of the South, while most of those who had come to work in the mines were Union men. Of the latter was old man Gordon, while Adkins was a regular fire-eating son of Dixie.

After several stormy interviews Adkins was forbidden to enter the Gordon home, and Rowena was ordered not to see him. He enlisted in the Confederate army and marched out with Wise on his famous retreat up the valley. This was in the spring of 1861. In the autumn he returned home on a furlough and sought to renew amicable relations with the Gordons, but was repulsed by both father and daughter. It is said that in a spirit of revenge he set fire to the drumhouse at the mouth of the mine. The fire was communicated to the rich vein of coal inside, and, obtaining a good hold, has been burning ever since.

Adkins returned to his regiment and was killed in battle. The Gordons left the country soon after, and their subsequent history is not known here. That is the romantic version. The prosaic one is that fire was communicated to the mine by a forest fire that raged furiously in October, 1861. Certain it is that the mine began to burn at that time and has been burning ever since.

In the late eighties a company was formed by Charleston men to extinguish the fire and reopen the mine, but after spending \$20,000 in a vain attempt the enterprise was abandoned. It is probable that the fire will be allowed to burn until the entire vein of coal is consumed.

Often, for years at a time, the fire cannot be seen, but there is always something about the locality to bear witness to its presence. Sometimes it is smoke, sometimes steam. In wet weather there is always a vapor rising from above the mine. In winter snow melts as rapidly as it falls on the particular spot, while the ground around is white. In the spring vegetation appears earlier where the earth is warm from this underlying heat. Of late it has been burning visibly at night, the extent being perhaps a hundred yards along the face of the mountain.

At the Wheel.
Telegraphers
Are on a strike,
The candidates
Are on the bike,
Our girls are
Walking on the shore,
Our wives now write
For more and more
Of the good coin
Of the realm.
To dad, who thinks
He's at the helm;
He's but the stoker
Down below,
Who feeds the
Furnaces, and so
Provides the steam
That drives the keel;
'Tis mamma who
Sits at the wheel.

If papa goes
Out on a strike,
Or papa goes
Out on a bike,
Or papa goes
Out to a show,
He has to ask
Permission, so
He can go out
With conscience clear;
'Tis mamma gives
The proper steer;
Or, if she doesn't,
And he dares
To hike or strike
Out unawares,
And gets a fall
That brings him woe,
She swears him with
"I told you so."
—Houston Post.

PRINTER'S GRIM HUMOR.

LEAVES MYTHICAL FORTUNE TO RELATIVES WHO NEGLECTED HIM.

Jesse Burright, an old printer who died in Des Moines recently, had a sense of humor that did not leave him even when on his deathbed, although his last manifestation of that trait was of a grim kind.

For years he had not been in communication with his relatives, although he had several sisters and a brother residing in California and another in Ohio. When Burright was taken ill of typhoid fever about six weeks ago he notified his relatives—brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews—of the fact, and not one of them responded to his appeal for aid. Friends in Des Moines took charge of the case and helped to bear his expenses. They also paid the expenses of the funeral.

Shortly before Burright died he sent out a second circular to his unresponding relatives. It was simply a printed copy of a will purported to have been drawn by attorneys and carrying the news that he had died. Burright in cash he left his brothers and sisters each \$5,000, and to his other relatives he distributed cash and real estate as if he were a millionaire.

Then there was a hurrying of distant relatives to the bedside of the dying man. He was too ill to see them when they arrived, and he died without disclosing the location of his wealth.

Quarrels soon arose among the gathered relatives, and an attempt was made by some of them to break the will. The brothers and sisters insisted that they were entitled to the entire estate and then threatened legal proceedings among themselves as to the disposition of the property. Two of the brothers engaged attorneys and were preparing for an attack upon the will on the ground that the deceased brother was insane and that the entire estate should go to them. The lawyers began an investigation by starting in to find where their fee was to come from. And they made a discovery.

Burright had absolutely no property.

The Great African Railroad

The Cape to Cairo railroad now extends northward from Capetown, a distance of 2100 miles, a regular train service being operated over the road. While it has not yet begun to show any profits, traffic is increasing, some 3000 tons of zinc ore alone being handled monthly. It is stated that during the current year large amounts of rolling stock and equipment will be ordered, as also will a great deal of building material for the extension of the line northward.—New York World.

A Criminal Attack

on an inoffensive citizen is frequently made in that apparently useless little tube called the "appendix." It's generally the result of protracted constipation, following liver torpor. Dr. King's New Life Pills regulate the liver, prevent appendicitis, and establish regular habits of the bowels. 25c at B. F. Hughes' drug store.

From government sources comes a hint that the beef trust is again to be investigated. The recent general and simultaneous advance in the prices of all meats is construed by the federal authorities as an indication of violation of the Grosscup injunction.

Knew the Signal.

"That yacht is flying a flag of distress."
"What does the signal?"
"Want to know if we have a cork-screw aboard?"—EX.

THROW OUT THE LINE.

GIVE THEM HELP AND MANY STAUNTON PEOPLE WILL BE HAPPIER
"Throw out the Life Line"
The kidneys need help. They're overworked, can't get the poison filtered out of the blood. They're getting worse every minute. Will you help them? Doan's Kidney Pills have brought thousands of kidney sufferers back from the verge of despair. Will cure any form of kidney trouble.

Henry J. Kline, living on Main St., Luray, Va., says: "Prior to using Doan's Kidney Pills, my kidneys were in a disordered condition. I had a constant pain across my back and if I attempted to stoop or lift anything was awarded by sharp twinges through the kidney regions. The frequent action of the kidneys annoyed me day and night, the secretions being too frequent in action, scanty in passage and contained a sediment, I doctored with but little results until Doan's Kidney Pills were brought to my attention, and I procured a box at a drug store. They completely cured the complaint." (From statement given Feb. 27, 1903.)

A Permanent Cure.—On June 25th, 1907, Mr. Kline was again interviewed and confirmed his previous statement, saying: "Since I made a statement recommending Doan's Kidney Pills several years ago, I have not suffered the slightest return of the trouble. My health has been good and from the beneficial results that followed the use of Doan's Kidney Pills in my case, I do not have any hesitancy in recommending them to others suffering from kidney trouble."

Home Proof.—There is plenty of local testimony like the above. Call at B. F. Hughes' drug store and ask to see copies of statements of Staunton people who have used Doan's Kidney Pills. For sale by all dealers. Price 50c. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Items That Will Interest Our Readers

The West Virginia Timber, Coal, Land & Oil Co. of Huntington, W. Va., has been incorporated with an authorized capital stock of \$1,000,000.

The Virginia & Southwestern Railway, it is reported, will complete the Black Mountain extension, about 30 miles long, from Appalachia into the Black Mountain coal fields early in October. About six miles of track are being laid each week.

A report from Knoxville, Tenn., states that F. E. Moore of Cincinnati, Ohio, representing Eastern capitalists, has purchased about 85,000 acres of coal and timber lands southwest of Harrison, Tenn.—The property is in White, Warren and other counties, and is contiguous to the Herbert domain, recently purchased by the State. Mr. Moore is quoted as saying that while the branch line from the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway to the Herbert domain will pass through this property, the purchasers will construct about 15 miles of railroad, branching from the Queen & Crescent Route below Harrison. It is intended to erect several small sawmills to develop the timber and to open coal mines along the railroad.

THE VIRGINIAN RAILWAY.

"The Virginian Railway will be built according to original plans, and will be in operation between Deepwater, W. Va., and Sewell's Point by April of May of next year, the time originally named." This was the prompt and unqualified declaration of Maj. W. N. Page of Ansted, who has been identified with the enterprise from its inception as engineer and president of the temporary organizations in West Virginia and Virginia—the Deepwater and the Tidewater Railroad companies—and who is unquestionably as closely in touch with the plans of H. H. Rogers, long known to be the chief backer of the enterprise, as any man in the country.

Major Page had been asked about the foundations for the reports printed in some of the Eastern newspapers to the effect that recent difficulties in marketing construction and obtaining money for construction purposes had seriously embarrassed Mr. Rogers and that even now the completion of the road was regarded as problematical. In answer to this Major Page said: "I know nothing about these matters other than what I have seen in the newspapers. I regard it simply as newspaper talk. We are going right ahead with the construction of the road. We have 200 out of the 443 miles laid with track, the work of construction is proceeding without delay, and the whole line from Deepwater to tidewater will be finished by April or May of next year."

ELKIN & ALLEGHANY RAILROAD.

A dispatch from Winston-Salem, N. C., says: The work of constructing the new Elkin & Alleghany Railroad has been started. Engineers and surveyors have been engaged in laying out the route for several weeks, and this preliminary work is now being finished.

The construction work begins with a force of nearly 100 convicts engaged in grading. These convicts are furnished by the State, which, by an act of the last Legislature, will accept stock in the railroad in return for their labor. This force will be increased as rapidly as possible, and the first section of the new road, from Elkin to Sparta, the latter town lying beyond the Blue Ridge, will be pushed to as rapid a completion as possible. As soon as this section is finished the road will be extended from Elkin to this city, a distance of about 45 miles. It is estimated that the new road will be completed within about three years.

The building of the Elkin & Alleghany Railroad will put this city in direct communication with that great undeveloped section of North Carolina lying beyond the Blue Ridge mountains, a section that has heretofore been tributary to Virginia. It will mean the rapid development of that section and of the counties to be traversed by the line from Elkin to Winston-Salem.

His Dear Old Mother.

"My dear old mother, who is now 83 years old, thrives on Electric Bitters," writes W. B. Brunson of Dublin, Ga. "She has taken them for about two years and enjoys an excellent appetite, feels strong and sleeps well." That's the way Electric Bitters affect the aged, and the same happy results follow in all cases of female weakness and general debility. Weak, puny children too, are greatly strengthened by them. Guaranteed also for stomach, liver and kidney troubles. By B. F. Hughes, druggist, 50c.

"Consulting fashion expert" is one St. Louis woman's occupation, while packing trunks is the occupation of another.

WHAT IS A KISS?

By Prof. Kristoffer Nyrop, of the University of Copenhagen.

With most civilized and many uncivilized people the kiss is the natural expression of love and kindred feelings.

How is it then to be explained that a kiss has come to be of such vast importance? How is it that slight touch of the lips is able to express our inmost feelings more eloquently than the words of any language?

Is this to be considered something primitive or something artificial and conventional? It is as natural to kiss when we love as to laugh when we are happy or cry when we are sad? In other words, is Steele right when he says that nature has taught us to kiss and that "nature" was the author of the kiss and that it began with the first courtship?

I shall try to answer this question, but I must advance the remark that we here touch something of which we cannot know anything definitely, and that all we can do is to put forward more or less plausible theories.

First, it is important to remember that many nations do not know the kiss in its ordinary form. It is unknown in the greater part of Polynesia, in Madagascar and among many negro tribes in Africa, principally, of course, among those who mutilate their lips.

W. Reids tells of the terror of a young negro girl when he kissed her. It is also unknown among the Patagonians and the Eskimos, as well as among the natives of part of Finland. B. Taylor says in his "Northern Travel" that while in Finland men and women may bathe together, kissing is considered immoral and indecent. When he told a Finnish woman that it was common in England for husband and wife to kiss each other, she replied indignantly: "If my husband dared try that I should box his ears so that he would feel for a week."

If one then asks what takes the place of the kiss among these people, it should be remembered that there are an infinite number of greetings. Some people slap each other's hands or stomachs, others blow on each other's hands, while still others scratch their right ear and put out their tongues.

In many countries greetings are exchanged with the nose. This is the so-called Malay kiss, which consists of rubbing the noses together. This nose greeting is found among the Polynesians, Malays, Eskimos and negro tribes in Africa—all people who do not know the usual kiss.

It seems that the nose greeting is a very primitive custom, whose origin is rooted in the sense of smelling.

Spencer says: "The sheep brays to call back its little runaway lamb. It sniffs at several lambs gamboling around it, and recognizes its own by smelling it and rejoices at the reunion. By repetition a certain relation between the two factors is developed so that the odor of the lamb gives rise to a feeling of joy in the mother sheep."

As every animal has its own peculiar odor, it is also every human individual. When Isaac, the patriarch, grew old his eyesight grew dim and he could not see. He wanted to bless his old son, Esau, but Jacob deceived him by putting on his brother's clothes. Isaac then said to him: "Come nearer, my son, and kiss me." He smelled the odor of his clothes and blessed him, saying: "Lo the odor of my son is like unto a field, blessed by the Lord."

To smell the peculiar odor of a human being whom one loves produces joy. Timkowski writes of a Mongolian father who from time to time smelled his son's head. This with the Mongolians is a sign of fatherly love.

In the Philippines the sense of smell in the natives is so acute that by smelling a handkerchief they can tell to whom it belongs, and loving couples who part give to each other pieces of their clothes and while away from each other they remember each by smelling them.

That the fine aroma arising from the body of a beautiful woman plays a very important part in the love affairs in all nations is too well known to be mentioned.

It is not very likely that the inspirational muscular movement of the lips should be the natural physical reflex of a feeling of love, as for instance the contraction of the muscles of the brows may be the direct manifestation of anger.

Neither do I believe that the mere touch of the lips has primarily been enough to say "I love you," but is rather to be considered the means to enjoy a certain sensual feeling, a way of enjoying through the nerves of nose and lips the peculiar odor of another human being.

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HELLO!
Model Laundry
and asking them to call for your bundle?
If so, better do so now, and let them call for it.