

Ladies' Department.

The following touching little story was written by a young lady of North Carolina who has matured into womanhood...

FOR THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE. EVELYNE CLIFFORD.

It was the close of an oppressively warm day in August, just as the sun was sinking behind the hills, a slight but most refreshing breeze sprang up, causing the flowers to raise their delicate heads for the first time since early morning...

"Did you really expect any one to have strength to be glad of anything, after such a day as we have had?" "From that remark, I suppose there is little chance of your having strength to go to Mrs. Medilton's, this evening?"

"It is not possible you came here with any such expectation, Walter." "Indeed it is, and I ask as a particular favor, that you will go."

"I am sorry, but I told Papa, when he made me accept the invitation, that I should not go if it were very warm."

"I know my uncle expects you to go, and you surely will not mind a warm day or two." "Papa expects no such thing; and I cannot see what right you have to expect it."

"Walter paused a moment, and then fixing his eyes very steadily upon her, he said, 'The moon will be perfect to-night. I heard Norvelle say, he did not think he would venture, if Mrs. Medilton had not promised to let us dance upon the lawn.'"

"At the mention of Mr. Norvelle's name, Evelyn's color deepened very perceptibly, and she turned to pull off one of the young willow shoots, as she said, 'Has Mr. Norvelle returned?'"

"Yes, he returned yesterday. I dare say he would have found his way to the Grove before now, but for the heat."

"It has been very warm, but is cooler since sunset; and I think, on the whole, I will go this evening, Walter, as Papa is so anxious about it."

to a tone so unusual, that both her hearers were surprised. During the short time they were together, before the carriage was announced, Evelyn's manner was so very cool, almost haughty, that Mr. Norvelle was extremely puzzled and annoyed.

CHAPTER III. When Evelyn reached home that night, she hastily dismissed her servant, put out the light, and threw herself upon the couch by an open window, to think over the evening.

CHAPTER IV. The next evening but one, as the weather was again exceedingly warm, Mrs. Montague was about to leave the house.

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CHAPTER VI. Several months had passed away. Every steamer brought better and still better accounts of Fred's recovery.

CHAPTER VII. Four months had passed away since they heard the fatal news. One evening Annie came to see her, and found her in the library.

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Spirit of the Age.



RALEIGH, N. C. Wednesday, November 22, 1854.

A Positive Arrangement. Subscribers receiving their papers with a red mark, are hereby notified that in four weeks from the receipt of the first number that marked, their subscription years will expire, and unless renewed within that time, the paper will be discontinued.

A Liberal Proposition. We make the following offer to Divisions and Individuals, that will interest themselves in extending the circulation of the Spirit of the Age: For five new subscribers we will give a Premium of \$2.50 worth of Temperance Pamphlets and Tracts.

FOR THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE. Mr. GORMAN: I recently found in a Delaware paper the following beautiful article from the pen of one of your gifted Female Correspondents—and being touched by its beauty of sentiment as well as graceful, eloquence of expression, I send it to you for insertion in the Age, through which so many chaste and instructive articles from her pen have been given to refresh and edify your thousands of delighted readers.

Flowers and Love. BY LORA. 'FLOWERS are love's truest language,' quotes your graceful correspondent, 'Charlie,' from the writings of Mr. Park Benjamin, and the truth of the sentiment I do not dare to gainsay, nor would I even do so if I could. But 'flowers and love' are not only fragrant loveliness, with human loves alone; with those beautiful perceptions and purer appreciations which belong to youth and its subsequent development of virtuous character.

The Legislature. The General Assembly of this State convened in this City on yesterday afternoon, but we were compelled to go to press with our paper before the organization of the two Houses was completed.

During our trip we met with a number of our brethren of the quill—Starko, of the Elizabeth City Pioneer; Hunter, of the Norfolk Beacon; Boyd, of the Clarkeville Tobacco Plant; Palmer, of the Milton Spectator; and Kennedy, of the Goldsboro' News—all men 'worthy of the high vocation whereunto they have been called.'

Our entire Code of Laws is to be revised, which, of course, will occupy a large portion of the session; among which are our laws regulating the traffic in intoxicating drinks. No subject has received more consideration from our citizens generally, for the past few years than this. It has been the theme of general discussion, in public and in private, and among all classes of our people, until the almost universal verdict is made up, that our present laws on this subject need amendment—more protection from the evils of the traffic should be afforded to society by law, and the State cease to be a partner in the guilt, suffering, ignorance and taxation which flow from this prolific source.

Our neighbors of the Weekly Post greatly misapprehended our recent remarks upon their position on the proposed amendment to our License Laws. We neither intended to manifest 'scorn' or unkindness towards them. We meant just what we said, that the objections stated by them were, in our judgment, feeble. We think so still; but we believe we shall have the aid of our neighbors in bringing about a reformation on the subject, when the matter comes up for action in our Legislature.

Learning and Intemperance. During the present session of the Legislature, it is said efforts will be made to greatly improve our Common School system. We sincerely hope it may succeed. In this connection we would simply call attention to our Legislators to the universal fact, that learning and intemperance never go together, as a general rule, and the general rule should govern us in our decision upon all subjects. Then, if the State intends to encourage learning, she cannot encourage liquor. Letters and liquor are sworn enemies. North Carolina has a large population that cannot read and write. Now this population must be taught knowledge or vice; one of the two will be done, and it cannot be avoided. Would it be best to learn them? or would it be best to prevent their learning? If the State upholds the license system, she will prevent learning; but if the State forbids the traffic in ardent spirits, she will encourage learning, virtue and sound morality. Now, what will she do? Will she sustain the right? or will she sustain vice, crime, dissipation and all manner of evil?

The Right Chat. A friend sends us a club of subscribers from Bladen, and thus encourages us in our labors. 'The time has rolled around again to renew my subscription, or decline taking the Spirit of the Age another year. The latter I cannot do; it is too highly appreciated by me, in the first place, and in the second, I regard it as the imperative duty of every friend to the temperance cause to take your paper himself, and get all he can to do likewise. Too many have slipped out of the temperance ranks already, to their shame be it spoken; therefore, the true temperance man must only work the harder; they must stand shoulder to shoulder until the enemy is driven to his final doom. With these remarks, I will say to you, I wish to float on your craft another year, so that I may be near enough to hear your sword clash and your cannon roar against the enemy; and, particularly, I would be glad to be near enough to hear the expiring groans of the Arch-enemy, the Traffic. Fight on, fight manfully; the day will yet be ours. I send the names of four others who wish to go on a year's cruise.'

Another friend, writing from Macon county, says—'One of your subscribers here declined renewing his subscription, and to-day one of his sons came to me and said—'Pa says he is going to stop the Spirit of the Age, but me and my brother are going to take it; please send it for us; we love to read it; here is our dollar.' And here it is, Mr. Editor. Long may the blessed principles which your paper advocates influence and govern little James and Calvin; and the moral lessons it inculcates fit them for great usefulness in this life, and for happiness in eternity. Persevere, Mr. 'AGE', and, if not the present, the next generation will rise up and call you blessed.'

Like 'apples of gold in pictures of silver,' are such words and deeds of encouragement to the weary Editor in his arduous labors of spreading before his readers matter of profit and improvement. If all our subscribers would but gladden our hearts by sending us in more of such encouragement, how it would sweeten our toils by the grateful knowledge that our efforts are appreciated by our friends, and also, that we are accomplishing some good.

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The large company present were then invited to the tables in the grove, filled with the substantial and luxuries of the season, and to which ladies and gentlemen did ample justice. An hour or two was spent in pleasant social intercourse, when we had the pleasure of forming the acquaintance of many of the beautiful and intelligent fair ones that graced the occasion with their presence, and also of many Brethren whose names we had long been familiar with, but had never had the good fortune to meet before.

In the afternoon we had the pleasure of addressing the large assembly on the great subject of Temperance and the principles of our benevolent Order; after which Rev. Mr. Bradford and Rev. G. W. Johnson made chaste and graceful remarks, and the company dispersed much pleased with the exercises of the day.

Camden county, it will be remembered, came within a few votes of electing Mr. Barfoot to the Legislature—an out-and-out prohibition candidate, who discussed the question thoroughly through the campaign, and boldly took ground in favor of the measure. All honor to Camden and her noble candidate—another trial and victory will crown their efforts.

On the following evening, at the request of our Brethren in Elizabeth City, we addressed the citizens of that place, and afterwards met with the Division in their Hall, interchanged greetings of fraternal friendship, and formed the personal acquaintance of many whose names we have long cherished as ardent and enthusiastic co-laborers in the great Temperance cause.

Long will the courtesies and hospitalities received both in Camden and Elizabeth City be gratefully remembered by us—and we regret the pressure of circumstances that compelled us to leave so hurriedly the proffered kindnesses extended to us.

Never having visited any of the extreme Eastern counties of our State, this visit was one of peculiar interest and novelty to us. The stage road from Portsmouth, Va., to Elizabeth, is for the most part along-side the Dismal Swamp Canal, the excavations from which being thrown up on the side forming an excellent level road. A portion of the time we were comfortably domiciliated at the residence of an esteemed friend, contiguous to the Pasquotank river, up and down which we saw passing, in one morning, some thirty vessels, with sails full set, scudding along under a spanking breeze at a very good rate.

Some of them were quite heavy craft, and the commercial aspect here exhibited was quite refreshing and pleasing to an up-lander like myself. The wharves at Elizabeth City presented quite a business appearance, a very large number of vessels being in, loading and unloading.

We were never more delighted with a trip with the country, people and entertainments, and we shall avail ourselves of the first opportunity to extend our acquaintance with the warm-hearted people of that region.

During our trip we met with a number of our brethren of the quill—Starko, of the Elizabeth City Pioneer; Hunter, of the Norfolk Beacon; Boyd, of the Clarkeville Tobacco Plant; Palmer, of the Milton Spectator; and Kennedy, of the Goldsboro' News—all men 'worthy of the high vocation whereunto they have been called.'

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