The Times-Dispatch

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SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 1907.

Life's a long, long reaching out of the soul to something beyond her.—Owen Meredith.

Cleanliness at Any Price.

Richmond is one of the most beautiful cities in the United States, and one of the most untidy.

We have fine buildings, well-paved streets, parks and monuments.

We have expended millions in making a fine city, yet we are unwilling to spend a few thousand dollars to keep it free from filth and flying, filthy dust.

It is an absurd policy. It is unworthy of us. It is disgraceful. It is degrading. It causes visitors to hold us in contempt.

Imagine, if you can, a citizen who spends a million dollars on a residence; a hundred thousand in furnishings and ornamentation; fifty thousand in beautifying his grounds, and then lets the house go inch-deep in dust and the grounds grow up in weeds, because he is too parsimonious to employ housemaids and gardeners to keep his dwelling and premises in condition. Imagine such a policy, and you have Richmond's policy.

We must reform. The city must be made clean and kept clean, no matter what it costs. Our own self-respect, as well as our health and comfort, demands it. Cleanliness at any price. That's The Times-Dispatch's platform.

An Evening With Wagner.

Music-lovers of Richmond are pleased and proud that the Wednesday Club at its forthcoming festival will give them an evening with Wagner, the prince of the house Music.

The history of music is essentially the history of the men endowed with that divine art. It is indeed a circle of mystery, and to enjoy and appreciate it in all its entirety and beauty, we have to understand these great natures in order to see 'the jewels within the casket."

Richard Wagner was not only the most colossal figure in all musical history. He was more; he was dramatist, historian and poet. Conscious of the capacity of his great mind to receive impressions, his sensitive nature and artistic temperament must find some outlet, some expression. He knew that painting, poetry, sculpture and music were arts complete within themselves. He said that the drama could not be carried beyond Shakespeare or the Greeks, and in music Beethoven was his ideal. This composer stirred his nature, and his aim was to combine all the arts into one perfect whole, each one serving its individual purpose, and producing such an organ of expression as to arouse and provoke the eternal in the soul of man. To do this he had to bring about a revolution; for the opera, as he saw it, was a string of tunes relieved only by the ballet of the old Italian school. The great musical drama, still in its infancy, was coming gradually to light. The orchestra, with every means of musical expression, the poet and the dramatist, must be all driven to a triumphal chariot.

More than two years elapsed before he received any encouragement in his first work—"Rienzi." While aboard a sailing vessel the situation suggested to him his "Flying Dutchman." After this came "Tannhauser," "Lohengrin" and "Tristan and Isolde," all founded on mythical themes, and which to the world, with Shakespeare's plays, stand entirely alone. The theatre at Bayreuth was built by subscription for a great festival occasion of the performance of the "Ring." It was nevertheless regarded as a temple, away from the din and noise of the city. All performances there were conducted with the utmost solemnity, and such earnestness was never known in the opera before. In Wagner's last work, "Parsifal," he completely realized both religion and art; but he intended it to be given only at intervals and only in that place. The environment itself took away from the hearer all worldly thoughts, and left the mind in such a frame as to view the character of the Christian Redeemer in all its purity and grandeur. Many of his admirers regret that it was ever ventured into the trivialities of the so-called opera house, where the religious element seemed sadly out of place with "Norma," "Don Juan," and even the lighter works of the Wagnerian school. In compliance with his wish, the intervals between the performances of "Parsifal" were long enough to keep it entirely apart from the mass of operatic productions. It was to be treated entirely as a religious festival, combined with art. In this work Wagner reached the zenith of his glory. His motifs from each school are so harmonized as to make the supper of our Lord a most fitting theme for such a glorious outburst of sound. The one magnificent whole is what gives to us almost a glimpse of heaven.

In the music of Wagner there is an indefinable chasm which distinguishes and differentiates it from the music of other composers. This is due in part to his peculiar musical genius, but not entirely. As already stated, he was poet and dramatist, as well as composer, and he wrote musical dramas. He created the characters, and gave them the language of both words and music. With Wagner music was an art, and he employed it as the conveyance of thought and emotion. The characters of his dramas sang as well as spoke their sentiments, and the music of both singers and orchestra was composed to suit every variation and variable emotion of the play. Hence it is that much of Wagner's music is not melodious, and designedly so, for painful emotion is not appropriately expressed in strains that please the ear. Bill Nye was wiser than he knew when he wittily said that Wagnerian music was better than it sounded.

Art is nature, and nature does not consist in beauty alone. There are famous paintings and groups of statuary which are hideous and horrible to behold; but they would not be works of art if they made a pleasing impression, for in that case they would be false to the artist's design.

It is so with the discordant music of Wagner, so-called. It produces the impression which the artist would convey by means of his art. His music in general reveals the soul of the composer to your soul, and, whether the effect be pleasing or not, that is the perfection of art.

A Southern Judge on States' Rights.

The Times-Dispatch has been favored by Judge Emory Speer, of the United States Circuit Court of Georgia, with a transcript of a recent opinion by him on the constitutionality of the Federal "employers' liability act." This act provides that every common-law carrier engaged in interstate and foreign commerce shall be liable to any of its employes, or, in case of death, to next of kin, for damages which may result from the negligence of a co-employe, and contributory negligence is no bar to recovery. Two United States judges had already held that the act was unconstitutional, but Judge Speer takes a different view, and upholds the law in every particular.

The case under view was a suit brought against the Central Railway of Georgia by the widow of a bridgeman, who was killed while engaged in repairing a bridge on the line of the road in Alabama, through the negligence of other employes of the company.

To the declaration of the plaintiff the defendant demurred on several grounds, mainly the following:

First—Because the act is not a regulation of commerce within the meaning of the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Second—Because said act, if it be a regulation of commerce, is not limited to commerce with foreign nations, or among the several States or with the Indian tribes, but extends as well to intrastate commerce.

Third—Because interstate and intrastate employes are so commingled by this act that it is impossible to make it apply only to interstate employes, unless the court reads into the act something which Congress has not put there, and this the court may not do.

The demurrer on all grounds was overruled.

Judge Speer holds that the act is not in violation of the Constitution, basing his decision largely upon the ruling of the Supreme Court that when that court is called upon to consider whether an act of Congress is within the constitutional authority of that department, due respect for the co-ordinate branch of the government requires that the court shall decide that it has transcended its powers only when that is so plain that the court cannot avoid the duty. In other words, Judge Speer reaffirms the doctrine that all reasonable judicial doubts must be resolved in favor of the law, and that the courts will not adjudge an act of Congress invalid unless the violation of the Constitution be clear and unmistakable. Judge Speer holds that the power of courts to regulate the conduct of railroad companies with reference to their employes is of the same nature as the established power which courts exercise in respect to the duties of shipowners and seamen. He thinks it absurd to contend that Federal regulations may be applied to machinery of interstate roads and to commodities, and not to the men who handle the machinery and commodities.

In conclusion Judge Speer says that he is clear as to the constitutionality of this measure, but even if he were in doubt he would uphold the law. "It is a part of that splendid, practical philosophy of government," says he, "which is intended for the betterment of mankind. The statesmen who dealt with this question did not deal with abstractions. They were not enchanted with those flowers and blossoms which are sometimes woven into garlands to crown that divinity—the sovereign State. Like Lord Bacon, in the 'Novum Organum' and other works, written to ameliorate the hardships of life, they were after 'fruit.'"

He declares that no court has gone further than his court in the maintenance of those State rights which are "practical and valuable," but in this case he holds that no right proper to the State, or any of its instrumentalities of government, is drawn into question. "Disquisitions upon profitless, inutile or imaginary reserved rights have never been charming to the writer," he adds. "Such structures of ratiocination—and I again borrow from Bacon—are 'like the ox of Prometheus, a sleek, 'well-shaped hide, stuffed with rubbish, goodly to look at, but containing nothing to eat.'"

The constitutionality of the act will eventually be passed upon by the Supreme Court, and until then discreet laymen will hold their peace. But this layman does not relish the flippant, not to say contemptuous, manner in which Judge Speer refers to the reserved rights of the States. These rights are of far more consequence than the regulation of railroads.

Steel Ties.

Soon after the recent wreck on the Pennsylvania road near Johnstown, the management stated that the accident was due to the steel ties and announced that the use of such ties would be discontinued. This announcement caused surprise and disappointment to the iron and steel trade.

Mr. J. W. H. Jones, late consulting engineer to the department of public works in India, says that the action of the Pennsylvania Company was premature and unwarranted, and he does not believe that other railroad corporations will follow its example.

"As a rule," says he, "engineers are not so readily discouraged because of a single failure; on the contrary, they are perfectly alive to the fact that a substitute must be found for wooden railroad ties, and that there can be no reasonable doubt that before the lapse of a few years steel ties will entirely supersede those of wood." He declares that this is not a matter of choice, but that it is inevitable. He is positive that steel ties can be made as safe as wooden ties, even safer, and says that although the initial cost of steel will be greater, in the long run steel ties will prove to be less costly, as the life of such a tie is much longer, and its cost of maintenance much less, than the wooden tie.

This with him is not a mere theory. As consulting engineer to the Oude and Rohikund Railroad and the public works department of the government of India, he has had ample opportunities to observe the evolution of wood and cast-iron to steel ties. In fact, he was the first to introduce steel ties on the India roads, and says that about 28,000 miles of railroad in India alone are now equipped with them. And not in India only, but also in Australia, in Mexico, and in some South American countries metal ties are now being used with perfect safety. "The question of manufacturing steel ties," says he in conclusion, "is not a difficult one, and certainly such a tie as I have referred to can be produced at less cost than those that have proved so unfortunate to the Pennsylvania Railroad. They can be rolled in about 200 feet lengths, cut to the required lengths while still hot, and pressed into shape in the proper machine at the rate of four a minute. I vouchsafe this information from actual experience."

Steel is gradually supplanting wood in constructive work, wherever practicable, especially in frame work. In these days no railroad company thinks of building a wooden bridge or permanent trestle. Some of the roads are even building their cars of steel, and, as Mr. Jones says, they will inevitably come to steel ties by and by.

The Resurrection in Nature.

In bleak December, when fields are brown and forests bare, when the shadow of death seems to hang o'er all the earth, we can see how one whose faith is weak may balk at the doctrine of the resurrection. But how can the coldest skeptic doubt at Eastertide, in the glorious season of spring, when nature revives the latent life germs, reproduces and rejuvenates? Life is the only thing which can reproduce itself, and that which can reproduce itself cannot die. The resurrection in nature is self-evident. The resurrection in nature is not only possible, but inevitable. It is nature's first law, which changes not and cannot change. The mated birds hatch out their young and sing the glad tidings, and every cluster of hyacinths, in white and pink and royal purple, is as a chime of Easter bells, ringing in the glorious resurrection morn.

In this awakening and inspiring season the poorest seed in all the earth rises from its grave and lives again; and shall man, who was created in the image of God, and into whose soul his Maker breathed the breath of immortal life, lie dormant in the ground and be forever dead?

"Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die."

The Women at the Sepulchre.

(Selected for The Times-Dispatch.)

"He is not here, for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."—St. Matt. xxviii. 6.

Night had passed, and before the faint streak of dawn began to silver the darkness of that first great Easter Day those women who had lingered latest by the cross were on their way to his tomb. Carrying with them their precious spices, they sought the earliest opportunity to perform the last offices of love. They knew nothing of the watch set nor the seal laid on the stone; had they known, it might have been that even their loyal faith would have staggered. As they groped their way with sad and timid steps through the glimmering darkness they anxiously asked among themselves, "Who shall roll away the stone?" For unless it was removed all their tender care and love would be of no avail.

They found the difficulty of the stone solved for them, for, "Behold, there had been a great earthquake; for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: and for fear of him the keepers did shake and became as dead men."

As the women approached the tomb they saw this radiant messenger, who spoke to them in words of wondrous surprise: "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here; for He is risen as He said;" and then, as if to allay their fears and confirm their faith, "Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is risen from the dead."

Mary Magdalene seems to have hastened at once to Peter and John. No sooner did they receive this unexpected and startling news than they determined to see with their own eyes what had happened. John outstripped in speed his elder companion, and, arriving first, stooped down and gazed in silent wonder into that open grave. It was empty, and the linen cerements were lying neatly folded, each in its proper place.

Then Peter arrived, and, heedless of every consideration except his love and astonishment, plunged into the sepulchre. John followed, saw and believed, and the two apostles took back the undoubted fact to their wondering brethren.

In spite of fear and anxiety, and that dull intelligence which, by their own confession, was so slow to realize the truth they had been taught, there dawned upon them, even them, the trembling hope, which was so rapidly to become the absolute conviction, that Christ was risen indeed.

That His body had been laid in that tomb; that on that morning the grave of Christ was untenanted; that His body had not been removed by His enemies; that its absence caused His disciples the profoundest amazement, not unmingled with sorrow and alarm; that they finally became convinced by repeated proofs that He had indeed risen from the dead; that for this truth they were ready at all times themselves to die; that this belief effected a profound and total change in their character, making the timid courageous and the weak irresistible—these are facts which even a skeptic (if he is candid) can hardly fail to admit.

But as yet no eye had seen Him. To Mary of Magdala—to her who loved most, because she had been forgiven most, and out of whose soul, now ardent as a flame and clear as crystal, He had cast seven devils—to her was this glorious honor first vouchsafed. Even the vision of angels had not soothed the passion of agitation which she had experienced when, returning once more to the tomb, she found it was impossible for her to pay the last tribute of devotion and tenderness to the crucified body of her Lord.

Not even the white-robed vision and the angel's message could expel the anguish which filled her heart with the haunting thought, "They have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid Him."

With her whole heart absorbed in her grief, she turned away, and lo! Jesus Himself stood before her. There was something spiritual, not of earth, in that risen, glorified body. Her eyes dim with tears and her whole mind occupied with the one idea, she thought it was the keeper of the garden, and in the eager hope that He might explain to her the secret of that empty, yet angel-haunted grave, she exclaims in an agony of appeal, "Sir, if thou have borne Him hence, tell me where thou hast laid Him, and I will take Him away."

"Jesus saith unto her, Mary! She turned and saith, Rabboni! . . . And Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord."

God grant that this vision and this Presence shall be with us also this Easter day!

The Norfolk Landmark complains that The Times-Dispatch has "butchered Mother Goose." We might retort that any poll-parrot can repeat, and any scribbler can copy from the book, but that it takes genius to "quote from memory" and supply the rhythmical words which cannot be recalled. However, we have learned not to scrap with the Schoolmaster. We take all his rebukes and chidings in humility and in good temper, for with all his quibbles he is very pleasant, bless his dear old soul!

According to a press dispatch, Mr. Roosevelt, explaining jiu-jitsu to his friend, Senator Proctor, showed him how to stand an opponent on his head. Only a few weeks ago the President was showing the same trick to Bellamy Storer.

Neither the Norfolk Landmark nor the Washington Herald, however, has yet asked for the plural of hen-fruit, the probability being that they, like us, cannot afford more than one at a time.

Eating plenty of raw meat, it is said, makes a man more vigorous, physically. It is apt, however, to have a distinctly retroactive effect upon his bank account.

As though his cheek, in a purely native state, were not already the size known as extra special, Chancellor Day, the rich man's friend, has the mumps.

Morristown, N. J., announces that it is overrun with a scourge of snakes. The W. C. T. U. can paste this in its Easter hat if it wants to.

Roumania celebrated Holy Week by killing 1,000 peasants. This looks like carrying the thing to the point of fanaticism.

Abraham Ruef, it is said, is a millionaire, which means that the city he loves so well is out that precise amount.

One simple way of accomplishing government ownership of railways would be for Harriman to will them to Mr. Bryan.

However, no lady, be she never so nimble, can so retrim the old one that every other pew with a lady in it will not instantly get wise.

Mrs. Sage is giving away funds with a lavishness that doesn't make Hetty Green a bit jealous.

Also, the violets, if you put them in water, will last easily until to-morrow noon.

A little more of this sort of thing may prematurely bring out a crop of Junebrides.

Now for the realest thing in promenades de luxe.

If you have bonnets, prepare to wear them now!

Neither let any one halt the grand march to pause and paint the lily.

Rhymes for To-Day.

Promenade All.

SEE the girls go down the street!
Tell me, do you find them sweet
In their garb for Easter?
Do they seem ill-dressed to you,
Disappointed, sad or blue?
Not the least or leaster.

Smiles upon their faces lurk,
Promenading from the Kirk
At the noon's beginning,
Crowding on in lovely rows,
Scrutinizing others' clothes,
Bowing, chatting, grinning.

Oh, how beautiful that walk!
Pause and listen to the talk,
All in highest clover:
"Jane's was plainly ready-bought"—
"Mary looked a fright, I thought"—
"'Twas her blue done over."

Here's another snatch of chat:
"Call that thing a Paris hat!"—
"Morning, Mr. Skinner"—
"Near-silk, dear, she bargained from
I know where"—"Why, hello, Tom!
Coming home to dinner?"

For there're men there, as you note,
Splendid, each, in darksome coat,
Ditto hats of polish—
Which they're doffing left and right
With an ardor pleased and bright
Nothing can demolish.

Churchly festival and fete
Of a meaning rather great—
That's the truth of Easter.
Do all think to recollect
This while walking?—I suspect
Not the least or leaster.

H. S. H.

MERELY JOKING.

They Win.

"How do you succeed in insuring so many people?"

"I look them over, and then I look doubtful and offer to bet them a dollar that in their present state their application for insurance would be rejected."—Houston Post.

Not a Wordy Role.

"I see that a Harvard professor is at work on a play called 'When Words Fail.'"

"I'll bet the star part isn't played by a woman."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

His Experience as Hamlet.

"How are you getting along?" asked a traveling man of an acquaintance who had gone on the stage.

"Oh, I have met with a share of success. I played Hamlet for the first time."

"Did you get through all right?"

"Yes, except that I happened to stumble and fall into Ophelia's grave."

"That must have been embarrassing."

"It was; but I wouldn't have minded it if the audience hadn't seemed so disappointed when I got out."—London Tatler.

To an Accompaniment.

"Yes, I'm doing operatic stunts in vaudeville now."

"I didn't know you could sing."

"I don't have to sing. I have the opening turn while the theatre is filling up. All I do is to come out twice and make motions with my mouth."—Washington Herald.

Made Clear.

The police inspector of Gotham was on the stand.

"Your salary is $3,500?" gently insinuated the spokesman of the Graft Committee.

"Yes, sir."

"And out of this you save $50,000 after living at the rate of $2,500 a month?"

"That's about it."

"How do you work it?"

"Well, there's a Dago who has a stand on my corner, and he gives me a discount on peanuts."—Philadelphia Ledger.

POINTS FROM PARAGRPHERS.

SENATOR RAYNER, of Maryland, is no doubt correct in his statement that the day of bosses with the Democratic party is over. There is no use for bosses where there is nothing left to boss.—Philadelphia Press.

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Most of the people who are suggesting jobs for Mr. Roosevelt when he retires from the Presidency seems to have an idea that he ought to do the country's thinking for the rest of his life.—Washington Post.

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The tariff certainly seems the most popular topic for politicians not to talk about.—Washington Herald.

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So Thomas F. Ryan is to raise peanuts on the Congo. Isn't this going back on old Virginia?—Baltimore Sun.

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Mrs. Bryce finds the "pleasant, unostentatious ways of the American woman a constant source of delight." Wait till she meets the American woman at a remnant sale.—Chicago Tribune.

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However, it will do no harm to note that nine out of thirteen railways reporting for the first week in March show an increase in gross earnings.—Providence Journal.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The average price paid for automobiles used in New York City is $3,500.

There is a birth in New York City each five minutes in the day and a death each seven minutes.

Nankin, China, is to have an electric light system of the most modern kind; also a new water-works.

Glass mirrors were known in A. D. 23, but the art of making them was lost and not recovered until 1300, in Venice.

Prince Waldemar, of Denmark, is a capital boxer and is ever ready to put on the gloves.

Delphin M. Delmas has accepted the invitation of the Kent Club, of the Yale Law School, to address it as soon as the Thaw trial ends.

Miss Rose L. Doonan, president of the Wellesley College Rowing Association, is the champion sculler among students of American female colleges.

George W. Rauch, the Democrat who succeeds Fred Landis as representative in Congress from the Eleventh Indiana District, is only thirty years old.

In 1906 Arizona had the largest increase in production of copper of all the copper States. The output was 284,288,252 pounds, against 239,848,000 pounds in 1905.

Samuel P. Driggers, until recently a resident of Madelia, Minn., at the age of eighty-eight years, has started life anew on a homestead in South Dakota, west of Pierre.

During the month of February 1,125,173 bushels of potatoes were shipped from Aroostook county, Me., making a total crop for 1906 and up to February 28, 1907, of 7,678,873 bushels.

Sir John Tenniel, the famous Punch cartoonist, who celebrated his eighty-seventh birthday the other day, is still a fine military-looking man, with all his faculties intact and as keen a mind as when he drew his first cartoon.

Belgium is a land of low wages. In Ghent the minimum pay an hour for printers, roofers, glazers, painters and boilermakers is seven cents—seventy cents for ten hours' work—and of blacksmiths, locksmiths, carpenters, masons plumbers and electricians eight cents.

In Brazil there is a large ant which is regarded by the natives as good to eat, when roasted—a delicacy as choice, indeed, as snails are rated by the French. Sometimes they dress the tiny creatures up like little dolls, and put them in boxes to sell to tourists as a Brazilian curiosity.

The native of Borneo prays to a pig on all important occasions. If he fears enemies, ill luck, or sickness is coming, the pig is brought into the hut with its legs tied together. A lighted brand is applied to scorch it slightly, then the pig is asked about the matter which the natives wish to know.

EXPOSITION

CASH PAID FOR OLD BOOKS, OLD MAGAZINES, 1800 TO 1870; ENGRAVED PORTRAITS, PAINTED MINIATURES, OLD MANUSCRIPTS, ETC. DESCRIBE WHAT YOU HAVE. WILL CALL, CITY OR COUNTRY.

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P. O. BOX 919, RICHMOND, VA.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Professor Soule's Good Work.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I have read with a great deal of regret the notices that have appeared recently in The Times-Dispatch and other papers of the State of the intention of Professor Soule, of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, to leave Virginia in order to take a more attractive position in Georgia.

For a number of years I have watched with the greatest satisfaction the development throughout every portion of the State of an ever-deepening interest in improved, scientific methods of farming, and it seems to me that to Professor Soule belongs a large part at least of the credit for having effected such a notable improvement in farming practices, and for having rendered such valuable assistance in lifting agriculture into the position that of right it should occupy.

I have no doubt that in the minds of many at least the chief value of the services that Professor Soule and others have rendered and are rendering to Virginia is expressed by the increased fertility of the soil, resulting in increased production and increased values, but to my mind these things are of relatively little value compared with the enrichment of the lives of the people engaged in farming.

As long as the tilling of the soil was looked upon as something that required little else than physical strength, as a pursuit in which success depended only on a favorable conjunction of wind and weather, it is not strange that those who earned their livelihood in this way regarded it as a rather uneven contest on their part against nature; a means of livelihood which was "of the earth earthy," and hardly worthy of pursuit by one possessing a fair amount of intelligence.

But to such people that have long sat in darkness a new light has come. What was formerly looked upon as a rather unremunerative form of drudgery is beginning to be recognized as one of the most fascinating callings, and one that calls for as wide a range of knowledge as the so-called learned professions. It is this lifting up of the labor of "the man with the hoe," this recognition not only of its value, but of its dignity, its enrolment among the professions whose problems offer worthy field for investigation by the brightest minds, that gives a value to the work of Professor Soule and his coworkers that, in my opinion, is simply inestimable.

The lamentable results that must inevitably follow the continued abandonment of the farms and the resultant segregation in the cities of rapidly-increasing numbers, was graphically described by ex-President Cleveland some years ago in an article in the Saturday Evening Post, "The Shadow of a Great City," and can any one doubt the value of the work of those who, like Professor Soule, are endeavoring to check the tide that is annually sweeping hundreds from the farm and into the cities? Can anything be more effective in this direction than to reveal to those who live on farms the possibilities of scientific agriculture, not only as a means of gaining a livelihood, but as a source of never-ending pleasure to those who pursue it as a science, as a profession, in which success depends, not on brawn, but on brain?

It is the revelation of this beautiful, fascinating profession, the substitution of science and system for ignorance and slovenlines, the replacement of rust and routine by reason, that give, as I have said, a value to the work of Professor Soule and others engaged in similar work that cannot be estimated.

I therefore sincerely hope that Professor Soule may yet be induced to reconsider his determination to leave Virginia, sorely in need of such men.

Steet Briar, Va. B.

Reply to "Methodist."

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Since it seems that Evangelist Small did not have time to reply to "Methodist's" retort, you will please give space to a few remarks from his friend and brother.

As to creeds we shall say nothing, save that the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible, is our creed. Anything more than that, anything less than that, or anything differing from that, is the work of fallible man, and is, therefore, worthless.

However, we observe Paul's injunction to Timothy in regard to "rightly dividing the word of truth." II. Timothy, ii. 16.

Hence when sinners ask what they must do to be saved, we refer them to one or the other of the many cases of conversations found in the Book of Acts. For instance, if they be in the condition of the heart-stricken Pentecostians we answer them in the words uttered by Peter under direct inspiration of the Holy Ghost—"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts ii. 38.

On that occasion what "Methodist" terms "pet formula"—believe, repent and be baptized—was certainly used, and used, too, for the remission of sins. For it is evident that when those people cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" that they had not obtained remission of sins. They simply believed, and had to do two other things—"repent and be baptized"—in order to obtain remission of sins.

And that same "pet formula" was used in the case of Saul of Tarsus, who, though he was a penitent believer, as evidenced by his fasting and praying, did not receive remission of sins prior to baptism. For the Lord's special messenger said to him: "Arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins." Acts xxii. 16.

And it can be clearly shown that the same "pet formula" was used in each and every case of conversion mentioned in the New Testament, and that occurred after the outpouring of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost.

We subscribe most heartily to "Methodist's" "creed," as he calls his quotation from Romans, tenth chapter, verses 4-12. But we must say at same time that it does not tell a sinner what to do to be saved. It does not even mention repentance. And not one of the apostles ever gave that as answer to the question, "What must I do to be saved?" Yet it does not conflict in the least with any of the passages quoted or referred to in this article.

Now, as to the word baptize, it matters not whether it be a transferred, translated or an interpreted word; all the circumstances connected with the many baptisms, as well as references to it, clearly show that immersion was the mode practiced by the apostles, as well as John the Baptist.

"And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water." Matt. iii. 16.

Both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and came up out of the water. Acts viii. 38-39. And twice Paul speaks of it as a form of burial and resurrection, viz.: Romans, sixth chapter, verses 4-5, and Col. ii 12.

DISCIPLE.

The Farmer and His Tobacco.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Your letter returning Mss. sent you a month ago, in reply to an article you published from this place on the farmer and his tobacco, comes to me with regret and surprise. Admitting as you, that the article is good, yet rejecting it on acount of its length. After reading it over carefully, I feel there is much yet that could and should be said on so important a subject not only to the tobacco farmer but to every member of our system of society, who are all deeply interested in better prices for their labors, and with a prosperous farming community, every branch of business prospers with it. The State executive committee of the Tobacco Association has decided to have the article printed, and The Times-Dispatch was asked to quote a price for printing it, but did not do so. Why not? Is this work of obtaining better prices for farm products of no interest to The Times-Dispatch? It claims to be the friend of Virginia; and Virginia's farmers constitute too large a share of her citizenship to be neglected and turned down in this way by The Times-Dispatch. The article printed by The Times-Dispatch called in question the statements published about the sales of tobacco by the association. The article sent you gave the association's figures and facts to prove the truth of its position from actual offers for tobacco by your correspondent, and from actual sales in Petersburg of identically the same grades of tobacco sold through the association for much higher prices and bought by your correspondent at much higher prices than he ever before paid the farmers for the same grade of tobacco, for which the association is grateful, in that this purchase and others established the fact that their tobaccos are not priced too high; that the correspondent who bought was satisfied with the tobacco and the price paid, and is willing to take a million pounds at the price to the farmer of six and a half dollars at his door. If this had been so before, we would never have had need of a tobacco association. The farmer would gladly have taken $6.50 per hundred for his sand lugs, and prospered while doing so, and yet they cost your correspondent not less than $8.50 to $9 net for the actual tobacco to freight and dray into his factory and open and soften this tobacco for working as he does. If the real idea of your correspondent is liberality to the farmer who grows the tobacco for him to make big profits from as he has asserted in his second article, why does he not pay the farmers what the prized tobacco actually costs him?

An instance of this comes to the writer, who a few years back offered your correspondent some lugs of splendid character, and only received a price on them here of $1.75 and $2 per 100 pounds. Declining this, he prized these lugs into three hogsheads; they were shipped to Richmond and sold on the market for $3.50 per 100 pounds round. These hogsheads were bought by the late I. N. Vaughan, for your correspondent here who had offered $1.75 and $2 for them, and shipped back to him and received as perfectly satisfactory, at a cost in Richmond of $3.50—a commission to Mr. Vaughan of 50 cents per hundred pounds, the warehouse charge of outage, the drayage of freight back to this point (the drayage opening and softening here), costing not less than $4.50, perhaps $5 per 100 pounds. Again I ask why not pay the farmer this value for his tobacco; and this is the question the tobacco association was formed to answer, and this is the value the farmer is obtaining for his tobacco since the association has been formed. And will The Times-Dispatch deny to the farmer this right to a fair price for his labor, and publish that which indirectly prevents him from getting it.

To be brief, I will get at once to the figures of actual sales made by the association for its members, from the prizery in this county, of which I am the chairman and bonded treasurer, and have the books to prove to anybody what I have paid to the farmers for their tobacco, and with which prices (with but three or four exceptions) they have been excellently pleased—and the money went into the pockets of many of them, and of the rest it went into the pockets of their creditors to settle debts that had been accumulating under the system that allowed others to price their tobacco, too often without reference to its cost or quality, and not infrequently receiving less for the better grades than they got for the worst. I have selected the following parties because they either had their tobacco priced here by your correspondent or they sold in Petersburg and afterwards put identically the same grades of tobacco in the association.

The Railroad Side.

Editor Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I note in recent editions of your excellent paper several articles relative to dissatisfaction shown by the Norfolk and Richmond people with the rates authorized by the passenger departments of the Chesapeake and Ohio and Norfolk and Western Railways to the Jamestown Exposition.

I would like to present a few facts for your consideration, and to do so in an absolutely fair manner, and if you consider them pertinent request that you give them publicity in your usual spirit of justice to all.

The real estate men of Norfolk are now holding property in the vicinity of the Fair Grounds at prices averaging from 50 to 500 per cent. greater than was asked before the exposition was a confirmed fact. A large amount of this property has been placed on a six months' lease at prices more than double what it could have been purchased for outright two years ago. Labor of all kinds commands an advance of from 50 to 100 per cent. at Norfolk now. Lodging and hotel rates will be increased from 50 to 100 per cent. during the exposition, as is witnessed by the rates submitted by the hotel men for publication in folders and advertising matter. The leading hotel in Norfolk submits a rate of $3 each for two in a room without bath, or $6 a day if the room is occupied by one person, and this does not include meals. The merchants, the produce dealers, the milk dealers and, in fact, every one in Norfolk who has labor or material to dispose of, expects to charge, and to get, a largely-advanced price during the exposition.

Now let us look at the railroad side of the question. Several weeks ago the passenger agents of the several railroads entering Norfolk were called to that city to confer with representatives of the Exposition Company, with reference to a scale of rates to be put in effect during the exposition period, and the result was the establishment of a series of reduced rates (not increased rates) that in most cases are about one-half of the regular passenger rate. In some cases the rate is less than half and in a few a little more than half.

If view of all the above, it would seem to an impartial judge that the railroads had surely done their part, and if there are any other inducements or concessions to be made to insure attendance, it lies with those who have uniformly increased their rates to make them. The question with those of limited means, both inside and outside the State, is not going to be how to get to Norfolk, but how to spare the money to live there for a few days after arrival. FAIR PLAY.

Roanoke, Va.

All Imitate Americans.

General Kuropatkin has indicted Russia on as many counts as the grand juries of the United States have indicted Rockefeller.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

As Bret Harte Said.

The achievement of Woo Ang, of San Francisco, who raised a draft of $8 to $8,000, is a refutation of the statement that the Chinese cannot adapt themselves to American ways.—Boston Transcript.

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