

Virginian-Pilot

—BY THE— VIRGINIAN AND PILOT PUBLISHING COMPANY.

KOREGLK VIRGINIAN AND DAILY PILOT (Consolidated March, 1898.)

Entered at the Postoffice at Norfolk, Va., as second-class matter.

OFFICE: PILOT BUILDING, CITY HALL AVENUE, NORFOLK, VA.

OFFICEPS: ALBERT H. GRANDY, President, Managing Editor and Business Manager. WILLIAM S. WILKINSON, Treasurer. LUCIEN D. STARKE, JR., Secretary. R. E. TURNER, Superintendent and Advertising Manager.

THREE CENTS PER COPY.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT is delivered to subscribers by carriers in Norfolk and vicinity. Portsmouth, Berkley, Suffolk, West Norfolk, Newport News, for 10 cents per week, payable to the carrier. By mail, to any place in the United States, postage free: DAILY, one year \$5.00, six months \$3.00, three months \$1.50, one month .50.

ADVERTISING RATES. Advertisements inserted at the rate of 75 cents a square, first insertion, each subsequent insertion 60 cents, or 50 cents when inserted every other day. Contractors are not allowed to exceed their space of advertising other than their legitimate business, except by paying especially for the same.

Reading Notices, invariably 20 cents per line first insertion. Each subsequent insertion 15 cents.

No employee of the Virginian-Pilot Publishing Company is authorized to contract any obligations in the name of the company or to make purchases in the name of the same, except upon orders signed by the PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY.

In order to avoid delays, on account of personal absence, letters and all communications for THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT should not be addressed to any individual connected with the office, but simply to THE VIRGINIAN AND PILOT PUBLISHING COMPANY.

TWELVE PAGES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1900.

PRURIENCY IN PLAYS.

Play-goers, who stop to think about it, are apt to be struck with the fact that so large a percentage of the plays, staged today, are based upon the tacit assumption that to be entertaining a play must contain a tinge of pruriency. Many do not stop with a tinge, but make it the basic idea. Premising that no criticism of the local theatre is intended, or of that particular play, more than another, take the "Three Musketeers," which was presented here the other evening. It is considered a clean and meritorious play, as plays go, and yet not one of the principal feminine characters was a pure and loyal woman as judged by ordinary standards. Indeed, each of the three principal characters was an unfaithful wife, and (in the case of the Queen and her waiting woman) disloyalty was made to appear as a heroic and commendable thing; and the climax of the play was the triumph of the Queen in avoiding detection. The audience applauded vigorously. The obvious lesson was that so the "eleventh" commandment, "Thou shalt not be found out," is observed, it does not matter as to the seventh commandment.

This raises the natural inquiry, "Have play-wrights and managers found by experience that nastiness, in some proportion, is a necessary element in a play?" Have they found that a play lacking this element will not "draw"? There can be no question that this quality will always draw a certain class, but we do not believe that the question is to be answered with a sweeping affirmative. On the contrary, it is probable that pruriency is used to make up for dramatic and artistic shortcomings. Recognizing that this quality will always appeal to a certain considerable clientele, a dash of it is added as a matter of course, even when it is not the central idea.

Of course, nastiness does no harm to them that naturally like it. Indeed it does not do any particular harm to the average man, who is apt to be more or less familiar with it. Only two often he could give the playwright valuable hints as to the realism of it. But, to a large percentage of play-goers, this sort of thing is not a matter of course. To them it does harm. The average morality of plays is below the average morality of society. The well reared young girl, in the season of theatre-going, will be familiarized with a phrase of life of which she had hitherto been entirely ignorant and free from its contaminating effects, and a glamour is thrown about it that obscures the hideous and the repulsive features. Her sensibilities are apt to be either shocked or blunted by it.

We have no purpose to preach, but to make the practical point that this is an unnecessary sacrifice. In real life, men and women keep their sins to themselves. They are never or rarely obtruded on the attention of others, voluntarily, and when obtruded, at all, the lesson is always unpleasant. The stage has, therefore, made it its business to make public the secret sins of society; not always for the purpose of showing the natural sequence of offense and penalty, but more often to teach that evil may be done with impunity; that with ordinary care and shrewdness, it is possible to "eat one's cake and have it."

This is, we submit, not realism. It

is not in accord with the facts of life. Experience repudiates it. But the inexperienced (they who are ignorant of the facts of life), how shall they know that the glamour is as artificial as the rouge and the footlights? We are not emphasizing the point that this is not morality, but that it is not art, which is the usual excuse offered for it. To say it does harm is a mere truism; our contention is that it does harm unnecessarily and wantonly; harm that would not be done in any other way; and that to achieve this purpose, even the basic rules of dramatic art itself are outraged.

THE MAKING OF A WARRIOR.

If it accomplish no other purpose, the Booz investigation will, at least, have poured a flood of light upon the making of a full-fledged warrior with an insatiable desire for carnage and the glory that can be had in porable quantities only "P the imminent, deadly breach." We find, for example, in the testimony of Cadet Brown, of Virginia, this delicious bit descriptive of the diversions by which upper-class men while away the dreary tedium of camp and barracks, and at the same time teach the raw and truculent "pleb" how to demean himself on the battlefield or in the boudoir:

"What besides 'bracing' do you require a fourth class man do to?" inquired General Brown. "We have them do ridiculous formations, one of which we call the 'barn-yard.' The men are designated by names of barnyard animals, and when they are told to form they imitate the noises made by the animals. 'Is any force used?' 'No, sir.' 'Do you make them do anything you tell them?' 'No, they are told to do it, and they generally do anything they are told.'"

In case of war with Germany, France, England or any of the first-class powers, fancy the ghastly terror that would seize the craven limbs of the erstwhile haughty squadrons from effete Europe, as our own ferocious warriors, of West Point antecedents, rushed to the fray, bleating like sheep, squealing like the porker that is the source of so much of our national pride and profit, bellowing like prize bulls at a country fair, quacking like ducks in search of a morning bath, and braying like the noble animal that has figured so conspicuously in history, from Bahama to Blanco. Neither the rebel yell, nor the war-whoops of the festive Apache, are calculated to throw such confusion and dismay into an enemy's cohorts as the martial music which Cadet Brown so ignobly designated as "making noises like the animals." Indeed, the last requisite of entering pride and elit upon the military career mapped out for the nation, has been supplied by these revelations as to West Point tactics. It is permitted us to grasp the precious assurance that where'er our conquering legions go, the sweet notes of peace and domesticity will mingle freely with the harsher sounds of war, presaging the coming of that glorious time "when the war drum throbs no longer and the battle flag is furled, to the parliament of man and the barnyard of the world."

GRANTING CONCESSIONS IN SECRET.

Under the scheme of government for Porto Rico as formulated by Congress, the Executive Council is appointive and serves as an upper house of the insular Legislature, the lower house of which is elected by the Porto Ricans. The Executive Council, together with the Governor, is in practical control of the affairs of the island. The Associated Press correspondent at San Juan sends this interesting and suggestive account of the manner in which the Executive Council does business:

"The Executive Council is daily holding secret executive sessions behind closed doors. These are for the purpose of considering franchises and other matters over which the council has exclusive jurisdiction. The public is not informed of the nature of these discussions. The only bill passed by the House to date is that declaring the office of delegate incompatible with other public offices."

When the law was passed by Congress making Porto Rico a satrapy, the Virginian-Pilot predicted that the concession of all the valuable franchises in Porto Rico, to administration favorites, would be one of the first steps of the new government. The prediction seems to be in process of fulfillment. The supposition is warranted that if the Executive Council were proceeding with an eye single to the welfare of the island it would not be transacting business behind closed doors, particularly since the Porto Rican system, as an innovation, is naturally regarded with suspicion and distrust by Porto Ricans and Americans alike. Every consideration of propriety demands that all the facts as to insular transactions, of a legal nature, should be open to the closest public scrutiny. In this country and in Porto Rico, instead of this, we find the Executive Council, AN ANOMALY IN THE AMERICAN SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT (and mainly an alien body in Porto Rico), granting in secret concessions that will be intimately connected with the future development of the island, and that may be worth millions to the beneficiaries. This is a proceeding utterly at variance with American precedent and one that would not be tolerated for an instant by public opinion in this country. It is a lamentable proof that the worst fears, as to mismanagement and shady practices in the administration of Porto Rican affairs, are likely to be realized.

Chicago is experiencing the biggest sensation since the fire—a policeman has shot a hold-up man.

A SOUTHERN SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY.

President Fulton, in his annual address to the Southern Educational Association, as given in our dispatches yesterday, touched upon the weakest point in the South's educational system when he said:

"The greatest educational need of the South today is at least one institution eminently fitted by its material equipment, its means of support and its environment to command and hold without challenge the position of leader in technical training among the institutions about it. No one of the State institutions can claim that position for our section. Each is restrained by unavoidable limitations in its material foundation, its resources, or its environment. The various efforts for the establishment of a National University in Washington, even if successful, would not create the institution we now need for giving tone and power to technical education in our section."

This observation of President Fulton cannot be gainsaid. In nearly, or quite every Southern State, there are schools mainly technical in training. They were established to meet a sharply felt need and are doing excellent work so far as they go, but without exception they are hampered by lack of funds, and their curricula necessarily stop short of the highest requirements of the South for technically trained men. The result is that young men from this section who wish to take advanced technical courses are compelled to go to Northern schools, where the courses are not arranged with a special view to the industrial needs of the South, which are not always the same as those of the North. Apart from this drawback, for the student of limited means the mere item of traveling expenses from, say, Atlanta to Boston is not a negligible quantity. Hundreds of young men are thus compelled to go without that thorough technical training they could secure if the South had a Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Urgent as is the need of such an institution, however, it is likely to be years before the South secures it, unless some benefactor now unknown shall see fit to devote a few millions to its establishment. Nevertheless it is well that the matter should be agitated by Southern educators now; by and by the means will be found to give the project practical shape.

There are some people who seem to think that the President is capable of eating two dozen Christmas turkeys in one day.—Baltimore News.

Mr. McKinley has set Uncle Samuel a gastronomic task of considerable more difficulty than that.

A Washington correspondent discovered in one day that there will be no extra session of Congress and who will be the next Democratic nominee for President. Each of the discoveries are about equally startling.

Next week the new administration at Albany will enter upon its career under the most promising auspices.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

This is calculated to give Hon. Elihu Root a pain. The "promising auspices" he used to provide at Albany were of no mean or meagre quality.

Both in the Fourth and Ninth Congressional districts of Virginia notice of contest has been served upon the Democratic Congressmen - elect. In neither case does there seem to be any valid grounds of contest. In the Fourth, specific instances of fraud are not even alleged. Congress owes it to the country to put an end to these biennial raids on the treasury by defeated Republican candidates from the South on the flimsy pretext of contesting the seats of Democratic Congressmen. The evil has reached a point where unscrupulous men will soon be scheming for Republican nominations, in hopelessly Democratic districts, for the sole purpose of securing the Congressional allowance for contests.

As was to be expected, the Emperor of China is not disposed to concede to the terms submitted by the powers—terms which entirely destroy China's claim to be a sovereign nation by arrogating to the powers the right to perpetual meddling in her internal affairs, and which would make the Emperor a virtual prisoner in his own palace. He no doubt argues that if the powers are to dictate Chinese policies, they should assume the responsibility of administration instead of seeking to make of him a mere cat's-paw to rake their chestnuts out of the fire. As we have said before, the terms are clearly impossible, and if accepted by the Emperor will never be complied with. The powers are in a hole and the Emperor's advisers are thoroughly aware of it.

Speaking of the South's enormous industrial growth since the civil war, the Galveston News says it has been in large measure due to the Southern press. It very pertinently observes:

"Long before the South had climbed out of the cotton furrow or the cornerstone of a factory had been laid, her press was preaching diversity of crops, diversity of industries and her orators were proclaiming it from the housetops. The very seeds of the new South's teeming industrial life today were sown by the intelligence, the far-sightedness and the persistence of her urban and country newspapers. They were about the first things following Appomattox to get a move on them, and they have never stopped since."

These are, indeed, about the facts in the case.

GENERAL PRESS COMMENTS.

PELLET GROWS GLAD. (Mobile Register.)

The most excited rejoicing over the Republican victory comes from an unexpected quarter. Down in Barranquilla, in the republic of Colombia, is printed under the unobtrusive title of "The Shipping List," a paper that ex-

plodes with delight over the McKinley victory. An eagle bears a big streamer, which hurrahs in red ink freely printed thereon. Below the pictures of McKinley, and of the Democratic donkey, the food for crows. The American flag in colors appears on the fourth page, and there are numerous editorials consigning Croker to the gallows and McKinley to the panteon. E. P. Pellet is the editor.

OPTIMISTIC. (St. Louis Republic.)

And now if the ship subsidy bill fails of passage there will be some reason to believe that the American people still have a voice in the American government.

TWO CENT RAILROAD MILEAGE. (Iowa State Register.)

A bill is now being drawn for presentation at the next meeting of the Illinois legislature, providing that the maximum rate for the transportation of passengers in that State shall be two cents per mile, and it is stated that the lobbyists of the railroads in Indiana, Iowa and many other Western States besides Illinois will be busy from this time on in fighting the enactment of any such laws. The indications point to the passage of the bill by the Illinois Assembly. The country members, who are usually willing to vote for anything that will annoy a railroad, are almost unanimously in favor of the movement and there will be a spirited fight over the measure. A similar bill is being prepared for presentation in Indiana, such a measure having been passed by the last Indiana House only to be defeated in the Senate. There seems to be a general movement toward the two cent mileage movement and in addition to that the proposed legislation includes a mileage book measure that will regulate this form of transportation, while still another feature will be a measure to reduce the prices to be charged in the sleeping cars. This last measure will require the sleeping car company to sell seat accommodations for a sum not to exceed 35 cents for each 100 miles, and the passenger shall not be required to pay more than 50 cents for a single or \$1 for an upper berth for every 100 miles traveled. The railroads say that two cent mileage is unreasonable in the extreme and that it will bankrupt some of the smaller roads. The reduction would cut down the passenger receipts one-third, and it is a matter to be carefully investigated before being decided upon.

THE PANAMA LOBBY. (Washington Times.)

At the risk of appearing cynical, we have repeatedly warned the friends of the Nicaragua canal that the great national enterprise in question was in the greatest danger from insidious work of the Panama canal lobby. A politico-financial party close to the administration, as is well known, holds a cheap option on the old de Lesseps scheme and assets. It stands to win anything from thirty to fifty million dollars if the Nicaragua project can be killed and the Panama fizzle unloaded on the nation.

"THE WORLD ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO TO-DAY." (Copyrighted, 1900, by R. E. Hughes, Louisville.)

Two remarkable books from the pen of Johann Gottlieb Fichte, one of the most eminent modern German metaphysicians, appeared. One was "Vocation of Man," which for beauty of style, richness of contents and elevation of thought, may be ranked with the "Mediations" of Hegel; the other, "The Exclusive or Isolated Commercial State," a treatise intensely socialist in tone and bitterly opposed to free trade and competition, indicating, in fact, organized protection.

Guyton de Morveau, the distinguished French chemist, who had previously discovered the efficacy of hydrochloric gas as an atmospheric disinfectant, became master of the art in France. De Morveau is doubtless responsible for the proverbial hatred accorded all lightning rod agents. His fellow-citizens, accusing him of "presumptuously degrading the hand of the Supreme Being," sought to destroy the lightning conductor on Morveau's home and were restrained from carrying out their intention by the assurance "that the extending virtue of the apparatus resided in the globe point, which had purposely been sent from Rome by the Holy Father." Morveau was some years in advance of his neighbors in the use of a lightning rod of his own construction.

Polystyrene, a method in one of the branches of printing, was invented. The apparatus somewhat resembled a mangle. It had two upright guides about six feet high and a pulley at the top, which elevated by means of a rope a heavy plate in an inverted position. At the foot of the machine was a substantial iron bed, upon which the operator placed some matrix metal. He then raked the rope until the matrix with its weight attached was elevated to the top of the machine, when it was suddenly allowed to fall. The result was similar to that made on metal by means of a die—a perfect reproduction of a matrix in relief, which was mounted on a metal stand to type-height. The method was said to be more rapid than the ordinary stereotype process.

Count Borawski, a Polish dwarf, though 61 years old, continued to attract attention throughout Europe. He was a little gentleman of great accomplishments and elegant manners. He measured only thirty-nine inches in height. A sister, named Anastasia, was so much shorter she could stand under his arm. Both were honored guests of the courts of the old world. The promise of Adam Gottlob Oehlenschlaeger, now 21 years old, and who later won for himself the title of the greatest of modern Danish poets, was already widely felt. He had just entered the University of Copenhagen as a student, but had been publicly invested by Bogaesen, who was leaving for Germany, with the laurel that he himself was resigning.

David Ricardo, the celebrated political economist of England, stumbling on Adam Smith's great work, first began a study of the science that led him to fame and fortune. He was now 22 years old.

Osai Tutu Quamina, an ambitious and enterprising man, who appeared early to have formed a desire of opening communications with white nations, became King of Achantee in West Africa.

Paul Sandby, founder of the English school of water-color painting, retired from the position of chief drawing master to the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, England, after a term of thirty-two years.

HAVE DISCONTINUED THE SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE.

THE LIST IS GROWING.

For the information of the public the Virginian-Pilot will from day to day publish a list of the names of business houses and residences that have discontinued the service of the Southern Bell Telephone Company. If you have discontinued, or intend to do so, please notify the Virginian-Pilot.

The following list of subscribers, who have ordered their 'phones out, has been furnished the Virginian-Pilot:

- ARMSTRONG & BRAINARD, Real estate, 308 Main street. AMES, BROWNLEY & HORNTAL, Dry goods and notions, Monticello Hotel, corner Granby street and City Hall avenue. EDWARD R. BAIRD, JR., Attorney at law, Lowenburg building. A. BRINKLEY & CO., Wholesale grocers, 147 Water street. A. BRINKLEY, Residence, 805 Court street, Portsmouth, Va. CAPT. J. M. BURDEN, Grocer, Church and Nicholson streets. W. LINDSAY BIBB, Attorney at law, 53 Granby street. C. H. BULL & CO., Wholesale lumber, 511 Columbia Bldg. C. H. BULL, Residence. CHARLES J. BASSETT, Milliner, 386 Main street. J. L. BUNTING, Grocer and ship chandler, corner Main and Mathew streets. G. S. BRIGGS & CO., Wholesale lumber, rooms 504-508 Citizens' Bank bld'g. C. BILUPS, SON & CO., Manufacturers agricultural Imp., 199-201 Water St. BRAMBLETON: LOCAL BOARD OF IMPROVEMENTS. W. L. BROOKE & CO., Wholesale grocers and provisions, 81 Roanoke av. L. R. BRITT & CO., Wholesale grocers, 12 Nivison street. CAPT. J. M. BURDEN, Grocer, Church and Nicholson streets. D. CARPENTER, Furniture and carpets, 356 Main street. D. CARPENTER, Residence. COUPER MARBLE WORKS, 169 Bank street. COURTLAND LUMBER CO., 602-603 Citizens' Bank building. COLUMBIA PEANUT CO., 307-311 Water street. CABLER'S BAKERY, 56 Bank street. L. W. DAVIS, Wholesale tobacco and manufacturer of cigars, 94-98 Commercial Place. GEORGE W. DEY & SONS, General Insurance agents, 261 Main St. S. DOZIER, Dry goods and notions, 206 Main street. DUNCAN BROS., Wholesale and retail grocers, 41 Market Place. R. J. DUNNING, Residence. J. W. DEJARNETTE, Merchandise brokers, 143 Water street. J. ENGLE & BRO., Hardware, cor. Main St. and Roanoke avenue. E. B. FREEMAN & CO., Lumber manufacturers, 602-603 Citizens' Bank building. E. B. FREEMAN, Residence. R. S. GODWIN & CO., Produce commission merchants, 75 Roanoke avenue. F. L. GRANDY, Hay, grain and feed, 42 Roanoke avenue. H. B. GOODHIDGE & CO., Wholesale grocers, 92-98 Water street. T. W. GODWIN & CO., Proprietors Virginia Iron Works, 422-462 Water St. J. S. GROVES CO., Wholesale fruit, produce and commission merchants, 33-41 Roanoke square. J. HARDY HENDREN, Marine notary, 51-53 Commercial Place. HUDSON & BRO., Freight transportation, river, bay and sea towing, 69 Roanoke avenue. CALEB HODGES, Grocer, corner Mosely and Chapel streets. C. H. HOOVER, N. Y. Life Ins. Co., Citizens' Bank Bldg. W. P. IVES & CO., Wholesale liquor dealers, 99 and 101 Commercial Place. W. P. IVES, Residence, Portsmouth. GALE JEWELRY CO., 310 Main street. JOHNSON & DAUGHTREY, Wholesale commission, Roanoke Dock. A. M. JOHNSON, Contractor and builder, 192 Bank street. JESSE JONES & SON, Hay, grain and mill feed, 26-30 Roanoke Dock. MRS. R. B. JONES, Residence. KELLY & BORUM, Wholesale grocers, 38-40 Commerce street. KELLY, THORNTON & WILLIAMS, plumbers, 174 Bank street. J. W. LAWRENCE & SON, Commission merchants, 22 Commerce street. DR. J. F. LYNCH, Office 201 Columbia building. LAWRENCE & WELTON, Dry goods and notions, 213 Main street. MOTTU, DEWITT & CO., Brokers, 31 Granby street. F. E. NOTTINGHAM, Real estate and rental, Columbia Bldg. NORFOLK BOAT CLUB, Foot Freemason street. OLD DOMINION PAPER CO., Paper Dealers and printers, 98-100 Commercial Place. B. G. POLLARD, Commission merchants, 36 Roanoke Square. J. W. PERRY & CO., Cotton factors and commission merchants, Fayette corner Lee, Southern Railway wharf. J. W. PERRY, Residence. THE PETERSBURG, NORFOLK & JAMES RIVER STEAMBOAT CO. J. W. PEDIN & CO., Wholesale grocers, 49 Commercial Place.

Continued on Page 5.