

ADVERTISING

IS TO BUSINESS

WHAT STEAM IS TO Machinery,

THAT GREAT PROPELLING POWER.

THAT CLASS OF READERS

THAT YOU Wish your Advertisement TO REACH is the class who read this paper.

PROFESSIONAL

D. W. O. McDowell,

Office North corner New Hotel, Main Street, SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

Always at his office when not professionally engaged elsewhere.

D. A. C. Livermon,

Office Over the Station Building. Office hours from 9 to 1 o'clock; 2 to 4 o'clock, p. m. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

DAVID BELL,

Attorney at Law. ENFIELD, N. C.

Practices in all the Courts of Halifax and adjoining counties and in the Supreme and Federal Courts. Claims collected in all parts of the State.

A. DUNN,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

Practices wherever his services are required.

D. W. J. WARD,

Surgeon Dentist. ENFIELD, N. C.

Office over Harrison's Drug Store.

EDWARD L. TRAVIS,

Attorney and Counselor at Law. HALIFAX, N. C.

Money Loaned on Farm Lands.

HOWARD ALSTON,

Attorney-at-Law. LITTLETON, N. C.

D. R. C. A. WHITEHEAD,

DENTAL Surgeon. TARBORO, N. C.

SCOTLAND NECK STEAM DYE WORKS

MOURNING GOODS A SPECIALTY

Get price list. Address SCOTLAND NECK STEAM DYEING CO. 1-24-1v Scotland Neck N. C.

BRICK!

HAVING INCREASED MY FACILITIES I AM NOW PREPARED TO FURNISH DOUBLE QUANTITY OF BRICK.

Also will take contract to furnish lots from 50,000 or more anywhere within 50 miles of Scotland Neck

Can always furnish what you want. Correspondence and orders solicited.

D. A. MADDY,

1-10-95-1y Scotland Neck, N. C.

MENTION THIS PAPER.

Horses and Mules, SUITABLE FOR ALL PURPOSES.

All at Low Prices.

Call on us before buying and save money.

Biggs & Johnson.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. 1 14 1v

THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

"EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00.

VOL. XIII. New Series--Vol. 1.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1897.

NO. 13

IF YOU ARE HUSTLER YOU WILL ADVISE YOUR Business. SEND YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN NOW.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

The death of Mrs. Beecher, relict of the famous Henry Ward Beecher, reminds the world atreah of the wonderful power of that great preacher. He was easily amongst the foremost and clearest thinkers of his age; and while many disagreed with him in some things he promulgated, all had respect unto his knowledge and power. His widow survived him ten years and reached the ripe old age of 85.

It is highly important that young men store their minds with knowledge before they enter upon the real activities of life; for when they once get into the whirl of business, they will find little time for close study. Youth is the time to begin the habit of study. With the habit formed in youth one may in after years be able to snatch time now and then from business and devote to study; but if the habit is left to be formed in after years and the study also postponed until then, the man will seldom acquire much information outside of what he is compelled to have in his business, whatever that may be.

Truly of making books there is no end. And one significant thing about the book-makers and writers of the present day, is the fact that there are more persons of great talent now employed in writing moral books and stories for children than ever before. Some of the best writers of the day are writing with an eye to the wholesome instruction of young and tender minds. The real seed-time for a good harvest is in the early years, and the best and most promising seed-bed is the child-mind. May we not hope that as these influences multiply the race shall grow better until the world will one day become ideal?

The dispensary system of dealing with the liquor problem will now be tried in many parts of the State. According to our opinion, what the Legislature did for the dispensary system was worth all the balance of their work. The dispensary system we believe to be the most tangible means of fairly managing the liquor traffic, and North Carolina now has an opportunity to test it thoroughly. Much depends on the character of men that are selected to manage the business. Let good men be selected—men who are above price in business—and we candidly believe that the next two years will prove to the towns and counties that have the system, that it is the best plan yet fallen upon for controlling the evil.

The new President and his family of confidential advisers have about fairly settled down to their task of managing the affairs of this great nation for four years. To the ordinary mind there is no conception of the great weight of responsibility that rests upon the President and his Cabinet. Though we may not agree with them in their political creeds we regard them as honest and sincere men; and surely when they realize that upon their work and counsel largely depends the welfare of more than seventy millions of people, they can but feel anxious about discharging their duty faithfully. After all, it is not easy to be a great man and to bear grave responsibilities.

Proficiency is magical in its effects. Many performers before great audiences enchant and almost hypnotize, when the simple truth of the whole matter is that the performer is "at home" in his business. Recently a family of Swiss Bell Ringers appeared before an intelligent audience in Scotland Neck and fairly electrified hundreds with the charming music which they made by picking up bells, ringing them, putting them down and then picking up others and ringing them. The melodies were truly enchanting. And a lady simply rubbed her fingers over some glasses partially filled with water and made the sweetest of music.

We heard them, and thought as they rang their bells and made gladdening music for hundreds and thousands in this simple way, what power one has who knows—thoroughly know—how to do something.

LINKS IN A CHAIN.

WORKERS MEET ENEMIES ALWAYS.

TRUE LIVING.

Some Rambling Thoughts.

BY "NEMO."

(Copyrighted.)

How sheep-like many of us are. We reflect on neither past nor future; there is for us no glorying in deeds done by the race, no realization of our share in further progress; no learning from the voice of history, no vision of happy people yet to be blessed. Sheep take things as they find them. Men force Nature to their will. Sheep are content if merely well fed. Men do not live by bread alone. Sheep look constantly at material things. Men gaze upward unabashed even by the shimmering glories of the throne of everlasting might. Let us be men!

Try to cultivate a free mind that will believe in things not seen, in deeds not shared in, in powers not possessed by yourself. A tad-pole's horizon is limited by his unwholesome puddle, but your horizon is limited by nothing if you will but curb selfishness and be a sentient being. The past is all yours. Though often you forget it, you are a lineal descendant from the earliest ages. The great of every clime are your kinsmen, bone of human bone and flesh of human flesh. Find interests outside of yourself; enjoy the inheritance of great things already done.

Just as learning a dead language helps us understand English, so the past interprets the present with its multiform activities. Without such knowledge life is to us, as with the unthinking brute, bereft of clue as to whence or whither. The blood of heroes for righteousness and martyrs to racial duty courses in human veins. Such knowledge will thrill a man into the full stature of manhood. Yet the supreme grandeur of living can be ours only when doing something definite. We may draw inspiration and pride of birthright from the past; we must live and act in the present.

Bunyan's muck-heap raker saw no beauties; selfishness in the essential duties of life, and appreciation of the full meaning of life do not abide together. We cannot serve our race and worship Mammon. If we flunk ourselves with money-bags, or if we want, just for what they may bring of personal comfort we are condemning ourselves to loneliness and heart-aches. Money never bought a friend, and money never held one. The transforming grace of a true woman's love, it never purchased. It buys eye-service; it buys self-seeking sycophants. The house of the heart is empty when such fill it.

The trained ear can detect sounds inaudible to the untrained; the trained eye can see into beauties invisible to ordinary mortals; the trained hand accomplishes things impossible to gross manipulation. The heart trained to interests outside itself looks upon a new world. Without interest in others, a narrow life remains narrow; with it even a sick-room may become the centre of world-wide influence. The shepherd tending his wandering sheep, the miner working amid dangers, the farmer wrestling with difficulties, the wife at her unpaid labors, all can live transformed lives, if they feel their shares in the world's best interests.

Whittier describes life as "a cry between the silences." That is a lone-some view of it. Your life and mine are links in an endless chain. We are the living expression of the dead who rest from their labors; we are the custodians of the future, if so be that we live. How dead the imagination that cannot understand this.

But mark you! To live is to turn the back on inaction; sloth and real living are antipodal. Likewise, earnestness and appreciation by our fellows are impossible. Human nobodies have no enemies but he who goeth forth with noble purposes, is bound to run counter to the legion demons of laziness and stupidity, gluttony and filth, who cry out "Leave us alone. What have we to do with thee?" They whose souls are to go marching on with armies whose footsteps never yet have echoed, must face contempt if they try to lift humanity one inch higher.

Unhappy for the world is it for a man to attain his full ambition. He ceases his efforts; inaction is death.

A hacking cough is not only annoying to others, but is dangerous to the person who has it. One Minute Cough Cure will quickly put an end to it. CAMP & HIGGS.

Better far to have the full fruition of effort always just evading the hand, and thus beckoning to further deeds. Let there be no contentment with one good thing done; but have each purpose merely a part of something greater; just as with the universe, made up of numberless stars, all grouped into solar systems, these included in the vast aggregation itself, and that in turn pushing onward through space to something yet neither seen, nor foretold, nor imagined.

Poverty is no bar to breadth of mind or of helpfulness. The poor have always given proportionately more to each other than the rich have bestowed upon them. The widow's mite is no solitary instance in the world. And as for giving, whose pleasure is greatest, they who give and are glad to have money take the place of fellowship, or they who suffer in order to help? Real giving means sharing. Or as the Master says in Lowell's poetry: "For the gift without the giver is bare. Who gives himself with his aims, feeds three, Himself, his hungering neighbor and Me."

Do not train your little ones to think that the main object of life is to pass expeditiously and silently by the world as a foe to grace. We are here, to live right where we are, and now, setting up righteousness and striking down wrong. The religion that justifies a man in taking all his communal rights, peace, protection, government, and in giving no service in return; even degrading the world as lying in the evil one—that religion itself is an abhorrent foe to the grace of living which is the noblest preparation for the grace of dying.

The Deadly Cigarette.

Dr. L. G. Broughton, a native North Carolinian, now pastor of the First Baptist church in Roanoke, Va., recently held a meeting in Atlanta. In a sermon on the Prodigal Son, he said of cigarettes:

"Let me say that I regard the cigarette habit almost as great an evil as the whiskey habit. If you will smoke, smoke a pipe or cigar, you can't inhale that smoke. When you inhale cigarette smoke you are drawing into your lungs, nicotine, alcohol, opium and arsenic and you medical students before me know how these poisons are found in every man who is a cigarette smoker and on whom a post mortem is performed. "I verily believe that cigarette smoking is one of the greatest evils that exists and thousands are going down every year to premature graves, their lungs eaten away, or else they fall victims to catarrhal phthisis. I believe there ought to be a law passed making a man manufacturing cigarettes or selling them guilty of murder. "The man who makes a cigarette, and the man who sells it is guilty of murder indirectly, and the man who smokes them is a suicide."

"I will wait on you now" said the polite attendant at Dr. Whitehead's Drug store as he handed out 5 boxes Dr. Day's Liver Pills for a Bilious and Liver troubles.

For a Little Girl.

RULES FOR DOLLS.

"A wooden-headed doll should be careful not to hit her head against her mother's, lest she should hurt her. A doll should keep away from the rocking chairs, as the rockers may crush her. A wax doll should avoid the fire, if she wishes to preserve a good complexion. Often an old doll with a cracked head and a sweet smile is more beloved than a new doll with a sour face. It's a bad plan for dolls to be stretched out on the floor, as people are apt to tread upon them; and a doll that is trodden on is sure to go into a decline."

Marjory was reading these rules to her dolly with a very sober face. Then she laughed. "Dolly," said she, "it's funny; but I really believe these rules are more for me than they are for you."

Stands at the Head.

Aug. J. Bogel, the leading druggist of Shreveport, La., says: "Dr. King's New Discovery is the only thing that cures my cough, and it is the best seller I have." J. F. Campbell, merchant of Safford, Ariz., writes: "Dr. King's New Discovery is all that is claimed for it; it never fails, and is a sure cure for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. I cannot say enough for its merits." Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds is not an experiment. It has been tried for a quarter of a century, and today stands at the head. It never disappoints. Free trial bottles at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug Store.

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.

GOOD HINTS TO GOOD WOMEN.

Are these Good or Not?

THE COMMONWEALTH wishes to be helpful to every one of its five thousand readers, and we suppose we may help a greater number of persons by helping the housewife than in any other way. To this end we have selected some recipes for the housewife. Perhaps some of them may be helpful. We think they are worth reading. Here are a few:

When food scorches in the kettle the latter seems ruined beyond redemption, but a possible remedy is to take the kettle at once from the fire and set it in a pan of cold water. This treatment, oddly enough, will, nine times out of ten, remove the burned taste entirely. Cans of potted meats or fish may be kept some time after they are opened and partly used, if they are covered with a little melted butter or lard and kept in a cool place. This makes the contents all right, and is easily removed when needed.

Corn muffins are made thus: Stir one-third of a cup of butter and the same amount of sugar together until they are creamy; add three well-beaten eggs and two cups of milk. Put into a sieve one and two-third cups of flour, one cup of yellow meal, half a tablespoonful of salt, one teaspoonful and one-quarter of soda, and two and one-half of cream of tartar. Sift these dry ingredients twice before adding to the liquid mixture. Put into buttered patty tins or gem irons and bake in a moderate oven thirty minutes.

A delicious corn bread is made by stirring a small cup of sugar with half a cup of butter, adding three well-beaten eggs, a pinch of salt, and one pint of milk. Mix a small cup of yellow bolted meal with two cups of flour, add three tablespoonfuls of baking powder, and stir into the other ingredients. Butter a biscuit tin and bake in a moderately hot oven.

A very soothing drink for an inflamed throat or lungs is flaxseed lemonade. To make it put two tablespoonfuls of flaxseed into an earthen bowl and pour over it a generous pint of boiling water. Cover the bowl and place it at the back of the stove, where it will keep warm for three or four hours; strain the liquid, and add to it the juice of two lemons and as much sugar as is desired. This drink may be taken hot or cold as the individual fancies.

A high stool or chair is of great convenience in a kitchen, as it enables the housewife to sit down when doing work that must be accomplished on a table. An excellent muffin is made with cold boiled hominy. Have one cup of fine, cooked hominy, put with it two tablespoonfuls of melted butter, and beat them with a fork until the hominy is fine and smooth. Add one and one-half cups of sour milk, a pinch of salt, and a tablespoonful of sugar. Stir these ingredients well together before adding two well-beaten eggs and half a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water. Beat in a half cup of flour. Butter patty tins or rings, fill them two-thirds full with the mixture, and bake in a brisk oven.

To make hominy balls put one pint of milk over the fire in a double boiler and moisten half a cup of fine hominy with a little cold milk. When the pint of milk is boiling stir in the prepared hominy, and cook from 30 to 40 minutes. Before removing the hominy from the fire season with salt and paprika and a good tablespoonful of chopped parsley. Finally stir in a beaten egg, take from the fire, and turn into a shallow dish to cool. When cold roll the hominy into balls the size of English walnuts, roll them in fine crumbs and brush with a beaten egg and again roll in crumbs. Fry in hot lard a delicate brown and let them drain upon brown paper, placing them in the mouth of the oven where they will keep hot. These balls are like croquettes. Care must be used that every part be covered with the egg, which will form a coating over them as soon as they are put into hot fat and will prevent their cracking open.

To Make Ordinary Cloth Waterproof.—Put half a pound of sugar of lead in a pail of rain water with half a pound of alum; stir at intervals until the water becomes clear, and then pour it off into another pail, put the cloth or garments into it and let them stand 24 hours. Then hang the cloth up to dry without wringing. Garments treated thus can be worn in the wildest storm of wind and rain without the wearer getting even damp. The rain will hang in globules on the cloth, which, when waterproof, is better and more healthful than rubber goods.

Chronic constipation is a painful, wearisome and life-shortening difficulty. It deranges the system, causes sick headache, bad breath, and poisons the blood. It can be readily overcome by DeWitt's Little Early Risers. These little pills are great regulators. CAMP & HIGGS.

All Planters of Fine Tobacco Should use

HYCO

TOBACCO GUANO:

Guaranteed Analysis:

Ammonia - - - 3.00 per cent.
Available Phos. Acid - - 8.00 per cent.
Potash K 2 O—From High-Grade Sulphate - - 3.00 per cent.

—FOR SALE BY

N. B. JOSEY,

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

"A LADY OF THE MANOR."

Something About Mrs. Cotton, of North Carolina.

Philadelphia Record.

A Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun writes: The address before the Congress of Mothers which seemed to excite most interest and to elicit most applause was that of Mrs. Sallie A. Cotton, of Falkland, N. C. Mrs. Cotton is the "lady of the manor" on a plantation of about 5,000 acres of land along the Tar River. Upon this plantation hundreds of negroes have their homes and their employment.

There is a large mansion in which Mr. and Mrs. Cotton continue the hospitality and entertainments which belonged to ante-bellum times. The great change which has taken place is that the negroes are free instead of slaves, a change for which Mrs. Cotton says she is very thankful.

Speaking of the rearing of children in the South, Mrs. Cotton said: "The people of the South are a very religious and reverent people, and I think, perhaps, religion is more of a feature of the education of children in the Southern homes than elsewhere. In the time of slavery the abundance of servants gave the mistress of the plantation ample time to devote to the training of her children, and she did it well, and the custom still lasts. She also considered herself responsible to a large extent for the slaves on the place. I fear that since the negroes are free this feeling of responsibility has ceased to exist except as regards house servants."

Mrs. Cotton's address was full of good sense and sparkling wit. "I am not," she said, "in favor of female suffrage. There is a great demand for it by some, and the time may come when this may be added to our other responsibilities. But we must never fail to realize that the training of the voter is a far more important duty than the voting."

A Queer Vermont Township.

Boston Evening Transcript.

In Windsor County, Vermont, is about as queer a town as there is in the United States. Its name is Baltimore, and it possesses little of interest save a history in which none of its inhabitants express the slightest pride. Baltimore is fairly old, as American towns go, having been set off from Cavendish and organized in 1793. It then had 275 presumably ambitious and hopeful inhabitants, but every census taken since then has revealed a steady growth—downward. In 1800 the place had lost one citizen, and the subsequent record stands as follows: In 1810, 207 inhabitants; 1820, 204; 1830, 197; 1840, 155; 1850, 124; 1860, 116; 1870, 83; 1881, 71, and 1890, 64. To-day the number is 59, and one of the 59 spends his winters in the Soldiers' Home at Brattleboro'.

Nothing ever happened in the town, not even a crime, and it has no distinguished sons or daughters. The houses are scattered over the territory included within Baltimore's limits, nowhere forming anything like a village, and there is no store, no church, no post-office nor even a cider mill. The people are prosperous enough, as Vermont farmers define prosperity, but they keep moving away whenever opportunity offers, and nobody ever moves in. It is twenty years since a wedding took place there.

Electric Bitters.

Electric Bitters is a medicine suited for any season, but perhaps more generally needed when the languid exhausted feeling prevails, when the liver is torpid and sluggish and the need of a tonic and alternative is felt. A prompt use of this medicine has often averted long and perhaps fatal bilious fevers. No medicine will act more surely in counteracting and freeing the system from the malarial poison. Headache, indigestion, constipation, Dizziness yield to Electric Bitters. 50c. and \$1.00 per bottle at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug Store.

English Spavin Liniment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and Clemsishes from horses. Blood Spavin Surfs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring worm tuffs, Sprains, and Swollen Through, Coughs, Etc. Save 50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful Bleemism Cure ever known. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists, Scotland Neck, N. C. 10 1 1v.

RELIEF IN SIX HOURS.

Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "NEW GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE." This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy. Sold by E. T. Whitehead and Co., Druggists, Scotland Neck, N. C.

Compare our Work with that of our Competitors.

ESTABLISHED IN 1865.

CHAS. M. WALSH,

Steam Marble and Granite

WORKS,

Sycamore St., PETERSBURG, VA.

Monuments, Tombs, Cemetery Curb-ing, &c. All work strictly first-class and at Lowest Prices.

I ALSO FURNISH IRON FENCING, VASES, &c.

Designs sent to any address free. In writing for them please give age of deceased and limit as to price.

I Prepay Freight on All Work.

MENTION THIS PAPER. 3 1 1y

JEWELRY

—AND— SILVERWARE!!!

WATCHES AND CLOCKS

PUT IN PERFECT REPAIR.

We have engaged the services of

MR. J. D. PERRY,

from the Chicago Watch Makers' Institute, where he took a thorough course, and is prepared to do

ALL KINDS OF REPAIRING

And Engraving.

His office is at our show window in front. All work is guaranteed.

GIVE HIM A CALL

E. T. WHITEHEAD & CO.,

4 25 1v Scotland Neck, N. C.

HUDSON'S ENGLISH KITCHEN,

187 Main St., NORFOLK, VA.

Is the Leading Dining Room in the City for Ladies and Gentlemen. Strictly a Temperance Place. All meals 25c.

Hudson's Surpassing Coffee a Specialty. 1 16 1y

Sale of Valuable Land.

By virtue of the power vested in me by the last will and testament of the late P. Eliza Pittman, I will on Monday the 5th day of April 1897, expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash, at the court house door in the town of Halifax, that tract or parcel of land situated in the county of Halifax and known as the "Meritt tract," bounded on the north by Beech Swamp; the lands of O. C. Stallings on the south and east, and on the west by the tract of land of P. Eliza Pittman known as the 93 acre tract; containing one hundred acres more or less.

This 16th day of Feb. 1897. W. J. BURGESS, Executor of P. Eliza Pittman, 2 25 6v