

• THE FORUM •

A weekly magazine paper devoted to the interests of the whole people.

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EDITORIAL

Saturday July 13, 1907

Listen! Keep quiet—not all rush over each other—watermelons are here.

Maybe "Billy" Mason was not dead but only a sleeping.

Illinois is the greatest political state in the Union, with the probable exception of New York.

The election is almost sure to be won by the Republicans, as all the bankers and the leading business are on the side with that party.

If people could but get into their heads that good done is like money well invested, sure to bring a good reward, there would be a more strenuous effort on the part of the masses to make good deeds the sine qua non duty and their days would be more happy, their lives more useful and the world the beneficiary for that very fact.

An humorous Mississippi writer some time asked the delicate yet pertinent question: "When is the best time of year to marry and kill hogs?" He was answered by his equally as witty and humorous contemporary thus: "Why cold weather is the best time to preserve every kind of fresh meat."

If Vardaman has been "converted" we wonder under what church creed has he really been "born again," or is he playing possum to acquiesce conscience? If you have conquered the devil's strongest ally, surely "we have met the enemy and they are ours." Next is Tillman Dixon will probably surrender when he learns that Tillman has come through and exclaim, "et tu Brute."

Candidates for the ministry in our churches are realizing more and more their duty in the making of preparation to preach the gospel and lead the people. This is evidenced by the fact that the greater number of them are attending school and making faithful effort to prepare themselves for the work that has been laid upon them. Moreover, this demand is increasing inasmuch that should they fail to make preparation the people are no longer willing to give them time and attention.—N. B. Union.

Forum promises to be one of the very best advertising mediums

[No, the people do not propose to have a lot of ignorant 'jim-jams killing themselves saying nothing.

Where did these fellows get the idea that ignorance could only reign supreme in the pulpit. Two thirds of them do not know what Paul was illucidating]

Back to the Soil and Lay Your Foundation.

It is a pity that so many of our people look with disdain upon a pure farm life. Their desires, apparently have been to evade the farm and rush head-long into the cities. Now many do not like to live in small towns and villages. Our advice is back to the farm where the cool air and healthy brooks flow aimlessly on and sweet-voiced birds ever sing their holy lullabies, and lay your foundation. The farm is where all nations and peoples begin prosperity. We need more farmers as a background for our prosperity.

It is always the showing of a people—their farmers. We need stock raisers, gardeners, florists, horticulturists, etc. Let young men move to the outskirts of the city and raise chicken and eggs. There is no use talking, nor crying or complaining, we must be producers as well as consumers. Over the southland our people farm, a greater percentage of them, but they are, in a great measure ignorant and too extravagant and too undiversified in their farming. Many of them raise only cotton and will not raise enough corn to run them from year to year, nor meat, potatoes and other feed stuffs—hence all their cotton cash is taken up to pay their "board bills,"

Back to the woods and live easy.

Raymond May Revolutionize Domestic Service Regulations.

That astute newspaper correspondent, of the Chicago Tribune, has digressed long enough from politics to take up the domestic servant question and has treated it in all its phases most comprehensively.

Raymond explains why girls prefer to work in a factory or shop or store to that of the household for the reason that, though the house girl or cook makes much more per week or month, than the ordinary store, shop or factory girl, she has not the freedom nor the independence at the latter. And he avers that, if shorter hours with a stipulated amount of work or regulated for doing house work or working in the kitchen, a much better grade of help can be secured. People imagine it is not honorable to work in the kitchen, especially if they have received even a high school education, but it is, though a person with a high school, college or university education, should aim to get something else to do, in order that the mind and brain can harmonize with the physical part of the being. But it's no degradation and we think just as much of you, though the kitchen should not be your goal—that is you should not acquiesce in that work but only do that as a "coaling station," soaring your mind to higher and nobler things.

We encourage all young ladies to not be idle—if you desire to be an amanuensis, do any kind of work until you reach your goal—if you desire to be a musician, be one, but don't sit with hands folded—work—go work in any vineyard. He said there was plenty to do but the laborers were few.

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"Oh, Douglas! Thou hast passed beyond the shore,
But still thy voice is ringing o'er the gale—
Thou'st taught thy race how high her hope may soar,
And bid them seek the heights, nor faint nor fall."
Paul Laurence Dunbar on Fred Douglass.

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