

The MESSENGER

Vol. II

NOVEMBER, 1905

No. 1

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THE MESSENGER.

Vol. II.

NOVEMBER, 1905.

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MANAGER'S NOTICE.

All contributions for publication must be in by the 20th of the month preceding date of issue.

Send or hand all manuscripts intended for publication to ORIN LLOYD, Editor-in-Chief, Morehead School.

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ROBERT WINSTON,
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Literary Department.

DOUGLAS HILL,

EDITOR.

WILMINGTON AND THE RUNNERS OF THE CAPE FEAR BLOCKADE.

The year of 1860 came in with clouds of internal strife upon the horizon of our national life. Blacker and blacker, angrier and angrier they grew until the dark shroud covered our nation. The storm burst with all its fury December, 1860, when the State of South Carolina seceded. The bird of war, which had been haunting our national existence, swooped down and fell upon its prey.

On April 16, 1861, six days after the fall of Fort Sumter, President Lincoln, hoping to starve the secessionists into submission, declared a military and commercial blockade of our Southern ports. As Mr. Sprunt says: "It was obviously impossible at that time for the government to enforce a blockade of our coasts, measuring three thousand, five hundred miles, and containing two hundred harbors, besides numberless small inlets and sounds, through which small craft might elude the four United States warships then available for service." This is more clearly shown when one knows that Great Brit-

ain had seven hundred vessels in commission during the War of 1812.

The people, in general, did not realize the necessity of a blockade. When Northern merchants were asked for vessels by the Secretary of War, having held a convention, they decided that thirty ships would be able to carry out the officials' plans. The federal government, after taking old ships, and even ferry boats, remodeled them to be used for the "service afloat." Later, swift vessels were built for the purpose of giving chase to the racing runners of their blockade.

A study of the North Carolina coast soon proves to one that Wilmington offered easy access to the Confederate ships. The remark has been made that Wilmington was an ideal port for blockade runners, there being two entrances to the Cape Fear river; New Inlet, on the north, and the Western, or main bar, on the south of Cape Fear. "This Cape," said Mr. George Davis, "is the most southern point of Smith's Island; a naked, bleak elbow jutting far out into the sea. Immediately in its front are the Frying Pan Shoals, pushing out still further into the ocean. Together they stand for warning and for woe; * * * together they catch the long, majestic roll of the Atlantic * * * together they form a play-ground of billows and tempests * * * disturbed by no sound save the sea-gull's shriek and the breaker's roar." New Inlet is protected by Fort Fisher, the Southern bar by Fort Caswell. The "staid little village of Smithville, now Southport, is situated between these two fortifications, but nearer Fort Caswell. About thirty miles above Southport is Wilmington, which town, if it could only speak, could reach beyond the Revolution and bring its story by the victory of Cornwallis, on through the years to the Civil War, the time of the blockade, with those bloody, sorrowful days, and down to the present moment, when one can scarcely

count the ships sailing on the bosom of the nearby waters. Wilmington was turned "topsy-turvy" during the war. The town was infested with rogues, desperadoes, and speculators, who made it unsafe to venture into the suburbs, or upon the docks, where frequent conflicts occurred with the crews from the steamers.

Wilmington is situated at a point on the river which is equally distant from the two inlets. Since both mouths of the river were navigable, both were necessarily blockaded; since they were about ten miles apart and further separated by dangerous shoals, the blockading squadron was divided, thus impairing its efficiency.

Blockaders must above all things else be vigilant. They were ever on the alert, ever ready to pour destructive fire over the enemy's escaping vessel, ever ready to crowd numbers of men over the deck of the prize, and ever ready to give chase to one who had escaped from their clutches.

The blockade runner was long and narrow, designed for speed—her chief reliance for success. She was fitted out with the best engines, supplemented by heavy sails. She must also be painted some color not easily seen in the blue water of the ocean. Dark tints would reflect in the sea, light hues could be seen, so that the most satisfactory tone was the "Union color," a bluish gray. Only dark nights were chosen for making an exit or entrance, heavy weather being the most favorable.

On the night that Captain Maffit chose to make his famous run, the weather was thick and foggy, high tide would be at midnight. The Federals were watching anxiously for the Confederate. The most favorable time had passed, yet she did not come. At last the mast and sails of a ship were seen coming silently through the darkness. An alarm was given, and the watching vessel gave chase to the ghost-like figure. Forward leaped the phantom, using her full steam. On came the pursuer,

but only to be left in the chase by the fleeing form, which later proved to be the *Oreto*.

When about to leave, the Confederate would usually hide herself near the fort until dark, then after muffling her paddle wheels and extinguishing her lights, she glided silently through the enemies' fleet. When an attempt to enter was to be made, the captain calculated to make the inlet on a dark night. When the vessel came within easy sight of the fort, she signaled to the fortification. Then followed a question from the fort, the answer from the ship, a cessation of firing, and the attempt to cross the bar.

When a Confederate found that she was being chased, she used cotton bales saturated with turpentine as fuel, thus causing volumes of dense, black smoke to issue from her smoke-stacks. The pursuer followed the black column, but to his sad disappointment, the desired prize was not to be found. She had changed her course to one at right angles with the track of her pursuer. The Federals fired rockets in the direction of escaping vessels. The Confederates, however, imitated these so well that the would-be-pursuers were misled.

An owner of several blockade runners said that if his ships made two trips, the Yankees were welcome to them; if one cargo in three made the run, he was fully paid; if one ship in four ran in, he was not at loss. Such ships as the *Siren* made, at the last count, fifty trips; on each journey coining millions for her owners.

Freight and passenger rates rose rapidly. The passage from Wilmington to Nassau was from three hundred to five hundred dollars in gold.

A thrilling incident occurred on the *Lynx*, when making her last journey from Wilmington, bearing passengers on board. The vessel was attempting to run the blockade, when she was fired upon by the Federal cruiser *Niphon*. The *Lynx* was shaking off her pursuer,

only to have two hostile vessels join in the pursuit. Fort Fisher was firing upon the Federals, doing serious damage to their ships. The sea was heavy and afforded little hope of landing a woman and her infant. With great difficulty the boats were lowered upon the dashing waves. Mrs. De Rosset watched her chance and jumped into her place; the baby, wrapped in a blanket, was tossed from the deck into the arms of her mother, who stood ten feet below, and then the fight for the shore began. Under the glare of the burning ship, a safe landing was effected, but with great suffering, and want of food and drink. The passengers remained upon the shore until Colonel Lamb, of Fort Fisher, came to their relief. The young lady not only survived this perilous journey, but also another exciting voyage in the *Owl*, and is now the wife of Colonel Alfred Moore Waddell, present mayor of Wilmington.

EVELYN JONES.

(TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.)

THE O'POSSUM.

Dad he cotch a possum,
 A big 'un, don't you know ;
 He brung it home to eat it,
 Er' dragging in der' snow.

Maw put it on to cook,
 And lef' me dare to watch it,
 And said—"Now don't you look,
 And don't you even totch it."

Me mind her most pelitely,
 Ontil she shet dot do',
 Den' dis' here little nigger
 He couldn't stan' no mo.

Dat possum 'gun er' smelling,
 I softly lif' de' top ;
 Den' put dot' ole pot down,
 And I begun ter' sop.

Den I jes keps er' eating,
 It seems I couldn' stop,
 Till lo 'n' behold I skivered
 I hadn't leff a drop.

Me heard my Paw er' coming
 Right up towahds dot do',
 And I flew out the back un,
 And wan't seen dare no mo'.

Me knowed dat sho' as li'tning,
 When he found dat possum et',
 He'd suah commence er' fighting,
 And then I'd run, you bet!

—*Kathleen Turrentine.*

THE MYSTERIOUS VISITOR AT THE SEASHORE.

The steamer arrived. She was gliding over the waves like a majestic white swan. A sharp whistle sounded and, forming great waves, the ship was anchored.

The visitors on the shore drew closer to witness the arrival of the newcomers. The last of the passengers was a tall, distinguished-looking gentleman, whose dark complexion and sparkling eyes indicated that he was born in a hotter climate. He gave his baggage to a servant of the hotel, and, without looking around, he made his way towards the hotel.

The eyes of several young ladies followed admiringly the handsome stranger, wondering who it could be. "Perhaps he wants to enjoy the beauty of our shore; thank God that we have a gentleman like him! It is so tiresome to see always the same faces. Our dancing evenings are becoming very monotonous—he will bring new life into them."

"He is charming, Vera, he is a real aristocrat."

Meanwhile the much-talked-about stranger had reached the hotel and had asked for a comfortable room. The porter ascended the stairs with the register under his arm. A very elegant room suited the stranger. With a low bow the porter put the book on the table and left.

After a while the stranger called the servant and when he had given him several orders, he went down stairs. The servants were very anxious to find out who the stranger was, and finding his name to be Luigi Canossa, were surprised that he could speak English so well, his name being Italian.

Mr. Canossa entered the office of the hotel, and telling the manager that he had come from Paris with the intention of taking a rest for a few days, inquired if there were many rich ladies there. On reaching for the reg-

ister, the manager noticed a diamond ring of rare beauty on his finger.

With a few words of thanks he left the office. As soon as Mr. Canossa had disappeared, the young ladies, who had been anxiously waiting for information, came rushing into the office.

"Who is he? what is he? and where does he come from?" was the general question.

"My dear ladies, his name is Luigi Canossa, and his purpose of coming here is to see the beautiful ladies," replied the manager.

Ball night! An inspiring waltz invites for dancing! The ladies were in elegant toilet and had made great efforts to look their best. They seemed to be nervous and disappointed as the one they had been looking for did not come.

They were dancing the last cotillion, when the doors opened, and Mr. Canossa entered in an elegant dress suit of black, with three glittering diamonds on his bosom. He looked for a quiet place, as he did not intend to take part in the dancing, to the great dismay of the young ladies.

In vain several of the gentlemen tried to get acquainted with the stranger. Notwithstanding his politeness and amiability, he had a way to keep them at a certain distance, so they could get no information. He spoke about his travels in a very interesting manner, without giving himself away.

While one gentleman thought he was a Russian spy, the other took him for a diplomat. The ladies were almost sure that he was either a prince of India or a French count; but no one succeeded in finding out the facts.

In this manner the day of his departure arrived. When the steamer gave the signal for leaving, Mr. Canossa came close to the railing, holding a large yellow and

blue balloon. As it went up, the wind drove it over towards the shore, and distributed a shower of flowers on the heads of the watching people. "Oh, what a unique way of leaving!" was the outcry of the young ladies.

But the flowers were not all—there came another shower like large snowflakes—it was small cards which read: "Louis Croll & Co., largest diamond house in the world. Introduced by our agent—Mr. Luigi Canossa." The young ladies nearly fainted.

"Nothing but a drummer!"

"O what a mistake!"

F.

Grammar School Department.

ATLANTIC CITY.

A ceaseless throng does homage to a ceaseless sea. All the year through are travelers from far and near, seeking the good virtues of Atlantic City. Even in mid-winter, in a latitude decidedly northern, the gulf stream tempers the climate suitable for thousands of invalids. There is no doubt that the beach at this place is superior to all other beaches, and bathing is one of the chief amusements. This is healthful, and the salt water puts invigoration into you. Then the board walk! That was indeed a happy thought. Just to sit on one of the piers and watch the dress-parade of thousands and thousands of reviewers, some weary with their walk and some anxious lest they should miss something worth a good deal! But to walk up and down on the board walk is a real treat, the stores, bazars, theatres and mid-way pleasure, lending not a little to the general interest, and, too, the piers where one may sit and watch the average of ten thousand bathers (in at one time) daily. There are three principal piers, and I will tell you about them. If you were going to see refinement and elegance, or to hear the best bands, you would surely take the great Steel Pier. But if you were going for the best theatres, you would make Young's Pier your choice. And again, if you were out for lark and a jolly time your selection would be Steeple Chase. But if you were hungry, and fond of nature, you could go to Heinz's Pier where all sorts of fruits are displayed, and you could get there a free lunch. And so many people have blessed the person who originated the idea of a board walk at Atlantic City. Atlantic City is a safe and delightful summer resort for children. Nothing like digging into the mysterious sand, hunting for odd pieces of shell or pretty

rounded pebbles, and paddling round in shoal water, to put the bloom of health on youth's young cheek. The first hotel was built here in 1812, and now there are over six hundred wide open, hospitable doors to guests.

MARGARET ERWIN.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A GOLD DOLLAR.

I was born under the ground, about one hundred and fifty feet from the surface. I did not believe there was any light.

But one day I got a peep of light out of a hole. I didn't know how it came there (it wasn't there before, I know).

One day I was blown up by dynamite (or that is what the miners called it). The men put me on a cart and rolled me on an elevator, and I went above the surface of the earth.

Then I was put in a house. It looked strange, as I had never been in a house before. The light made my companions shine beautifully.

Then I was carried to the furnace. And there I boiled, and all of the dirt and rock was taken out of me. Then I was made into a brick about the size of a cake of soap. I next went to the mint where I was cut in strips as thick as a gold dollar. I had a little copper mixed with me to make me last.

Then I was made into dollars. On one side was the Goddess of Liberty, with "United States of America" printed around the top. On the other, "One Dollar, 1894," with a wreath around it.

Then I was sent to the Fidelity Bank, Durham, N. C. I was sent out for a check from the dry goods store. The man who managed the store lost me in some goods. There I grew old and didn't care what became of me, so I didn't take note of the latter part of my life (some one else did, if it was noted).

LOIS ROBERTS.

OUR STATE.

North Carolina is often called the Old North State. It is the sixteenth State in the Union, and sixteenth in population, and is about the size of England. It contains ninety-six counties. North Carolina is one of the best watered States in the Union. It has a mild and genial climate, free from both extremes of heat and cold.

The soil is generally sandy and moderately fertile. The forest of North Carolina covers a large portion of the State. The fisheries are the most important on the Southern coast. The mineral resources are very great.

North Carolina is very rich in agricultural products. It is a leading State in manufactures. The leading manufactures are cotton and woolen goods, naval stores, lumber, tobacco and flour. Winston, Durham, Henderson and Reidsville are largely engaged in manufacturing tobacco. The manufacturing interests are multiplying with great rapidity. North Carolina has some of the most beautiful cities and towns of any State in the United States. Raleigh is the capital, and it was named in honor of Sir Walter Raleigh. North Carolina has a number of colleges and high schools. It has some of the best schools of any State in the Union. It was one of the first among the Southern States to encourage public education. It has a State Normal School at Greensboro. It has a University at Chapel Hill. North Carolina stands strong and high for popular rights. North Carolina adopted a State Constitution on 18th of December, 1776. North Carolina stands among the first States in all things.

ESSIE TURNER.

Editorial.

ORIN LLOYD, - - - - -

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

The MESSENGER, the youngest candidate for the patronage of the magazine reading public of Durham, was established in March, 1905. Though not yet four months old, since it was discontinued during vacation, it is a prominent fixture in the the high school journalism of North Carolina. The aims of the promoters of the MESSENGER were, and still are, the mental stimulation of the pupils, and the reflection of graded school life in Durham. To secure the best results, careful attention was paid to the typography of the magazine, each issue presenting a very attractive appearance.

With this number, the MESSENGER begins its second volume. Thanking its former able editorial staff, promoters, and the community at large for the interest shown by them during the past session, it is with great pleasure that we again place our magazine before the public. But this pleasure is accompanied by trepidation and humility, for the present editorial staff is entirely inexperienced in work of this nature.

If we wish to make the MESSENGER a success, it is necessary that pupils co-operate with the editors in their work. Pupils should strive to write articles of sufficient merit to be published in the columns of their magazine, and in this way the MESSENGER will be of great use to them, in causing them to be more careful and persevering. It is hoped that parents will encourage their children in literary attempts, by taking an interest in the magazine.

We regard a school magazine as a commendable project, and it is the duty of a good citizen to promote the welfare of every worthy enterprise in his community.

The MESSENGER has already implanted itself deeply in the good opinion of the reading public. Its permanency has not been a matter of doubt since the first issue. Its circulation is steadily growing. Its advertising patronage is of such proportions as to demonstrate that the advertisers of Durham find it to be a paying medium. The editors believe in originality, and although the MESSENGER has no motto, a good one by which to guide its management is: "Be accurate, be brief, be brilliant."

Poems Everyone Should Know

MARY LUCY HARRELL,

EDITOR.

In this department we hope to bring to you the thoughts of the great and good. If these poems serve as an inspiration to any life, and that life is lifted to a higher and purer faith, we will be repaid for our care in selecting them. The central thought for this number is Truth or Honesty.

"An honest man is the noblest work of God."—Pope.

CHARACTER OF A HAPPY LIFE.

How happy is he born and taught,
 That serveth not another's will;
 Whose armour is his honest thought,
 And simple truth his utmost skill;
 Whose passions not his masters are,
 Whose soul is still prepared for death,
 Not tied into the world with care
 Of public fame, or private breath;
 Who envies none that chance doth raise,
 Or vice; who never understood
 How deepest wounds are given by praise;
 Nor rules of state, but rules of good;
 Who hath his life from rumors freed,
 Whose conscience is his strong retreat;
 Whose state neither flatters feed,
 Nor ruin make accusers great;
 Who God doth late and early pray
 More of his grace than gifts to lend;
 And entertains the harmless day,
 With a well-chosen book or friend:

This man is freed from servile hands
 Of hope to rise, or fear to fall;
 Lord of himself, though not of lands;
 And having nothing, yet hath all.

—*Sir H. Wotton.*

My son, if thou wilt receive my words,
 And hide my commandments with thee;
 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom,
 And apply thy heart unto understanding;
 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge,
 And liftest up thy voice for understanding;
 If thou seekest her as silver,
 And searchest for her as for hid treasures;
 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord,
 And find the knowledge of God.

With Whom is no Variableness, neither Shadow of
 Turning.

“It fortifies my soul to know
 That, though I perish, Truth is so;
 That, howsoe'er I stray and range,
 Whate'er I do, Thou dost not change.
 I steadier step when I recall
 That, if I step, Thou dost not fall.

—*Arthur Hugh Clough.*

“This above all; to thine own self be true,
 And it must follow, as the night the day,
 Thou canst not then be false to any man.”

—*Shakespeare.*

Alumni Department.

MATTIE LEHMAN, }
ARNOLD BRIGGS, }

EDITORS.

Evelyn Jones, Fannie Markham, Malene Harrell, Iver Ellis, Bessie and Carrie Hammett and Alvis Pleasants are attending Trinity College.

Louise Troy has accepted a position with a law firm in Kenansville, N. C., as stenographer.

Eva Cox is residing at her home on Liberty street.

John Hall Manning is a student of the University.

Susie Cox has been elected a member of the Normal and Industrial College Glee Club.

Madge Mershon has returned from a delightful visit to some of our Southern States.

Arnold Briggs has been employed by Prof. J. A. Matheson as private secretary.

Blannie Berry is attending Elizabeth College in Charlotte.

We congratulate the students of the High School on having an opportunity to study French. It is certainly a great addition to the school.

We are very glad indeed to learn that Professor Matheson is now convalescent, and we hope that he will soon be quite well again.

Blackwell Literary Society.

LEONARD CHEEK, - - - - - EDITOR.

This is the beginning of the third year's work of the Blackwell Literary Society. The organization has become thoroughly fixed and is now one of the main branches of the school life. The faculty has recognized its good work and has granted us more time. The students also are showing more interest; this is proven by the fact that the enrollment has increased over twenty per cent.

At our weekly meetings we are having a good attendance, and the speeches are better prepared and delivered more earnestly than in preceding years.

We believe that great good is to be derived from debates with other schools. In the past we have had only one such debate. This year we hope to arrange for two. Looking forward to this, we have had a preliminary contest, in which our representatives were chosen for the debates we are now planning. Those that were selected are: Southgate Beaman, Sterling Carrington, Sneed Sasser, and Leonard Cheek.

In this number we quote one of the preliminary speeches in full. The Query was: "Resolved, That the Republican form of government is superior to the English Monarchical System."

Mr. President, Most Honorable Judges, and Fellow-Members:

In the query before us today, there seems to me to be a question which takes precedence before everything else, viz.: "What is a government? What is it for? and what does it do?" Without attempting to discriminate by verbal definitions, the various shades of meaning

which this word assumes, we would use it in its widest sense—that of a ruling power in a political society. There are three prime systems of government and many modifications of these. These three are, the monarchy, a government by one man, who is all-powerful; the aristocracy, a government by a number of the nobility, small in proportion to the number in the State; and the democracy, a government by a number large in proportion to the number in the State.

The argument of those who believe in the superiority of the English system over the American, is that the English system is a combination of all these. Therefore, they say, every part balances the other. But, though it is a combination of these, the parts do not balance each other.

One of the great objections to the cabinet system is that it causes dangerous concentration of power as the whole authority of government is vested in one house, and practically in a few men. The House of Commons is virtually the Parliament of England, for, though the Lords have theoretically much power, they have practically none, and we are dealing not with the theory of the system, but in the words of the query, with “the English Monarchical System,” the practical working system as it is. Thus, then, the House of Commons is the real Parliament in the government of England, and the power of Parliament is wholly unlimited. Here is one great danger. It has been satirically said that the British Parliament can do anything but make a man a woman, and a woman a man. However, it can in the exercise of its full plenary legislative authority, establish a new dynasty, prescribe a new order of succession to the crown, disestablish the church, make an English pope of the king, and confiscate property. The Constitution of England consists of law and precedent. She has great documents like “Magna Charta” at the foundation

of her institutions; but "Magna Charta" was only a royal ordinance. She has great laws like the "Bill of Rights" at the center of her political system; but the "Bill of Rights" was only an act of Parliament. She has no written Constitution, and Parliament may change the whole form and structure, and even the very principle of the government by mere Bill. My authority for this is any reliable English history, and particularly "The State" by Woodrow Wilson, and Green's History of England. This power in the hands of the Commons is largely delegated to the ministers. Thus, we see how completely the few have control of the fundamental as well as the ordinary law of the state. The authority of the executive is reduced to nothing in this system. He has no control over the monetary matters, no voice in the making of the laws, no power in Parliament, except that of influence, which in this counts for virtually nothing; and not even the right of veto. In short, his position as the executive is almost a purely honorary office. Hence, the legislative branch of the cabinet government is made omnipotent. It makes and also executes the laws, as there is no other real executive with any power. Burke, in his greatest speech, said on this point: "I wish Parliament always to superintend, never to assume executive government." Burke knew the danger of such a step as this. Also the control of the money—and this has always been a great factor in the affairs of a nation—is absolutely in the hands of the Commons. This too, is a source of great power for them, over the Lords and the king. For neither they nor any one else can carry out a great project without money. For instance, suppose the king and Lords determined to carry on a war. If the Commons did not consent and furnish the money, how could they do it? Suppose, on the other hand, the Commons desired to carry on this war, and the king and Lords did not consent to it. Would it do any

good for them to say to the Commons, "We will not furnish the money, and therefore you cannot do it?" Thus, we see the great and dangerous amount of power which is centered in the one body of Commons, and practically in the few ministers, with no checks or balances for it. For the Lords cannot effectually check any unwise measure, although they can, perhaps, hinder it for a while.

And consider the instability of such a government. Under this system every momentary impulse of the people finds ready response in legislative enactment, in the people's body of the governing power of Great Britain. Any breeze of popular disfavor may overturn the entire government. The influence of demagogues, also, is effective since they to a great extent control the masses, and these, in turn, have the power in Parliament.

There is a tendency in the cabinet system toward a superficial administration of affairs. There are several reasons for this. First, the ministers, who have to attend to and control almost completely the legislative business, cannot give adequate attention to the administration of affairs. Then, again, ministers are apt to be chosen for tact and oratorical ability rather than especial administrative fitness. Also, the ministers are compelled to spend, in keeping a working majority together, time which ought to be devoted to transacting business.

Let us now consider for a few moments the congressional system of government as exemplified in the United States. The United States began its career as a nation under new and favorable conditions which made possible a government with original elements. The Federal or National government recognizes human equality as coincident with liberty, while at the same time it comprises certain conservative elements which give it great stability.

The Congressional system furnishes pre-eminently a government of law and not one of popular impulse by preventing legislation from being the result of temporary opinion, over-excitement or heated controversy, and by making it the result of mature and lasting opinion, careful consideration, and thorough revision. The Constitution itself is a palpable indication of the purpose of its framers to protect the people against themselves, by numerous provisions intended to obstruct, defeat, or postpone the popular will, in the making and execution of the laws. By the Congressional or Republican system the government is divided into three distinct departments, which in their mutual relations serve as checks and balances to one another. The independence of these bodies thus prevent abuse of power, and by delay, often prevent unwise action.

The Republican system represents the popular will in the best way. We often hear it said that ours is a government of the people, meaning a majority of the people. But this is far from being true of our system. We are under a government of law, and the majority are just as much bound by that law as the minority. Then, this system prevents the oppression of the minority by the majority. Most of the responsibility in this government is not centered in a few men, as in the ministers of England, or completely, as in the House of Commons of England; but it is distributed among the President, Senate, and Representatives. Then, since the responsibilities of government are distributed among so many, it naturally follows that in trying to discharge this great duty to the best of their ability, this system develops a great number of individual thinkers, and trains many men in the functions of government. This government is at once more democratic and more conservative than the English Monarchical government; more democratic because every person of power in the government is

either directly or indirectly elected by and from the people. Therefore the best men are selected to occupy the various positions, from the highest to the lowest. It is more conservative because the officers of the government, though responsible to the people as their real sovereign, are chosen for a definite period; hence, a change of administration is neither so quickly nor so easily effected, as following a change of public opinion as in England. In short, gentlemen, the conservative element has its due proportion and weight, insuring the stability and perpetuity of the Republican system of government.

STERLING R. CARRINGTON.

In Lighter Vein.

FELICIA KUEFFNER,

- - - - - EDITOR.

Teacher—"Johnny, given me a sentence with 'bitter end' in it."

Johnny—"The cat ran under the bureau and the dog ran after her and 'bit her end.' "

—*Ladies' Home Journal.*

"Willie," said the teacher, "what is capital punishment?"

"It's when a kid is naughty and his mother locks him in a dark closet where there's plenty of cake," answered Willie.

Teacher—"Now, Tommie, what letter comes after H?"

Small Boy—"Dunno."

Teacher—"O yes you do; what have I on each side of my nose?"

Small Boy—"Freckles."

"Say, red hair is not very becoming to you. Was it always that color?"

"Go way! My hair used to be iron gray before it rusted."

One of the pupils in the school asked a very foolish question, whereupon the teacher replied: "A fool can ask more questions than a wise man can answer."

"O, that's the reason then," he said, "so many of us fail on examination."

Agitated Young Bridegroom (immediately after the ceremony)—"Serena, shall we—shall I—shall we kiss?"

Self-possessed Bride (her third experience)—"It is my usual custom, William."

Little Boy (pointing to window of india-rubber shop)
—“What are those?”

Mamma—“Those are diving suits, made all of india-rubber, so that the diver won't get wet.”

Little Boy—“I wish I had one.”

Mamma—“What for, my dear?”

Little Boy—“To wear when you wash me.”

“John always keeps his word.”

“Why shouldn't he? No one will take it.”

Patient—“Doctor, I am very short of breath.”

Doctor—“Oh, well, we'll soon stop that.”

Fair Visitor—“So you have really decided not to sell your house?”

Fair Hostess—“Yes. You see, we placed the matter in the hands of a real estate agent. After reading his lovely advertisement of our property, neither John nor I could think of parting with such a wonderful and perfect home.”

Exchange Department.

STERLING R. CARRINGTON,

- - - - - EDITOR.

The object of this department is twofold. First, to direct our readers to the best articles in the school and college magazines published in the State; and, secondly, for the benefit of the magazines themselves, to encourage them to a greater effort, but to point out to them their defects in order that they may remedy them.

As for ourselves, we cordially invite criticism—honest, sincere criticism, given in a friendly manner, that it may do the most good possible. Such criticism will be received in the same spirit as that in which it is given. Kindly criticism is essential to a magazine for its greatest development.

If anyone considers that we criticise an article unjustly, let them bear in mind that, as some one remarked not long ago: "We are neither the wisest nor the best of critics, but we hope in time to become as good as the next one." We will do our best to aid the magazine in our criticism of its various articles. "Angels can do no better than their best." Not that we are angels by any means. "Great oaks from little acorns grow," and we ask you, brother critic, not to consider the small beginning so much as the end.

On account of the fact that this is our first issue of the year, we have as yet received only the Trinity Archive, the Park School Gazette, and The Oak Leaf for exchange. Of the three, the Archive is decidedly the best. Its fiction is very good, and especially "What God Hath Joined." We await with interest the remainder of "John Ruskin, the Social Reformer." We would like to see more stories in the Literary Department of the Park School Gazette.

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