ESTABLISHED 1855.

THE ROOT OF EVIL

BY THOMAS DIXON

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the floors of his banquet hall with cut

roses that his guests might crush them

beneath their feet. But flowers were

cheap in sunny Italy. Nan's orchids

alone on her tables cost in Roman

money a hundred thousand sesterces,

while the paintings, trees, shrubbery,

water and light effects necessary to

transform the room into a miniature

forest cost five hundred thousand

sesterces, or a total of thirty thousand

When the feast ended at ten thirty

the sun had set behind the blue moun-

tains, the moon risen, and hundreds of

fire flies were floating from the foliage

Nan led the way to the ball room.

tertainers began on an improvised

ev-dress ball at 12 retired to the rooms

Nan left Stuart with a pretty sigh

"I'm sorry you never learned to

tions tonight. I've a surprise for you

Before he could reply, with a wave of

her bare arm, she was gone, and he

stood for a moment wondering what

further surprise could be in store af-

He noted with some astonishment

the peculiar sombre effects of the ball

room. He had expected a scene of

splendor. Instead the impression was

distinctly funereal. The lights were

dimmed like the interior of a theatre

during the performance and the lofty

gilded ceilings with their mural decor-

The professional entertainment be

gan on the little stage amid a univer-

sal gabble which made it impossible

without commanding the slightest at-

which broke the monotony of the oc-

Stuart turned to the programme in

His heart gave a throb of pain

iation for his little pal! He pushed

his way through the throng of chat-

singer. She saw him at once, smiled,

and sang as he had never heard her

sing. Her eyes shone with a strange

light and Stuart knew she was in the

spirit world. The rabble of ignorant

men and women before her did not

exist. She was singing to an invisible

audience save for the one man who

looked up into her eyes, his heart

bursting with sympathy and tender-

To his further surprise Stuart saw

the doctor standing in the shadows at

his hand and idly read the next num-

"A song by an unknown star.

miracle had caused the silence.

above to dress for their parts.

to arrange her costume.

ter what he had seen.

black crepe.

casion.

ber:

from the south.

dollars for the decorations of the ban-

quet hall alone.

of trees and shrubs.

BOOK II-THE ROOT. CHAPTER XVIII. The Dance of Death.

A flush of excited pleasure overspread Stuart's face as he led his beautiful hostess to the dining room. He paused at the entrance with an exclamation of surprise:

"Well, of all the wonders!" "But you can't stop yet!" whispered

Nan, drawing him gently on. Apparently on entering the banquet hall they were stepping outdoors into an enchanted pine forest. The walls were completely hidden by painted scenery representing the mountains of North Carolina. The room had been transformed into a forest, trees and shrubbery melting imperceptibly into the scenery on the walls, and mocking birds were singing in cages hidden high among the boughs of the trees. Stuart gazed at the great panorama painting on the wall, fascinated.

"Why, Nan," he gasped, "that's a view of the river hills at home where you and I used to roam."

"Well, if you hadn't recognized it, should never have forgiven you." "How on earth did your artists ge it so perfectly?"

"I sent him there, of course. He did it in three weeks. There's something else in that picture I thought you'd see, too."

"Isn't it now!" Stuart laughed, as they reached the head of the central table. A boy and girl sitting on a fence looking down at the river in the valley below.

"The very spot we found that quail's nest, you remember. You see I've begun to rebuild your dream-life tonight, Jim"

"It's marvelous!" he answered slow-"And there in the distance loom the three ranges of our old mountains ations seemed to be draped in filmy until their dim blue peaks are lost in the clouds. These tables seem spread for a picnic in the woods on the hills." "Are you pleased with my fantasy?" she asked with quiet emotion.

"Pleased is not the word for it," he replied quickly. "I'm overwhelmed. I never thought you so sentimental." "Perhaps I'm not, perhaps I've only

done this to please a friend. Do you begin to feel at home in this little spot I've brought back by magic tonight from our youth?"

I'm afraid I'll dreaming."

Stuart gased on the magnificently set table with increasing astonishment. Winding in and out among the solid silver candelabra a tiny stream of crystal water flowed among miniature trees and flowers on its banks. The flowers were all blooming orchids of ceived by the only burst of applause rarest coloring and weirdly fantastic

"Those hideous little flowers cost a small fortune," Nan exclaimed. "I'm ashamed to tell you how much-I don't like them myself, I'm frank to say so to you. But they are the rage. I prefer those gorgeous bowers of American beauty roses, the canopies to shade my guests from the rays of my artificial sun shining through the trees. You see how skilfully the artist has lighted the place. It looks exactly like a sun-

set in a pine forest.' Stuart noted that the service was all made for this occasion, silver, cut glass and china. Each piece had stamped or etched in it the coat of arms of his native state, "Peace and Plenty."

"And you've done all this in six weeks? It's incredible."

"Money can do anything, Jim," she cried under her breath. "It's the fairy queen of our childhood and the God of of our ancient faith come down to earth. You really like my banquet

"More than I can tell you." Nan looked at him keenly.

"The world will say tomorrow morn ing that I have given this lavish entertainment for vulgar display. In a sense it's true. I am trying to eclipse in splendor anything New York has seen. But I count the fortune it cost well spent to have seen the smile on your face when you looked at that painting of our old hills. I would have given five times as much at any moment the past ten years to have known that you didn't hate me." "You know it now."

"Yes," she answered tenderly. "You have said so with your lips before, now you mean it. You are your old handsome self tonight."

Apart from the charm of Nan's presence Stuart found the dinner itself a stupid affair, so solemnly stupid it at last became funny. In all the magnificently dressed crowd he looked in vain for a man or woman of real intellectual distinction. He saw only money, money, money!

There was one exception-the titled degenerates from the Old World, hovering around the richest and silliest women, their eyes glittering with eager avarice for a chance at their millions. It seemed a joke that any sane American mother could conceive the idea of selling her daughter to these wretches in exchange for the empty sham of a worm-eaten dishonored title. And yet it had become so common that the drain on the national resources from this cause constitutes a

menace to our future. In spite of the low murmurs of Nan's beautifully modulated voice in his ears, he found his anger slowly rising, not against any one in particular, but against the vulgar ostentation in which these people moved and the vapid assumption of superiority with which they evidently looked out upon the

world. But whatever might have been lacking in the wit and genius of the guests who sat at Nan's tables, there could be no question about the quality of the dinner set before them. When the Roman empire was staggering to its ruin amid the extravagancies of its corrupt emperors, not one of them ever gave a banquet which approximated half the cost of this. The best old Nero over quite informally, of course, but effectively."

after the ball begins." Stuart breathed easier.

"That it's all right. I was just going to suggest that I speak to Mr. Bivens up witth a quizzical expression and for you.' "Not at all, my boy, not necessary, I

assure you. It will be all right. In five minutes' talk our little differences will all be settled."

"If I can be of any service, you'll le me know?"

a frown, "but the whole thing is settled already. Still, I appreciate your Stuart was worried. He could not

press the matter further. He was sure and executed it." from the sensitive tones in which his old friend declined his help that credit to the artists I hired." dignity was hurt by the doctor's optimism had led him into an

ployer had surely given him some knowledge of his character. He hesitated, about to speak, changwhere the entertainment by hired ed his mind, and turned to Harriet. dancers, singers, and professional en-"You look glorious tonight, little pal! Funny that I never saw you in evening dress before. You look so tall and queenly, so grown, so mature. You're

> I'll be thinking of you as a grown woman next." "I am twenty-four, you know," she

"I have never believed it until tonight I wouldn't have known you at first but dance, Jim, but there are compensafor your voice. I had to rub my eyes then.'

A warm blush tinged the pink and white of the sensitive face. "Oh, Jim, I can't tell you how swee

your southern blarney is to my heart! dreamed of a triumph of art. I saw t was impossible before I sang, and now the pretty things you've said have taken all the sting out of defeat and I'm happy." "Then I'm glad, dear."

He paused, leaned close and whispered "Won't you let me know when your

father has seen Mr. Bivens? If this conference doesn't go well I may be f some help." "All right, I'll let you know."

The lights were suddenly turned lower, approaching total darkness. The attendants noiselessly removed the temroom for the dancers.

midnight, skeleton heads slowly began tention. At last there was a hush and to appear peeping from the shadows every eye was fixed on the stage. of the arched ceiling and from every Stuart looked up quickly to see what nook and corner of the huge cornice and pillars. Draperles of filmy crepe An oriental dancing girl, barefooted flowing gently in the breeze were light and naked save for the slightest suged by sulphurous-hued electric rays gestion of covering about her waist from the balconies. Tiny electric and bust, was the centre of attraction. lights blinked in every skeleton's sunk-For five minutes she held the crowd en eyes and behind each grinning row spell-bound with a dance so beautifully sensual no theatrical manager would

have dared present it. Yet it was recold chills rippling down Stuart's spine. Harriet's hand gripped his.

you ever dream of such a nightmare!" Suddenly two white figures drew aside the heavy curtains in the arch-He was wondering what joke the way and the dancers marched into the manager was about to perpetrate on sombre room. the crowd when his ear caught the first

The men were dressed as shrouded sweet notes of Harriet's voice singing skeletons, and the women as worms the old song he loved so well, the song The men wore a light flimsy gray robe she had first sung the day he came on which skilful artists had painted on four sides in deep colors the picture of a human skeleton. Who could have prepared this humil-

> sepulchral voice cried: "The Dance of Death and the

strains of a ghost-like waltz.

From the corners of the high balco

the corner of the stage looking over the grossiping, noisy crowd with a look of anger and horror. When the last note of the song died away, quivering with a supernatural tenderness and passion, he brushed a tear from his eyes, lifted his hands like stillness. high above, his head and made a motion which said to her: "Tumultuous applause!"

She nodded and smiled and he rushed behind the scenes to ask an explanation. He grasped both her hands and

found them cold and trembling with excitement. What on earth, does this mean? Simply that I was engaged to sing onight-and I wanted to surprise you

Didn't you like my song?" Stuart held her hands tightly.

"I never heard you sing so divine "Then I'm very happy." "How could you sing at all under such

onditions?" "I had one good listener "I could have killed them because they wouldn't hear you."

"But you enjoyed it?" "It lifted me to the gates of heaven

"Then I don't care whether any one else heard it or not. But I did so much tropics for the occasion. As the danwish that she might have heard it, or cers glided through the dazzling scene her husband, because they are from the these wonderfully colored creatures south. I thought they would be as charmed with the old song as you have

them, perhaps." "But I don't understand, your father hates Bivens so."

A big hand was laid on his shoulder. he turned and faced the doctor smiling. "But I don't hate him, my boy! I've given up such foolishness. We've buried the hatchet. I'm to see him in a few minutes and we are to be good friends."

"Rivens invited you here to discuss

art exclaimed, blankly. "No, no, no," the doctor answered. "I came with Harriet, of course. Her his search vain. music teacher placed her on the programme. But Mr. Bivens and I have his arm, and he turned to confront ever did with his flowers was to cover had some correspondence and I'm to Nan, her eyes flashing with triumph, Plain Dealer.

see him in a little while and talk things her cheeks flushed, and her lips parted

"He has agreed to a conference ere?" the young lawyer asked, anx-

"Why, of course. His butler has jus told me he would see me immediately

"Certainly," the doctor replied with offer.

embarrassing situation and yet his association with Bivens as his first em-

the women and men of the banqueting beginning to make me feel old, child party who were to appear in the fan-

said, simply,

for anything save pantomime to be intelligible beyond the footlights. Star porary stage and cleared the great after star, whose services had cost \$1,000 each for one hour, appeared As the chimes struck the hour of

> of teeth. Again the chatter of fools was suddenly hushed. The orchestra began a weird piece of music that sent the

"Heavens!" she whispered.

The women wore a curious light robe of cotton fibre which was drawn over the entire body and gave to each tering fools until he stood alone figure the appearance of a huge caterstraight in front of the slender little pillar. From the high perch of a balcony

Worm!" The strange figures began to move slowly across the polished floor to the

nies strange lights flashed, developing in hideous outlines the phosphorescent colors of the skeletons and long, fuzzy, exaggerated lines of the accompanyghastly robes and the delicate footfall of ghostly feet ceased. Not a whisper from a sap-headed youth or a yap from an aged degenerate or a giggle from a silly woman broke the death-

Suddenly the music stopped with a and worm, stood motionless. The silwaltz, and presto!-in an instant the of the most gorgeous gowns, their bare arms and necks flashing with priceless iewels and each man, but a moment ago a hideous skeleton, bowed before prise and may make the her in immaculate evening clothes. Just at the moment each caterpillar threw to her attendant her disguise, from the four corners of the vast room were released thousands of gorgeously tinted butterflies, imported from the

always been and I'd make a hit with among the flowers and lights until the room seemed a veritable fairyland. A burst of applause swept the crowd, as Nan's radiant figure passed, encircled by the arm of the leader.

fluttered about them in myriads, dart-

ing and circling in every direction

Stuart nodded and clapped his hands with enthusiasm. A more marvellous transformation

scene could scarcely be imagined. When Nan had passed he turned to speak to Harriet and she had gone. He felt a moment's pain at the disapa business proposition tonight!" Stu- pointment, but before he could find her the music ceased, the dancers paused and the swaying of the crowd made

A soft hand was suddenly laid on

Miscellaneous Reading. in a tender smile

YORKVILLE, S. C., FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1911.

"Well?" she asked in low tones. "You're a magician, Nan," he an

swered with enthusiasm. "Come I'm going to honor you b sitting out the next two dances, and if you're very good, perhaps more." When she had seated herself by his side under a bower of roses he was

very still for a moment. She looked "A penny for your thoughts? Am so very wicked after all?"

Stuart crossed his long legs an

looked at her admiringly. "I'll be honest," he said with deliberation. "I don't think I have ever seen anything more dazzlingly beautiful than your banquet and ball, except-" "Except what!" she interrupted

sharply. "Except the woman who conceived

"That's better, but you must giv "In a measure, yes; but their plans He was positive there was a were submitted for your approval. I misunderstanding somewhere. The was just wondering whether your imagination was vivid enough to have freamed half the splendors of such a life when you turned from the little

> A look of pain clouded the fair fac and she lifted her jeweled hand. "Please, Jim, I'd like to forget some things."

cottage I built for you."

"And you haven't forgotten?" She looked straight into his eyes and answered in even tones. "No."

He studied the magnificent pearl necklace that circled her throat. Its ourchase had made a sensation in New fork. The papers were full of it at the time Bivens had bought it at an auction in Paris, bidding successfully against the agents of the Tzar of Russia. Never had he seen Nan so ravishing. Magnificent gowns, soft laces and jewelry were made to be worn by such women. There was an eternal fitness in the whole scheme of things in which this glorious creature of the senses lived and moved and had her

being. "I suppose," he began musingly, "I ought, as a patriotic citizen of the Republic, to condemn the enormous waste of wealth you have made here

tonight." "Yes," she answered quietly.

"I ought to tell you how many tears you could wipe away with it, how much suffering you could soften, how many young lives you could save from misery and shame, how many of life's sunsets you could have turned from darkness into the glory of quiet joy; and yet, somehow, I can find nothing in my heart to say except that I've been living in a fairyland of beauty and enchantment. What curious contradictions these hearts of ours lead us into sometimes-don't they?" Nan looked up quickly and repeated

question in cynical tones. "Yes, don't they?" "I know that I ought to condemn this

appalling extravagance, and I find myself enjoying it." Both were silent for a long while and bers of the board, either individually then they began to talk in low tones of or collectively. Indeed we have his the life they had lived as boy and girl in the old south, and forgot the flight of time.

(To Be Continued.)

- The following editorial expression appeared in Friday's issue of the New York Journal of Commerce, apropos the purported purchase of cotton lands by English spinners. Not long ago the fact was announced that a syndicate acting for English cotton spinners had purchased 32,000 acres of cotton lands in the 'Mississippi delta,' with a view to raising the material for their mills in Lancashire. Now comes a definite statement from Memphis that a syndicate of Holland capitalists has acquired 9,000 acres in Bolivar county, Mississippi, with options upon considerable adjoining property. It is said to be 'confidently expected' that now that the way has been blazed there will be a rapid acquisition of similar lands chiefly for cotton raising. In the case of the Dutch purchases, of which 6,000 acres are already under ber voted. cultivation, it is said that the land will not be wholy devoted to cotton but corn and other grain will be grown and live stock will be raised. This may be the beginning of a movement of much interest to the southern states. ing worms. The effect was thrilling. It is generally acknowledged that their Every sound save the soft swish of the agricultural possibilities are far from being fairly developed, and the great need is adequate capital and sufficient labor of an industrious kind. The acquisition of cotton lands with foreign capital may be especially significant. European manufacturers have become seriously disturbed over their dependence upon the American cotton supcrash. Each ghostly couple, skeleton ply, but their efforts to stimulate production elsewhere, chiefly in India and parts of Africa, are having slow revery note of a trumpet called from sults. It is well known to them that the sky. The blinking eyes of the our southern states have a decided addeath-heads in the ceiling and on the vantage in cotton raising and that Thackston. death-heads in the ceiling and on the their capacity is far from being taxed, against they walls faded slowly. The figures of but the supply that 2 can be counted upon and Toms. the dancers moved uneasily in the is capricious. Crops vary somewhat darkness. The trumpet pealed a sec-widely from year to year and little efond signal—the darkness fied, and the great room suddenly blazed with ten position to curtail the supply for the thousand electric lights. The orchestra struck the first notes of a thrilling price, on the ground that a small crop and a high price are more profitable waltz, and presto!—in an instant the to the planter than an abundant quanwomen appeared in all the splendour tity at a low price. If foreign proprietors come in with a motive for improving cultivation, increasing and economizing cost, it will he vield stimulating effect upon native entermore steadily profitable and of far more benefit to other industries both at home and abroad. It is much more important that there should be a steady and plentiful supply of this material of almost universal use than that there should sometimes be a large profit to planters from the distress of great nanufacturing populations. Not only s there need of improvement in cultivation and in labor conditions, but

there is a chance for progress in pre-paring cotton for the market and in the methods of handling it in transportation. The emulation excited by the invasion of foreign enterprise ought to have a salutary effect upon the in dustrial conditions of the south."

alarm. The bibulous person leaned for ward. "Baby attendin' college, ma'am'

A Freshie.-The baby across the car

caught sight of the bibulous individu-

al opposite and let out a shrill yell of

he asked. "No, sir," the mother sharply replied, and the baby yelled again. "Thass ver' funny," said the inebriated one. There's certainly some

ated one. There's certainly some class to that yell."

Then he gave the child an atrocious wink and fell asleep.—Cleveland Figure 1. The serious and misleading erlichter only nave these books paid their compared with 2,028,000 acres in 1910.

Most of those who have made compared with 16.3 bushels in 1910 and or her to the grave. Mr. J. H. Burpossible loss to the books bought durpossible loss to the books possible loss to the books bought durpossible loss to the books possible loss to the books possible loss to the books bought durpossible loss to the books possible loss to the books po

THE SCHOOL BOOK QUESTION.

Appointive Members of the Board Make Statement to the Public. Statement of the appointive member: of the state board of education con cerning the adoption of text books:

In view of the misunderstanding and erroneous statements that have grown out of the recent protest issued by State Superintendent Swearingen in reference to the late adoption of text books, the undersigned appointive nembers of the state board of education submit to the people of South Carolina the following statement of the fact involved: Fitness of the members to judge and

select text books: The undersigned members of the poard have all of them been for many years' experience, ranging nany through nearly every grade and every kind of school Special Preparation For the Adoption

For something over two years, they have had this adoption in view and have in consequence, been acquaint-ing themselves with the usableness suitableness, and merits of the books in actual use in the schools. This has seen done not only by examination of the books themselves but by the ques-tioning of teachers all over the state For some six months prior to the doption, books to be offered begin to come in and expert representatives of the book companies began their visits o the several members of the board. The coming of these books and agents increased in frequency, so that for some three months before the adop ion, the members were called upon to pend most of their time, not given to their regular work, in the examination

f books and the discussion of them with agents. This prolonged and searching ex mination of text books to be sub ted was supplemented by informal dis cussion and comparisons among the members themselves while in attend ince upon board meeting in Columbia Hence the several members entered the doption with clearly defined views as the relative merits and suitability of the various books, including those now in use, and had in many cases, their minds made up on their first choice, or on the books which they would be willing to accept in place of this first choice, and with definite ideas as to the opinions of their fellow nembers. Consequently when the time came for adoption, the members were virtually ready to vote intelligently without the necessity of much discustion, though despite this preparation

here was full discussion on all important books. undersigned members submit herefore, that with this experience and this study of the books, it is reaonable to conclude that their individ ual judgment as to the merits of the books submitted deserves the same consideration, and is just as likely to correct, as that of Mr. Swearinger and that where a majority were agreed upon a particular book, it is just as rational, as well as democrat-ic, to assume that this majority opinwas more likely correct than that of Mr. Swearingen or that of any mi-nority which included Mr. Swearin-

The So-called Secret Ballot. It is unthinkable that Superintend ent Swearingen intended in the slight st degree to impugn or make insinua tion against the integrity of the assurance that he did not: yet that construction has been put upon hi protest and especially upon his refer ence to a secret ballot. Hence we are at a loss to understand why, when he perceived that the newspapers so contrued his protest, he did not, in justice to himself and in justice to

poard, immediately publish a disclaim er of any such intention. This ballot, it is due to sav. was no secret in the sense that any member's vote was concealed. It is due to say further, that not only was the method based upon the precedent of the adoption of five years ago, but, in the ote, it was distinctly stated that, in the voting any member desired to put on record anything about the vote or adoption, he had the right to do so In the case of most of the books, es-pecially of the more important ones there was always a preliminary dis-cussion which revealed whether there was any decided differences of opin on among the members. Some member then put a particular book in nom There was yet fuller discus

sion, including comparison with such other books as individual members ther books as individual. An open thought worthy of mention. An open individual vote was then taken. he whole board knew how each mem How the Members Voted On only three of the books adopted were the undersigned members divided their final vote. These were the basal set of readers, the geographies and the English books below the high school. The following voted for the Wheeler Primer, Messrs. Daniel, Glenn, O'Driscoll, Rembert, Thackston and Toms. In the case of the first and second basal readers, Messrs. Glenn and Rembert voted for the graded lassics of B. F. Johnson & Co., solid basal set. Messrs. Daniel, O'Dris coll, Rice, Thackston and Toms vote for the Wheeler first and second read ers, as adopted. In the case of th ers, as adopted. In the case of the geographies, the final vote stood for Maury, Messrs, Daniel, O'Driscoll, Thackston and Toms; for Frye, Messrs. lenn, Rembert and Rice. In the ca of the grammars the following voted for Kinard and Withers books: Messrs Glenn, O'Driscoll, Rembert, Rice and following against these books: Messrs. Daniel In each such instance however, those who opposed the books finally adopted cheerfully accepted and approved the verdict of the majority n the final vote on all other books dopted the undersigned members adopted

oted alike. Change of Text Books. In reference to the change of tex ooks, it must be remembered that the aw itself anticipates the necessity for change it providing for a periodic doption. 'The object, moreover, in in viting bids is to secure not the cheapest books, but the best books at lowest prices. The board showed its recognition of this principle as a primary end in the fact that, at its first meeting and frequently in the course of the adoption, it was repeated with emphasis that the first duty was to get he best books irrespective of reaso One of th ble differences in price. ost dangerous doctrines implied in Mr. Swearingen's protest is that which ends to establish the principle that ooks should not be changed and that heapness is the chief object. No man's child should be compell

d to use inferior text books that the apparent loss of the state would in reality be only about \$16,000 hough such books were furnished free Time once lost by the child, f cost. brough poor books, is never recovered and the damage done is irreparable People living in the country, are as a rule, not in position to keep up with the advance in text book improvenents. These advances are on a pa with, or ahead of, improvements, along other lines; and books that were instead of \$500,000. relatively good four or five years ago may be relatively poor today. Surely he country children are entitled to a books as the town children are vears. This advantage the board was fully etermined they should have without regard to criticism.

Increase In Prices. Most of those who have made com-

Primer and Reader.

In the case of the primer, although adopted cost 13 cents more the old one, it contains 6,700 yords of reading matter, whereas the old book contains only 1,300. Thus the old primer, pasteboard bound, heaply made, poorly illustrated, gave only 110 words of reading matter for one cent, while the new primer, cloth gives 225 words of reading matter for one cent. The judgment of the school world upon this new book may be infrom the fact that it has been adopted in eleven states. So, also, are the readers adopted superior to those

Reading is the most important sub ct taught in the school, because the child's progress in all other studies depends upon his ability to read. That series of readers which enables the child to gain this power in the shortest possible time is in the end the best and he cheapest. Such a series the under signed members of the board claim to nave adopted.

Geographies. In the comparison between the old and the adopted primary geographies, old list. Of this number 23 only were the following is the fact: The book changed, whereas 20 were re-adopted years intimately connected with the the following is the fact: The book schools. Most of them are teachers of thrown out was confessedly unsuitable and was not supported by a single finally limited to a choice between the new primary Maury at 45 cents—a culate thimself.

ents, as alleged.

Physiologies. It is equally unfair and misleading to compare the cost of the three book series of physiologies adopted with the wo book series discarded. The third and added book is to be used as an elective science in one of the high chool classes, and was adopted in esponse to the most marked movement of the day-the call for the education of the people in health laws and preservation. In the two lower books, those adopted are so far ahead of the old books that there is no comparison. The primer of sanitation alone if placed in the home of every man in in the home of every man in Carolina and read and even South partly followed would save in one year nore money than the adoption cost.

Arithmetic. The comparison between the old and he new arithmetics is an instance of people of their state, they leave the Flax the glaring injustice done to the board

The following is the statement given: Cost of old arithmetic, elementary.....ost of old arithmetic, ad-.\$0.22 Cost

Cost of the new arithmetic, ele-Cost of Coct vanced41

Total ... Making the apparent increase on rithmetics 47 cents. As a matter nuoted as 41 cents in the second list bove was on the old list, and is a readopted book. The proper comparison should be:

adv.....os oid Milne arithmetic, Total

Cost of new Milne arithmetic, Cost of new Milne arithmetic, of re-adopted arithmetic.

.\$1.09 This makes the increased price only 6 cents. A change in the two lower arithmetics was considered advisable, since, in the judgment of the board they were out of date. Such being the case, the adoption of the Milne was logical, inasmuch as the advanced Milne was already on the list and the whole series was already widely used in the

endent schools of the state. Saving to the State. Those who have commented on the cost of the adoption have overlooked the positive fact that this board has the best what is confessedly contract ever obtained from the pubishers in this country. For we main ain that the credit for this contract is due to no one man, but that the contract was the product of the com-bined judgment of the whole board and was unanimously adopted by it. By his contract, for the first time in the nistory of book adoption, "any old book" in the hand of the child has been history given a definite money value and will taken in exchange for any book of a lower or higher grade in the same series. By the same contract, too, the ength of time allowed for exchange has been increased 25 per cent. Both the method and the saving in this exchange provision may be illus-trated with the readers. By the con-

tract the old Johnson Primer, which, when new, cost the children 12 cents, as now an exchange value of 15 cents. That is to say, an old Johnson and 10 cents will buy a new Wheeler Primer, the retail contract price of which is 25 cents. Or the same primer and 10 cents will buy a new Wheeler first reader, the contract retail price of which is 25 cents. In the same way, an old primer may be used at this valua-tion of 15 cents to help pay for any eader-first, second, third, fourth or whereas, in the past a primer fifth. could be exchanged only for a primer. Further, an old first reader, which ost 20 cents when new, has by contract been given a money value of 15 cents and may be used to help pay for lows: primer or any other reader.

In the case of the geographies, the 1910 and 84.7 per cent, the average for the past ten years on that date: indiold primary geography, which was discarded by the board, and which cost cated yield per acre 25.5 bushels, com-pared with 27.4 bushels, the 1910 final when new 33 cents, has by contract when new 33 cents, has by contact and the pared with 27.4 bushels, the 1910 final pared with 27.4 bushels, the 1910 final cents, being only 10 cents less than it yield, and 27.1 bushels, the average cost when new. That is to say, an old for the last five years; area planted to primary geography and 23 cents will pay for the new book adopted. Or the old primary geography and 65 cents will pay for the new advanced geogra-So, too, the old advanced geography and 22 cents will buy the new primary geography. Could any one deny that money has been saved the

Cost to the State.

state?

It has been claimed that the board ov its action wantonly destroyed proprty values estimated at \$500,000. This um is just a few thousand less than he cost of all the school books bought Carolina during the years 1906-1911. How preposterous this claim will appear from the following: It assumes that all these books, hose bought five years ago, are stil in usable form in the hands of the children and are now worth what they ost when new. It assumes also that f all the old books had been re-adoptd, the children of the state would not the coming five years. It forgets that each book now in the hands of the child has not only paid its price in use, but is by contract given an added definite value, approximate 50 per ent of its original cost. The following analysis will show

year for the five-year period, or only about 42-3 cents per child, instead of the alleged loss of \$500,000. As It laimed that the loss was entailed by the assumed 80 per cent change, ther he entire value involved would be upon this 80 per cent or upon \$400,000 It is, however generally estimated by teachers and experienced book men that the average life of a text book—especially in the lower grades—is from one to three years. On a liberal allowance then, the books bought during the first three years of the last adoption period are of usable in class though by the contract they have been given an ex-change money value. This reduces the

price in actual use, but they have an actual value of 50° per cent of their

This reduces the alleged loss to \$80,000. If this loss be distributed over a period of five years
—a legitimate distribution, inasmuch as the assumed loss covered that period—this makes a so-called loss of \$16,000 a year. This leaves a so-called loss of \$16,000 a year to be distributed among the 340,000 and more children in the schools, or about 42-3 cents

Thus, at this slight additional expense of 42-3 cents, each child in the state would be supplied with new and etter books. Surely this is gain and to a child-an injustice at once physical, intellectual, and aesthetic—to put into its hands an old, defaced and filthy book in any study.

We have gone into these figures or the assumption that the statement that 80 per cent of the books have been changed, is correct. The correctness of the statement we do not admit. Exclusive of copy books and drawing ooks, which are destroyed by use supplementary English classics and duplicates, there were 53 books on the Of this number 23 only were Ten were entirely dropped from the list. Owing to the extension of the high school course, it becomes neces nally limited to a choice between the new primary Frye at 40 cents and for high school use. Let each man calthe percentage of change for

Have No Apology.

The foregoing is a statement of the essential facts of the adoption, of the preliminary preparation of the memboard and of the fair and The undersigned appointive volved. members have no apology to make either for the result of the adoption or for the methods used. They entered upon the task with only one pur-pose—to further the best interest of the schools and of the children of South They brought to bear upon this task their best experience, inremitting toil of months, and the leepest interest and sincerity. They that with due allowance for the fallibility of human judgm they have succeeded. To the test use, to those who know books and the needs of our schools, and to the sober second thought of the fair-minded

> A. G. Rembert, Fourth District, J. Lyles Glenn, Fifth District, Nathan Toms, Sixth District, A. J. Thackston, Seventh District. EFFECTS OF THE DROUTH.

D. M. O'Driscoll, First District, H. F. Rice, Second District, D. W. Daniel, Third District,

final verdict.

Deterioration In Many Crops During Past Month. Washington, July 10 .- "Hot weather and drouth have played havoc with the crop conditions during the last month. act, the new advanced arithmetic was the statement made today by Prof. N. C. Murray, acting chief of the crop reporting board of the department of

agriculture, after the announcement of he July report on grain and produce. "The report," said Prof. Murray, "re flects the serious effects of the drouth during June, most of the important crops showing a condition at present which indicate a yield below that of last year and below the recent average

.32 yield of production. "The feed stuffs-oats and hay-seem two-thirds of a normal crop of hay expected and the oats crop probably will be more than 25 per cent less than last year's crop and about 12 per cent less than the average for the

> vears. Corn Condition Below Average. "The corn acreage is the largest ever orded, but the condition of the crop s about 7 per cent below the average That indicates a production of about per cent less than last year's record crop, but nearly 5 per cent more than the average production during the last five years. The condition of the corn crop on July 1, however, was critical.
> "The potato crop promises to be un-

off and the condition of the crop now is lower than at any time on July 1 n the last twenty-two years. A sen sational advance in the toes has been made during the last month. The average price throughout the country, on June 1, was 63.3 cents one or two old newspaper clippings bushel. On July 1 it was 96.3 cents. about it and has heard of it, as has Tobacco Also Short. "Owing to the difficulty in the set-ting out of tobacco plants the average

of tobacco has been reduced 28 per cent from last year. This and the low condition of the crop has reduced the indications to a total production of 63.3 per cent of last year's crop, or 77.3 per cent of the average for the last five years. "Notwithstanding the drouth, wheat crop, both spring and winter, will be well up to the average in total

heard as a whistle in a plum thicket "In general crop conditions the secnear the house. It attracted attention tion of the country which appears have been hit hardest by the hot weather and the drouth is the tier of states comprising South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma.

The July crop report of the United States department of agriculture crop reporting board, issued at 2.15 p. day, shows the condition on July and the yield per acre, as indicated by the condition on that date, of the principal farm crops and the acreage of those not already announced, as fol-Corn—Condition 80.1 per cent of a normal, compared with 85.4 per cent in

July Crop Report.

corn this year 115,939,000 acres, compared with 114,002,000 acres in 1910. 76.8 Wheat Crop Figures. Winter wheat-Condition 76.8 cent, of a normal, compared with 80.4 per cent on June 1, 1911, 81.5 per cent in 1910, and 81.4 per cent, the ten-year average; indicated yield per acre,

els in 1910, and 15.5 bushels, the five year average.
Spring wheat—Condition 73.8 percent, of a normal, compared with 94.6 per cent, of a normal, compared with 3.5 per cent on June 1, 1911, 61.6 per cent, in 1910 and 87.8 per cent, the ten-year average; indicated yield per acre, 11.8 bushels, compared with 11.7 bushels in 1910 and 13.5 bushels, the five-year

14.6 bushels, compared with 15.8 bush-

average.
All wheat—Condition 75.6 per cent of normal, compared with 86.1 per cent on June 1, 1911, 73.5 per cent in 1910 and 84.4 per cent, the ten-year average; indicated yield per acre 13.5 bushels, compared with 14.1 bushels in 1910 ave had to buy any new books during and 14.7 bushels, the five-year average. amount of wheat remaining on farms on July 1 is estimated at about 38,288,000 bushels, compared with 38,-739,000 bushels on July 1, 1910, and happened to him since he 37,701,000 bushels, the average amount voice left the house as it had on farms July 1 for the past five years.

Oats, Barley, Rye. Oats-Condition 68.8 per cent of a

normal, compared with 85.7 per cent on June 1, 1911, 82.2 per cent, in 1910, and 86.3 per cent, the ten-year average; indicated yield per acre, 23.2 bushels, 36.3 per cent, the ten-year average; hand from a member of the family. Only only on the family of the family of the family of the family. This remarkable "thing" exercised itself in 1829. What it was, at this late 28.4 bushels, the five-year average.

Barley—Condition, 72.1 per cent of a June 1, 1911, 73.7 per cent in 1910 and in that neighborhood or in the imme-87.9 per cent the ten-year average indicated yield per acre, 20.9 bushels, compared with 22.4 bushels in 1910 and 24.8 bushels the five-year average. Rye—Condition, 85.0 per cent of a solution, as no person could be for normal, compared with 88.6 per cent on who had such a voice or at least June 1, 1911, 87.6 per cent in 1910 and 90.8 per cent the ten-year average indicated yield per acre, 15.5 bushels, compared with 16.3 bushels in 1910 and or her to the grave. Mr. J. H. Bur-16.4 bushels the five year average area nett does not believe it was a ventril-

Potatoes, Tobacco, Flax.

TERMS----\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

White potatoes-Condition, 76.0 per cent in 1910 and 90.4 per cent the ten-year average indicated yield per acre 81.7 bushels, compared with 94.4 bushels in 1910 and 96.9 bushels five-year average; area planted, 3,495,-000 acres. compared with 3,591,000

Tobacco-Condition, 72.6 per cent of a normal, compared with 85.3 per cent in 1910 and 86.0 per cent the ten-year average; indicated yield per acre, 698.1 pounds, compared with 797.8 pounds in 1910 and 826.0 pounds the five year average: area planted, 893,000 acres. 893,000 ompared with 1,233,800 acres in 1910. Flax—Condition, 80.9 per cent of a normal, compared with 65.0 per cent in 1910 and 87.8 per cent the eightyear average; indicated yield per acre, 8.6 ushels, compared with 4.8 bushels in 1910 and 8.6 bishels the five-year average; area planted, 3,013,000 acres, compared with 2.916.000 acres in 1910.

Rice and Hay. Rice-Condition, 87.7 per cent of normal, compared with 86.3 per cent in 1910 and 88.6 per cent the ten-year average; indicated yield per acre 32.2 bushels, compared with 33.9 bushels in 1910 and 32.4 bushels ompared with 722,800 acres in 1910. Hay—Condition, 64.9 per cent of a normal, compared with 76.8 per cent on June 1, 1911, 80.2 in 1910 and 85.7 per ent the ten-year average; indicate yield per acre 1.08 tons, compared with .33 tons in 1910 and 1.41 tons the fiveyear average. Acreage not announced

Estimated Total Vield. The approximate total yield of the important farm crops of the United States, as indicated by the condition of crops on July 1, estimated by the crop reporting board of the department of agriculture, upon the ratio of the average condition on that date to the final yield in the past five years, follows:

indicated vield. yield. .2.956,444,500 3,125,717,000 457,598,200 244,932,600 All wheat 702,880,800 695,433,000 871,800,000 147,029,200 162,227,000 Barley .. Rye.... Potatoes, W. 31.056,792 33,039,000 285,594,500 25,911,800 22,723,540 14,116,000 24,510,000 Tobacco, Lbs. 625,542,920 984,349,000 Condition by States. Condition of important crops in prin-ipal states include the following: July 1. 10-year ave. Winter wheat.

irginia... Maryland . . South Carolina.....86 10-year Texas.. Georgia 3,683,000 Cennessee Alabama North Carolina .3.072.000 Arkansas..2,884,000 .2,518,000 Louisiana South Carolina...2,515,000 Virginia2,142,000

rexas.......

A GREENWOOD COUNTY GHOST.

Story of the Voice That Haunted the Old Isaac Burnett Place. After leaving the old DeVore place we come to a house, the site of the old Burnett, where in the year 1829, al most one hundred years ago, was observed by hundreds one of the most peculiar phenomena in this or any other country. This place was referred to as the "Haunted House" or the 'House with the Spirit," etc. In early childhood the tales of what had happened here used to make the writer's hair stand on end, especially when told on rainy nights with other ghostly tales. This "thing or that thing." as it was generally referred to, was a usually short. The acreage has fallen voice that spoke from out of space, recognized human beings by name, told their history, and made the house

> every one else in that and many neighboring sections, as far back as he can remember almost. Mr. J. H. Burnett, here in Green wood, is a grandson of the Isaac Burnett who owned the place then and

from him a short statement was se-

The voice was first heard in 1829.

He only knows what his father S. J.

Burnett, told him of it. It was first

because it was kept up and the family

cured.

a point of interest to hundreds of visi-

tors while it lasted. The writer has

thought it was some of the boys in the neighborhood hiding in the thicket and trying to get some one to look for them. The whistle left the plum thicket and gradually drew near the house, that is it would be heard at intervals, not all the time, but each time it would be nearer the house than before. When it had almost reached the house the family noticed that it was forming words with a whistling sound. Soon what was said could be distinguished very clearly though it was always with this whist ling or wheezing sound. The family, notbeing able to see any one, and not being able to solve the mystery, became greatly annoyed and some of them more or less alarmed. The voice apparently recognized this, for it said requently that it would harm no one that it was useless to move out of th house, that it would follow them, and several times it said that it was ears old. People from miles and miles The Rev. around Nicholas W. Hodges, the pioneer Bap tist preacher, the one who is buried at Mt. Moriah, came to hear it and talked with it. The voice seemed to get angry with him and finally refus-The voice seemed to ed to answer questions. The voice seemed to get nearer a daughter of Mr. Isaac Burnett, Martha by name than any one else and greatly annoyed her. At the suggestion of the Rev. Mr. Hodges she repeated to it the Nov her. Testament verse, 1 Tim. 1:15. "This is a faithful saying, worthy of all ac-"This ceptation; Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners," and it left her Whereupon Mr. Hodges pronounce it an evil spirit. The voice was heard in two other places in the neighborhood for a short time, once or twice only, one time at a Mr. Rodgers' and another at a Mr. Shettleworth's house Once a man named Wash Hall came from Georgia to hear it; he had lived The voice rec in this neighborhood. ognized him and told him what had voice left the house as it had come, after a time being heard only in the yard, then a little farther away, a lit-

had disappeared entirely. It lasted almost a year.

This then is the statement at first day and time, is a problem we will not attempt to solve. The easiest explanaormal, compared with 90.2 per cent on tion is that there was a ventriloquist diate radius of the house and that the owner of that voice used it as above described. The older people right around it would never admit of this solution, as no person could be found was never exercised around there any-where, and if such was the case the owner carried the mystery with Mr. J. H. Buroquist, though he says he cannot offer

tle farther each time until finally