

COMMON SCHOOLS.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF COMMON SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

To the Board of Superintendents of Common Schools for the several Counties in the State.

GENTLEMEN:—At the late session of the General Assembly of the State an act was passed which, among other provisions, repeals the part of the Common School Law which requires the proceeds of the School Fund, in each County, to be divided equally among the Districts.

As you are all aware, it was found impracticable generally to enforce this Law; and instead of this provision another was passed, which I think will meet the approbation of every experienced and intelligent officer of our system.

The mode of division is now left to the direction of the board of county superintendents in each county; and the only legal restriction on their discretion in this matter is that they shall act under the advice of the general superintendent, and divide the fund in such a way as to secure, as far as possible, equality in facilities for education, among all the white children of the county.

The great end to be obtained is thus clearly defined by the law, to wit, equality in facilities for education; and it is left to the county boards, familiar with the character of the counties, knowing their geographical features, the manner in which they are peopled, &c., to decide how this end is best to be attained.

It is my duty to advise with you in regard to this important subject; and I desire, in the discharge of this duty, to call your especial attention to certain general principles applicable to every section of the State.

In the first place it must be remembered that it is still necessary, and will always be necessary, to be careful in the arrangement of the districts. Under any system of division of the fund, large districts, intended for several schools, are an evil; and there is an express provision of the law requiring all districts to be of a size not too large nor too small for one school.

Let each board, therefore, make it a fixed rule to keep a constant eye to this subject, and, as circumstances will permit, make continual efforts to render the districts of the county more compact, more convenient, and more uniform in size.

In the second place it must be borne in mind that equality in money, among districts or among children, is not always equality in facilities for education.

It is not just to divide equally among the Districts or equally among the children. To give to each school the same amount of money operates unfairly to the larger Districts; and to divide the fund according to the number of children is unjust to the smaller districts.

For example: It may be necessary, on account of some natural obstacle, as a river, mountain, or swamp, to lay off a very small district with, say 20 children. Now, where there are fifty children in a district, not more than 20 will generally attend school, and the average attendance will not, perhaps, exceed twenty-five.

Where there are twenty children not more than twelve or fifteen will regularly attend. One teacher can instruct twenty-five or thirty scholars as well as twelve or fifteen; and therefore where twenty-five or thirty scholars attend a school, only one teacher is needed, and where only twelve or fifteen attend one teacher still is needed.

But if the fund were divided equally among the children, the school could be kept open twice as long in the larger districts as in the smaller, and the facilities for education to the children in the former be twice as great as to the children in the latter.

The proper course, therefore, is as follows: Let all the districts be laid off as nearly equal as circumstances will permit, and never too large for one school. Then, when it is necessary, as it frequently will be, to have a few very small districts, let the children in these be considered as amounting to some given number, say thirty, thirty-five or forty.

That is to say, allow each district to be considered as containing a certain number of children, whether it actually has that many or not. The board in each county can fix its own number: I suggest that it be not less than thirty nor more than forty or forty-five.

If, for instance, the number be thirty-five, then, if there be two districts containing less than thirty-five, each one would, in the division of the fund, count thirty-five; and then let the fund be divided according to the number of children. In this case the districts containing less than thirty-five children would draw the amount due to thirty-five children—and all containing over this number would draw according to the number of children.

I urged this method of division on the boards of county superintendents several years ago; and wherever it was adopted it gave satisfaction, and, in one instance, put an end to disputes which had lasted for a long time and caused a good deal of injury.

Finally, by the act of the last session of the General Assembly, changing the method of dividing the school fund in the counties, the several county boards were authorized to empower their chairman to visit all, or part of the schools in the county, and to pay them a reasonable compensation for time and expense.

Each board can do this or not, at its discretion; and it will be well, in every county, to send out the chairman, on such a tour, once in every two or three years at least, to inspect the condition of the school-house, its location, the position of the district, and the difficulties which the children have to encounter in going to and from school.

He could also make such visits the occasion of observing the conduct of the teach-

ers, and of seeing how far the regulations of the system are carried out.

Every chairman making such visits must report the result of his observations to the general superintendent; and I here take occasion respectfully to solicit, from each chairman, a map of the school districts of his county, with the numbers, names and sizes of the Districts. Every board ought to have such a map, and a copy of it ought to be sent to the general superintendent.

One chairman has presented to me a complete map of this sort, and as others get time I will be greatly obliged to them for similar favors. I wish, as far as possible, to have before me the exact position of every county.

I also avail myself of the occasion to tender to the superintendents of each county my friendly regards and my cordial sympathies in their labors.

That they might not be called on to assume an undue share of the public burdens, I have had them exempted from certain other duties, as will be seen in the Acts of the last Assembly—but I would respectfully suggest that their position is an honorable one, of some advantage to the persons holding it, as citizens of the county, and affording a wide field of usefulness.

These considerations, it is to be hoped, are in themselves sufficient to insure a cheerful discharge of the duties imposed by regulations necessary to the preservation of the inestimable privileges enjoyed by the citizens of this Heaven-favored country.

I was authorized by the last Assembly to have printed a new pamphlet edition of the school laws, with a plain digest of index, for distribution among the officers of the system; and the work is now in the hands of the Printer to the State and will be published as soon as possible.

With much respect, your obedient servant, C. H. WILEY, Supt. Com. Schools N. C.

March 5, 1857.

IMPORTANT DECISION OF THE U. STATES SUPREME COURT.

The opinion of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case was delivered by Chief Justice Taney. It was a full and elaborate statement of the views of the Court. They have decided the following all important points.

First—Negroes, whether slaves or free—that is men of the African race—are not citizens of the United States by the Constitution.

Second—The ordinance of 1787 had no independent constitutional force or legal effect subsequent to the adoption of the Constitution; and could not operate of itself to confer freedom or citizenship, within the Northwest territory, on negroes not citizens by the Constitution.

Third—The provisions of the act of 1820, commonly called the Missouri Compromise, in so far as it undertook to exclude negro slavery and communicate freedom and citizenship to negroes in the northern part of the Louisiana cession, was a legislative act exceeding the powers of Congress and void and of no legal effect to that end.

In deciding these main points the Supreme Court have determined the following incidental points:

First—The expression "territory and other property," of the Union, in the Constitution, applies (in terms) only to such territory as the Union possessed at the time of the adoption of the Constitution.

Second—The rights of the citizens of the United States entering into any Federal territory, and the powers of the Federal government there, depend on the general provisions of the Constitution, which defines in this as in all other respects, the powers of Congress.

Third—As Congress does not possess power itself to make enactments relative to the persons or property of citizens of the United States in Federal territory, other than such as the Constitution confers, so it cannot constitutionally delegate any such powers to a Territorial government organized by it under the Constitution.

Fourth—The legal condition of a slave in the State of Missouri is not affected by the temporary sojourn of such slave in other States, but at his return his condition still depends on the laws of Missouri. As the plaintiff was not a citizen of Missouri and therefore could not sue in the Courts of the United States, his suit must be dismissed for want of jurisdiction.

The delivery of this opinion occupied about three hours and was listened to with profound attention by those in the crowded court room. Among the auditors were gentlemen of eminent legal ability and a due proportion of ladies.

Judge Nelson stated the merits of the case—the question being whether or not the removal of Scott from Missouri with his master to Illinois with a temporary residence worked his emancipation. He maintained that the question depended solely on the law of Missouri, and for that reason the judgment of the Court below should be affirmed.

Judge Catron believed that the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to decide the merits of the case. He argued that Congress could not do directly what it could not do indirectly. If it could exclude one species of property, it could exclude another. With regard to the Territories ceded, Congress could govern them only with the restrictions of the States which ceded them, and the Missouri act of 1820 violated the leading features of the Constitution and was therefore void. He concurred with his brother Judges that Scott is a slave, and was so when the suit was brought.

On Saturday morning Mr. Justice McLean delivered his opinion in the case. It was in dissent from the conclusion of the majority of the Court. Mr. Justice Curtis then delivered his opinion on the same case, which also dissents from the judgment of the majority. Separate opinions, concurring in the judgment pronounced on Friday by Justice Taney, were read by Justices Daniel, Grier, Campbell and Wayne.

The Wilmingtonians are going to erect a Monument to commemorate the battle of Moore's Creek.

MR. BUCHANAN'S CABINET.

We announced last week, the names of the gentlemen who compose Mr Buchanan's Cabinet.

As there will, no doubt, be considerable curiosity to know something of the previous history of the members of this Cabinet, we submit the following brief sketch:

SECRETARY OF STATE—GEN. LEWIS CASS, OF MICHIGAN.

General Cass was born at Exeter, New Hampshire. He was educated at the Academy of Exeter, and studied law at Marietta, Ohio, under the late Gov. Meigs. He was admitted to the bar in 1802, and in 1806, more than fifty years ago, was elected a member of the Ohio Legislature. In 1831 Gen. Cass was called to the administration of the War Department by Gen. Jackson.

In 1835 or 1836, in consequence of ill health, he retired from this position, much to the regret of Gen. Jackson, who tendered him the mission to France, where he added to his fame in defeating the quintuple treaty, through which England desired to search the vessels of all nations, traversing the ocean. In 1845, after his return from France, he was elected to the United States Senate from Michigan, and in 1848 nominated for the presidency, but defeated. He was one of the leading friends of the compromise of 1850, and subsequently ably supported the Kansas Nebraska measure.

On the 4th inst., his term expired in the U. S. Senate, and he was succeeded by a republican. Although seventy years of age, Gen. Cass is apparently younger than most men at sixty, and there is no doubt, from his intellectual and bodily vigor, that his administration of the State Department will fully sustain his high previous reputation.

SECRETARY OF TREASURY—HON. HOWELL COBB, OF GEORGIA.

The Secretary of the Treasury was born at Cherry Hill, Georgia, in 1815. He is the son of Col. John A. Cobb, who, when quite a boy, removed from Greenville, N. Carolina, with his father. His mother, Sarah R. Cobb, was the daughter of the late Tho. Roots, of Fredericksburg, Virginia. In the year 1834, when only nineteen, Mr Cobb graduated at Franklin College, Georgia, and in the following year he married Mary Ann, daughter of the late Col. Zachariah Lamar, of Milledgeville, Georgia, by whom he has had six sons, three of whom are dead, the two youngest dying at Washington city during the first session of the thirtieth Congress. In 1836 Mr Cobb was admitted to the bar, and at once gave such evidence of talents, character and attainments—rarely possessed by one of his age—that in the ensuing year he was elected by the Georgia Legislature solicitor-general of the western circuit. Having early in life obtained political fame as a Jackson-Union democrat, in 1842 Mr Cobb was elected on a general ticket to the Congress of the U. States, it being his first service in any legislative body. Since that time he has been frequently re-elected. He has served for one term as Governor of his native State, and as Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives, and in every position has been noted for his industry and ability.

SECRETARY OF WAR—HON. JNO. BUCHANAN FLOYD, OF VIRGINIA.

The Secretary of War has long been a prominent politician in the western part of Virginia, and is a State rights democrat of the school of strict construction. He has filled the office of Governor of the State, and during the last election was a democratic presidential elector. Governor Floyd's public service has been exclusively confined to the State, and his appointment to the Cabinet is his first introduction to the Cabinet councils. During every presidential campaign since 1836 Mr Floyd has been an active supporter of the democratic candidates. He is a fluent speaker on the stump, possesses considerable talent and versatility, and from his experience in various public offices will no doubt be found fully competent for the duties of his new position. Gov. Floyd is between 45 and 50 years of age, is in the undiminished enjoyment of physical health, and an ardent admirer of the ladies.

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY—ISAAC TOLUCE, OF CONNECTICUT.

The new Secretary of the Navy is well known as the late United States Senator from Connecticut, and as a sound, national man. He was for a short period Attorney General of the U. States under President Polk, having succeeded Mr Clifford, when he was sent as commissioner to Mexico. Personally, he is exceedingly popular and accomplished. He is over 50 years of age.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR—HON. JACOB THOMPSON, OF MISSISSIPPI.

The Secretary of the Interior has been a member of the House of Representatives from Mississippi during several Congresses. He is an able speaker on the floor, and quite an industrious member in reference to every measure of practical importance before the House. He is a free trader, a States rights Southern democrat, but by no means a secessionist. He is a man of some eloquence, good practical abilities, and is between 40 and 45 years of age.

POSTMASTER GENERAL—AARON V. BROWN, OF TENNESSEE.

The Postmaster General was born in Brunswick county, Virginia, in the year 1795. Governor Brown was educated in North Carolina, and graduated at Chapel Hill, in 1814, in the same class with Senator Mangum and ex-Governor Manly, of that State.

He sat in the Tennessee Legislature until 1839, when he was elected to Congress, and held that position until 1845, when he declined a re-election and ran a successful race for governor against E. H. Foster, a man of great popularity. He is a fine stamp orator, and a State rights man of the strict constructionist school. In character he is said to resemble Mr. Mason, who was Secretary of the Navy under Mr. Polk. He combines suavity of manner with unblemished character, great industry and talent. It was to Governor Brown when a member of Congress, some twelve or thirteen years ago, that General Jackson addressed his celebrated letter in favor of the

annexation of Texas. Governor Brown is in his 62d year, but owing to his active and temperate habits is generally taken to be ten years younger.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—JEREMIAH S. BLACK, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The Attorney Generalship has fallen into able hands. Judge Black is considered to be among one of the most accomplished and able jurists in Pennsylvania. He was formerly one of the district judges of that State, but on the law requiring all judges to be elected by the people going into effect, he was chosen one of the State Supreme Court Judges. He is in the prime of life, not over 45 years of age, and universally esteemed for the purity of his public and private character.

THE ETHIOPIAN TWINS.

Some few years ago a negro woman in Cumberland county, N. C., gave birth to twin children, more singularly and wonderfully united than the famed Siamese twins. They were purchased by Capt. J. C. Pervis of this place, and sold to J. P. Smith, Esq., of Anson county, N. C., who entrusted them to Brother & Shelton. They were taken to New Orleans for exhibition, where they were tricked out of them. Recently Mr Smith heard they were on exhibition in England. Knowing that he could not reclaim them as slaves, he purchased their mother and took her to England to reclaim her children. Upon reaching that country, he heard they were in Scotland, where he proceeded. He found them in Edinburgh, and the mother's claim was respected, even in Abolition England, where the rights of the master are unknown or disregarded.

No effort was spared to induce the mother of these children to desert her master and remain in England. She said she had seen white slavery, and it was far worse in civilized England, than African slavery in the United States. Indeed, so strongly was she impressed with the misery of white slavery, that she clung to her master and returned with him home, to endure the misery of negro slavery in North Carolina, as not only a choice of evils, but as the happiest condition of the African race. Mr Smith and his negroes arrived at this place on Monday last.—Cherock Gazette.

DEATH FROM POISONING.

On last Wednesday evening, the family of Geo. W. Curtis, of this town, were poisoned and one of them, an infant, lost its life. A negro gave to a nephew of Mr. C., aged about 10 years, what was said to be Sassafras roots, from which some tea was drawn for supper. Of this the family partook and were all poisoned. But by medical treatment they all recovered, except the little child. It had partaken quite heartily of the tea and was too far spent before a physician could be procured.

The roots were not all sassafras, and the poison is supposed to have been received from one or two small pieces of Jessamine root. Unfortunately the negro is not known and hence there is a great deal of mystery surrounding this deplorable and fatal occurrence.

Dr. Knox, the Coroner, held an Inquest on the child, but no facts tending to criminate any person were elicited.—Chester Standard.

FRAUD IN COTTON.

We learn that at the "Columbia Mills," a lot of cotton lately bought contained an average of nearly one hundred pounds to the bale of cotton seed and coarse sand or gravel; it was carefully packed in the centre of the bales. We learn too, that it was the crop of a planter who last year had a claim sent back from Liverpool for the same thing.

We think it nothing but right that the name of the rascal should be made public, so as to guard all cotton dealers from having anything to do with him. We learn that he is from Union District, and that his knavery is sufficiently known in his own district and here to put all on their guard against him in future. If he is made to pay heavily for his frauds, he may come at last, though against his will, to believe that honesty is the best policy.—Columbia Carolinian.

THAT AIR-LINE ROAD.

The estimated cost of the air-line Rail Road, is \$1,500,000. The sum of 500,000 has been subscribed, and the work will be commenced when the subscription already raised shall be added \$250,000 more, making \$750,000, or one half the necessary amount to complete the road. The Keowee (Pickens) Courier says, "Its completion is regarded as one of the 'fixed facts' of this progressive age."—Chester Standard.

A FAMILY POISONED.

Mrs. Ralston and three children, residing a few miles from Carlisle, Pa., died in the course of a few days last week from what was at first supposed to be scarlet fever; but the physicians in attendance have since come to the conclusion that poison was the cause of the deaths, and are of opinion that the water used by the family was impregnated with some poisonous substance.

DEEP RIVER.

Mr Douglass commences his survey of the works upon the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers, this week, and will no doubt, prosecute it with vigor. Immediately upon its accomplishment the work will be undertaken by the contractors and hastened to completion, when we may confidently indulge the fruition of hope too long deferred.—Wilmington Herald.

HULLING COTTON SEED FOR OIL.

There has just gone into successful operation in Montgomery, a mill for hulling the cotton seed, preparatory to the manufacture of oil. The quality of the oil is much improved thereby, and the convenience and cheapness of transporting only the kernel, is another inducement. Thus hulled, the seed is immediately put in sacks and forwarded by railroad to Savannah, whence it is taken to New York, where as in Brooklyn a large amount of capital is invested in the cotton seed oil manufacture.

SUICIDE OF REV. JOHN HOWARD.

On returning from a visit to his friends in Richmond, two weeks ago, Rev. John Howard, the worthy and highly esteemed pastor of the Presbyterian Church in this place, exhibited strong symptoms of mental derangement. It may be proper to state that Mr H. was a man of delicate constitution, a ripe scholar and a laborious student, sedentary in his habits, and it is believed, for some time, had used tobacco to excess; indeed, for several days, he had chewed an incredible amount of tobacco. These facts form the basis of the most plausible causes of his fatal and afflictive malady.

Mr Howard had a morbid conception, as he expressed it, that he had been "commanded to warn men that the judgment was near at hand;" and so intent was he upon the accomplishment of what he believed to be the command of his master, that he could scarcely be induced to take either rest or refreshment, but went from house to house, delivering his solemn message, and quoting several passages of Scripture pertinent to his theme.

On the 21st ult., one of Mr H.'s brothers, who had been informed of his condition, arrived from Richmond, and, accompanied by Col. Albert, proceeded immediately to Staunton with him, where they arrived on Sabbath morning. Under the delusion that these gentlemen had no right to interfere with him in his work, Mr H. became quite restive and unmanageable. It was hoped that, under the judicious treatment of the physician at the Asylum, he would again be restored to the bosom of his deeply afflicted family. But, alas! how mysterious are the designs of that all-wise, overruling Providence, "whose ways are past finding out!" This cherished hope was not to be realized!—the lacerated heart of his sorrow-stricken companion was to receive a deeper wound! At 10 o'clock on Thursday night last, as we learn from a letter from one of the attendants at the Asylum, Mr Howard's room was visited, and he seemed to be resting well, and had a fair prospect for a good night's sleep. Early next morning his room was again visited, when, horrible to relate! the unfortunate man was found suspended by his handkerchief at the window, his body perfectly cold. He had fastened one end of the handkerchief to one of the iron bars across the window, the other end tied around his neck, and then swung himself down, his feet resting upon the floor. His mortal remains were sent to his friends at Richmond.

This is truly a melancholy affair, and it has cast a deep gloom over our community; all seem to participate in the general feeling of sorrow and sympathy for the family and friends of the deceased. Indeed, Mr H. was highly esteemed and beloved for his uniform piety and zeal as a christian minister, and his upright and dignified deportment as a citizen. How one who had been so sincerely devoted to the great and arduous duties of the christian ministry—one who by every act of his life, no less in its private walks than in his public ministrations, seemed to have an eye single to the highest interests of the society in which he moved—that he should die under circumstances so well calculated to cast a shadow over his fair name, is a matter deeply mysterious and incomprehensible, and cannot be satisfactorily accounted for by any system of human reasoning. When we remember, however, that he committed the deed under the firm conviction that, in taking his own life, he obeyed the command of his Maker—for he had remarked, when first conducted to his room, that he "had better be dead than detained from his work"—we cannot but believe that he was not guilty of murder, in the moral acceptance of the term.—Woodstock Tenth Legion (Va.) March 5.

WILD WOMAN IN ALABAMA.

Marengo county, Alabama, is all astir on account of a wild woman that recently appeared in the woods and hills of that neighborhood to a party of hunters. She is a medium sized woman, fair and quite naked, with the exception of moccasins. She runs with great velocity, leaping on all fours over every impediment like an antelope.

An editor, who was one of a hunting party, who also saw her, says she was accompanied by a large ram, of remarkable whiteness, by whose wool she held on when running up the hills and springing over rocks. The ram appeared very much attached to this wild and singular creature, and protects her. It appears that some fifteen years ago, a little girl, daughter of a French woman residing on the banks of the Tombigbee river, was lost, as well as a pet lamb of hers. They were never after heard of, so that many supposed the little girl and her lamb had been drowned. The question now is, can this wild woman of Marengo county be the same? It is highly probable; but how she has existed fifteen years in the woods, away from all intercourse in the world, is a mystery.

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN'S FIRST RECEPTION.

The spacious apartments of the Executive Mansion were filled Friday evening last with a dense crowd of ladies and gentlemen, who were individually presented by Marshal Hoover to President Buchanan, and cordially received. Miss Lane (a niece of the President, who will dispense the hospitalities of the Executive Mansion) also received the salutation of the throng, and those present of the gentlemen who compose the new cabinet were warmly congratulated by their numerous friends.

Prominent among the distinguished citizens was ex-President Pierce, who was no less an object of respectful attention than when, but a few days since, he was "at home" in the brilliant saloons.

The Secretary of the Navy has ordered the steamers Niagara and Mississippi to be equipped with dispatch, to assist in laying the Atlantic telegraph.

A presentation of plate was tendered to Ex-President Pierce in Washington City, on the 9th inst., by Senator Toombs, on the part of the citizens of Savannah.

FIRE.—The dwelling-house and barn of N. S. A. Chaffin, Esq., of Davie County, was consumed by fire on Monday night last, involving in its original value, \$10,000. The fire originated in the kitchen.—Salisbury Watchman.

Correspondence of the Raleigh Giraffe.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Feb. 23, 1857.

Ye Animal!—Well, here I am, safe and sound, away up to Sharlot, flying round like a shot at. Ye see, Mr. Editor, I wasn't doing anything up to Rolly, and wasn't getting anything for doing it rather, so I thought I would take a flying tour through the State and see if I could hear or see anything to interest the readers of the Giraffe. On Saturday before-day, I got aboard of the old cars, and away we went up the road at the rate of thirty miles per hour. The first place I recollect seeing was Durham—it is just about no place at all. We took in train-feed there. Pretty soon, we were shoving ahead again. The next place we got to was Hills-bug, so a chap with a sore nose said, and I guess it is true, for I never see so many hills since I was first borned; as for the bugs, I didn't see the first one. I think the man who was employed to make the hills in the creation of the world, turned over all of his carts at this place, and was too lazy to pick up the dirt again. I liked to have gotten into a fuss at this place. Ye see, when the cars were moving off, I merely reached my hand out and took a man's hat off—and he, fool like, got on the cars and gave me a cussing. I wasn't scared a bit—didn't say nothing though. After staying the usual time at this place, we struck out again and was soon sailing along among oaks, black-jacks, rocks, mullet stalks, ash-heaps and shanties, and soon arrived at Mason Hall—nothing there, only what is usually seen at depots, where there is nothing. The next place we stopped at was The Great Haw River House, and as the immortal Joe Miller would say, all we concluded to take in some filling. The Conductor, by the way, is one of finest and best, and most accommodating men I ever traveled with; he told us the cars staid 45 minutes for breakfast!

"Good soons," said I, "Mister, to be sure, you don't do ye?"

Says he, "certainly we do, but why?"

"Because," says I, "we can eat every darn thing in and around Haw River in fifteen minutes, and I don't see no use in wasting the other thirty minutes."

They keep a good house here, that is, what little of the eating I saw, was good—and I guess they have a plenty, but they hate to set it before some folks.

After leaving this place, we proceeded on to Greensboro', passing Graham station, the town being some distance from the road, and McLeansville station, which is nothing more than a depot. Nothing serious didn't happen to us—one little accident occurred before we got to Greensboro'. The cars mired down—don't care how impossible it seems—but the cars mired down—got some rails and prized out, and glided up to Greensboro'. Greensboro' I think is a very fine place—that is, if we are to judge from the cloth we saw wrapped around the legs of some of the b'hoys. We were soon out of head way again—traveling for Lexington—we were pretty soon there, passing two of the most beautiful villages I ever saw, that is, High Point and Thomasville! We were greatly disappointed in Lexington, we expected to find a flourishing place, but instead, we found an old looking, timeworn town—but we think it will improve now, certain, as we saw a Mr. Enoch Hines from Plumville, going there with a big tool chest, and he said he was going to give it a rubbing over before he left.

We cut out for some where else after leaving here, and within three winks of a bob-tailed cat, we were landed at a place called Sals-barrel—here we were showed up in an old cart-darning concern, and away we went to get dinner. We stopped at the Hotel kept by Mr. Grant, and the way he knows how to do things up, is a caution to turkeys and their red-head ducks, which triend Syne calls canvass backs. We made old Grant's molasses and slab-jacks get away pretty pert!

The next place we got to was Corn-Cobs, or some such out-landish names, we couldn't understand them. I saw more yaller gals than a few, every thing there was yaller—if I had staid there half an hour longer, I should have been yaller too.

We arrived at Charlotte half past four in the evening, and was conducted to that hospitable house kept by that persevering and accommodating gentleman, Mr. J. B. Kerr. We were treated better here than we ever were at a Hotel before. My friend Kerr live forever.

As it is getting late, I will come to a close, and write more next time.

Yours Giraffically,

PETER PLUM.

Notice.

ALL PERSONS subject to pay a Poll Tax to the State of North Carolina, who reside within the limits of the town of Charlotte, on the first day of February, 1857, or who had been principally employed in any profession or vocation in said town, for three months or more immediately preceding the said first day of February—and all persons who owned or were possessed of Taxable Property within said town, on the first day of February, are hereby notified to give in to the Town Clerk, before the last day of March, 1857, A LIST OF THEIR SAID POLLS AND TAXABLE PROPERTY.

The said list shall state the numbers and local situations of the Lots or parts of Lots given in, with the value of which they are assessed for taxation by the State, the number of white taxable Polls, of taxable slaves, and of Free Negroes, residing on the first of February, on the lands of persons giving in said list.

March 10, 1857. J. B. KERR, Town Clerk. 36-41

GARDNER, Me., June 22, 1854.

Wm. H. Dyer—Dear Sir: I have used two bottles of Prof. Wood's Hair Restorative, and can truly say it is the greatest discovery of the age for restoring and changing the Hair. Before using it I was as gray as a man of seventy. My hair has now attained its original color. You can recommend it to the world without the least fear, as my case was one of the worst kind.

REMOVAL.

The "Western Democrat" Office is removed to the

Up Stairs over W. W. Quinn's store, opposite P. Scarr & Co's Drug Store, and nearly opposite the Court House, the second building from Huggins & Hart's corner.

Tan Bark Wanted!

We want to purchase 1,000 Cords of Tan Bark, Cash, delivered at our Tan Yard, or at either of the Railroad depots at this place. White or Chestnut Oak Bark, \$4.50 per cord, Red or Black " " 4.00

BOONE & CO. Charlotte, March 3, 1857. 35-2m

RANAWAY

From Patterson, Caldwell co., N. C., a negro man, DICK, He is about six feet high, 25 years old, dark complexion, rather a down countenance when spoken to. He has a tattoo mark on his forehead, and a scar on his head. He will give a reward of ten dollars for said boy delivered at any Jail in North Carolina and secured so that I can get him; or twenty dollars for his delivery to me in Alexander county at my residence ten miles south of Taylorsville. J. H. NEWLAND. March 10, 1857

LAND FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale the situation known as

"White Hall,"

In the Steele Creek neighborhood, Directly on the main road leading from Charlotte to Yorkville, seven and a half miles from the former place and about four miles from the Charlotte and S. C. Railroad.

The tract contains FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY ACRES, of which about one-fourth is uncleared, the remainder nearly all under fence, and mostly in a good state of cultivation. The fences are in good repair and the buildings second to none in the country. The Steele Creek lands are noted for their fertility, and this place ranks among the best.