

THE WESTERN DEMOCRAT

W. J. YATES, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. CHARLOTTE, N. C. December 31, 1867.

Congress—The Cotton Tax.

Congress adjourned over during the holidays, and will not again assemble till the 6th of January. The bill to repeal the tax on Cotton passed the House of Representatives, but was postponed in the Senate...

The Hon. Mr. Baker, a member of the House from Illinois, made an able speech in favor of the repeal of the cotton tax, and gave the following pointed reasons why it should be done:

- 1. It appears to me that the power to levy such a tax may not be perfectly clear. The Constitution provides that "no tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any State." Now, when we reflect that an immense preponderance of the cotton crop is exported from the country, and when we reflect that the object of this provision of the Constitution was to foster our exports by relieving them from the burden of "tax or duty," it appears to me, in the absence of special investigation of the point, that there is room for a possible doubt as to whether this tax was laid in conformity with the object and spirit of the Constitution.

Local Items.

OTIS' NEW BUILDING.—This handsome brick building is now about finished, and will be occupied by Hammond & McLaughlin (who own one tenement) and T. H. Brena's Hardware Store, and R. M. Oates & Co., cotton dealers. There is a large hall over two-thirds of the building, capable of holding several hundred persons. R. M. Oates & Co. opened and dedicated the hall on Friday evening last, and furnished a nice entertainment for visitors.

THE OLD CHARLOTTE HOTEL.—As one of the improvements of our growing little city, we notice that the Hotel so long and favorably known as the Charlotte Hotel, and formerly kept by that good old man, Maj. Kerr, has been repainted and fixed up inside and out, and will be opened for the accommodation of the public by W. W. Hart, who has leased the premises. The rooms have been thoroughly renovated and several improvements made in the building.

THE MANSON HOUSE.—We have heretofore neglected to notice the improvements made in this establishment. It also, has been repainted from top to bottom, and presents a very nice appearance. It is one of the largest brick buildings in the State, and is really an ornament to the city. Mr. Bryant, the manager of the house, will do his best to please and accommodate those who patronize him.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS passed off in this city and vicinity without disturbance of any sort, so far as we have heard. Mayor Harris and the police were prepared and ready to act promptly, but we are really gratified to know that they had little or nothing to do. The colored people assembled in considerable numbers on the streets, but we saw no bad behaviour—noting but good humor and good feeling seemed to prevail. We think the negroes in this section of the State are better than any others in behaviour and good manners. There is a great deal in the way a person has been raised.

The Land We Love.

We have received our neighbor's excellent publication, "The Land We Love," for January, 1868. Every newspaper that has spoken about the work praises it, and we feel that it is only necessary for us to say that they are correct in judgment. But we admire a mechanic who does his work well, and therefore we again take occasion to say that there is not a better printed publication in the United States or in the world than "The Land We Love." Johnson's Type Foundry in Philadelphia, nor Connor's in New York, cannot make a better "impression" than the Land We Love exhibits.

NEW JUDGE.—Gov. Worth and the Council of State have appointed John F. Poindexter of Stokes county, a Judge of the Superior Court, in place of Judge Fowle, resigned. Mr. Poindexter can take the test oath, and is capable of the office.

Mr. Haues, Editor of the Salisbury Old North State, has entered into a partnership with Mr. Bruner of the Watchman, and they will jointly publish the two papers. The Old North State will continue to be issued tri-weekly, and the Watchman and Old North State weekly. This arrangement also embraces the cessation of the further publication of the Salisbury Banner.

Mr. J. Bruner is an old newspaper publisher, and as good a man as ever lived in the State. We congratulate Mr. Haues in securing the co-operation of such a man, and hope the arrangement will be mutually beneficial and result in abundant pecuniary success.

New Advertisements.

City Residence for Sale.—C. Dowd, C. M. E. Removal of Hardware Store.—Brem, Brown & Co. Particular Notice.—Jas N. Butt. School Notice.—Miss H. Moore and Mrs Osborne Axes.—James Harty & Co. —Brem, Brown & Co. Masonic Notice.—S. L. Riddle, W. M.

The N. C. Railroad.

We publish a letter from Mr. Josiah Turner, the President of the N. C. Road, which will be interesting to the public. We have never been an admirer of Mr. Turner, but we will say that we think he is trying to promote the welfare of the Road under his control and benefit the State as well as the individual Stockholders. Every tax payer in the State is interested in this work. Even if he does not own stock in his individual capacity he is a Stockholder as a citizen and tax-payer, and has the right to know how the affairs of the Company are managed, and complain whenever he thinks proper.

Party feeling caused the appointment of Mr. Turner as President of the Road, and we do not hesitate to express the opinion that party feeling has influenced Mr. Turner to some little extent in his management of the business, (he is a vindictive partizan,) but if he does his work well and advances the interest of the Road, the State and the Stockholders, we shall not growl at him about unimportant matters. Upon the whole, we think Mr. Turner deserves credit for his good management so far, and we hope he will have a fair opportunity to show that this great State work can be made to pay and rebound to the benefit of the people generally.

Patriotic Movement, on Foot.

A Federal soldier has recently made a bet that he can walk from Vicksburg, Miss., to Washington City, and carry a United States Flag without being molested or injured. Let the people along his route show that they are not the barbarians that old Thad. Stevens represents them to be. A Wisconsin party gives the following account of the affair:

"Recently at Edgerton, in this State, a novel wager was laid between a citizen and a soldier, and they drew up the bet in writing. The soldier agreed to walk from Vicksburg, Miss., to Washington, D. C., through the South, displaying on his route the stars and stripes. The soldier who undertakes to do this is Quartermaster Sergeant George H. Bates, late of Battery H, First Wisconsin Artillery. Sergeant Bates tells us that previous to the last election he was in conversation with a gentleman of Edgerton who declared that the flag of our country was not respected at the South by the mass of the people, and only by the blacks alone. At this Sergeant Bates became indignant. He declared he did not believe it. He loved the old flag too well to think that there was any section of our country where it would not be respected, and declared that if the gentleman was in earnest he had a proposition to make. The gentleman declared he was in earnest. 'Then,' said the Sergeant, 'you know I am a poor man, but if you will give me one dollar a day for my family, I will carry it out with a large United States flag, and I will carry it to Vicksburg. At Vicksburg I will unfold the flag to the breeze and will carry it on foot across the country to Washington. The flag shall be plainly in view to all, and I will go alone and unarmed, and without a cent in my pocket when I leave Vicksburg.' The gentleman accepted the proposition, and at once writings were drawn up. Sergeant Bates agreeing to set out on the first of January, and to enter Washington on or before the 4th of July, with the old flag flying over his head."

A GOOD SIGN.—We see that Northern newspapers and correspondents are denying that Gen. Hancock had anything to do with the military murder of that poor woman, Mrs. Surratt, beyond obeying orders. Even Gen. Butler has condemned her execution, and we think the day is not far distant when every one, from President Johnson down, who had a hand in the brutal affair, will meet the scorn of all humane and christian people. If they had allowed the poor woman enough time to make necessary arrangements to die, it would not have appeared so cruel, but that was not permitted. It is a good sign to see decent people trying to wash their hands of the dirty affair.

Within a short time past, several newspapers published in this State, have suspended publication. The Wilmington Post, Raleigh Progress, Washington Index and Charlotte News suspended within the past two weeks. We are sorry to report these things, but we know there is nothing but money that can keep a newspaper going, and if people don't pay the printer the printer can't print newspapers. That's all.

THE RALEIGH REGISTER, a Republican paper, speaking of the disfranchising clause of the Alabama Constitution, makes the following truthful remark:

"The man who casts his vote, or gives his voice in favor of the disfranchisement of thousands of intelligent white men, thus placing them in a condition of inferiority to, and dependence upon the enfranchised blacks, will rue the day, if he survives the passions that rule the hour. He cannot be actuated by an enlightened regard for the public welfare, but by a spirit of blind hatred, or low demagoguism."

The day of judgment, not the end of the world, but when U. S. officials are called upon to account to their own citizens for false imprisonment during the war, has already come to many. In the U. S. Court at Knoxville, Tenn., recently, a citizen named Tinkham, obtained a verdict against Gen. Steadman for \$25,000 for false imprisonment and seizure of property. And Mr. Smithson of Washington City, has sued Mr. Stanton (former Secretary of War) for false imprisonment.

Concord Female College, Statesville.

MR. EDITOR:—You no doubt have good Female Schools in your town, in which you are interested, and which are justly praised and patronized; but this is a great country, wide enough for many such schools to live and flourish. The more the better; and so we will practically contradict Judge Kelly's charge in a late speech that he found the people of the South utterly indifferent to the cause of education. The South is justly enjoying a good property in parental affection, and this is a prospect of a good number next term. It is under the management of the same Faculty who have had charge of it for several years. We believe it is as good a place to send a young lady as any; the instruction is thorough, the discipline is parental, the charges are as low as the State of the country will permit, and the moral and religious influence is good. A large number have professed religion the last term. We hope it will continue to do good for a long time to come.

A valued friend requests us to insert the following also in reference to the School at Statesville:

"Another Session of the Concord Female College closed on the 26th instant. This Session has been one of special interest to the Faculty, the pupils and also to the patrons of the Institution. The quiet, noiseless government of the School; the cheerfulness, health and happy social life of the young Ladies; their diligence and success in study, and, above all, the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in so many hearts during so many precious weeks, are matters for congratulation, thankfulness and encouragement on the part of pupils, teachers and patrons. They tend greatly to strengthen the confidence of the friends of the Institution in its excellence and usefulness. No College in the country offers equal advantages at so small a cost, and its patrons have been largely and generously indulged in regard to the payment of their accounts. Extravagance in dress is neither countenanced nor exceeded.

Quite a number of respectable graduates are now successfully employed as Teachers in different portions of the State. In a word, the Concord Female College can be safely and warmly commended to all who have daughters to educate. The prospects for the next Session are very flattering.

An Old Patron.

Mecklenburg county, Dec. 23d, 1867.

Petitions have been gotten up in Charleston praying Congress to make an appropriation to enable factors to assist planters.

The Reported Distress in Mississippi.

Of all the afflicted places in the land, it seems that the State of Mississippi is just at this time the worst off, or reports from that section are terribly exaggerated. We shall be surprised if it does not turn out that there is a great deal of mere sensation in the reports about starvation. But there is no doubt that the cotton planters of that State have been badly hurt by the low price of cotton and the partial failure of crops, for they hired negroes from other States at exorbitant prices to make cotton in Mississippi, and the result is that they have not been able to get money enough for their crop to pay expenses.

A correspondent writes from Mississippi to the Cincinnati Gazette as follows:

"The state of things is appalling. Distress, want and misery are even now stalking abroad. What it may come to in the dead of winter God only knows. Every kind of business here is prostrated. Planters are bankrupt by the failure of the crops, and involve the merchants who advanced for them on the strength of the growing crops. The distress here will be equal, I am afraid, to the Irish famine of 1847 and 1848. I assure you, you never saw such a distressed and ruined people as the people of Mississippi."

Gen. Gillam, the Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau in Mississippi, makes the following official communication to Gen. Ord:

Vicksburg, Miss., Dec. 10, 1867.

General:—I feel it incumbent upon me as Assistant Commissioner Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for this State to represent to you the present condition of the freedmen and planters, and their prospects for the future.

At the close of the war cotton, heretofore the great staple of the South, commanded what was regarded an enormous price, say from forty to sixty cents per pound, the result of which was to cause a large amount of capital from the North to be invested in the production of cotton. Labor, of course, commanded a price comparatively beyond what had hitherto been known in the planting and farming districts, ranging from \$15 to \$20 per month, with rations, for first class hands. The short crop of 1866 dispelled the illusion entertained by many capitalists of rapidly accumulating a fortune, and in many cases utterly ruined planters and adventurers, who had invested their all in a single crop. Yet there was a sufficient number who regarded their losses as the result of an exceptional season, added to the number of land-holders who determined to risk the result of another year's planting to maintain the high rate of wages of the previous year, and the contract, where wages were the consideration, ranged from \$15 to \$20 per month; and where the land was tilled on shares the planter agreed to furnish the land, animals, utensils, and, in many cases, forage, the freedmen furnishing the labor. In most of these cases, the laborer having no subsistence and no credit, the planters agreed to become responsible for the supplies necessary for the laborer and his family, the amount to be deducted from the share of the laborer when the crops were gathered.

In consequence of the dry weather and worms the crop of 1867 has not exceeded half of what was regarded as an average crop, and that has not commanded but one-half of the price of the previous year, thus reducing the proceeds to one-fourth of what was anticipated by the planter and freedman as the proceeds of the year's labor. The result is the financial ruin of the planter and capitalist and discontent of the laborer. In cases where laborer worked for stated wages there is but little complaint or discontent on the part of the freedmen, remuneration having generally been received by the laborer either in money or supplies, or if not paid the claim can be easily established or adjudicated, and if the planter has the means the claim can be collected. Where the laborer has worked for a share of the crop endless litigation has been the consequence. The laborer, being without means, has generally been furnished the necessary supplies by the planter or on his security. On gathering the crop it has in a majority of cases been ascertained that the share of the laborer does not pay his indebtedness for supplies advanced, and instead of receiving a dividend he is in debt. This causes great discontent and a conviction, perhaps well founded in some instances, of dishonesty and false accounts on the part of the planters, but this cannot generally be proved. Instances have occurred where the planters have entirely abandoned the crop to the laborers, losing their time, the use of their animals and implements and the supplies advanced. Cases have been brought to my attention of planters where not only the entire crop has been turned over to the laborers to satisfy their claims, but also the mules and implements used in its production. The result of this condition of affairs is the almost universal determination of planters to abandon the culture of cotton, and even if they wished to prosecute it another year it would, I apprehend, be impossible for them to procure further advance of the necessary supplies from any merchant, so prevalent is the conviction that cotton cannot be produced at the present prices.

The next year the land in cultivation will be almost entirely devoted to corn which requires but about one-fifth of the labor demanded by cotton; therefore four-fifths of the laborers required last year will be thrown out of employment, and of course there will be a corresponding decrease of wages. This the freedmen do not appreciate, considering it the result of a combination to defraud them of what they consider just wages. The consequence is, they almost universally decline entering into contracts for the year 1868 on terms offered by planters. The crop of 1867 having been gathered, the freedmen are now idle and without, in a great majority of instances, the means of support. The result is great complaints from every section of the State of deprivations being committed on stock, hogs, sheep and cattle. This is now the condition of affairs in the State of Mississippi. Farmers are without means, having little left them except their lands. Capitalists beyond the limits of the State refuse to make advances from the unsettled condition of affairs. The freedmen being to a great extent discontented, refuse to enter into contracts for the coming year. The remedy to be applied demands most thorough and immediate consideration. For the military, either through the commanders of troops or agents of the Bureau to reach all sections of the State, to see that all persons able to earn their support are compelled to do so, and that all those who do labor receive compensation for the same, is simply impossible. The care of the poor and the duty of seeing that contracts are faithfully executed properly devolves upon the local magistrates and higher courts.

How far it is safe, under the peculiar condition of affairs existing in this State, to trust the civil authorities with this duty, it is for you to whom the act creating this District intrusts "the security of the life and property," to judge. To empower the local magistrates to arrest as vagrants all persons without visible means of support, would no doubt lead to acts of injustice; but the civil authorities, being recognized and intrusted with the execution of the civil law, collection of taxes and the care of the poor, it would

seem to be a necessary consequence that, as a protection to the community, they should have authority to compel all who are able, to support themselves, and thus prevent them from becoming a burden upon the community. To deny the civil authorities the exercise of this right, is to place the freedmen above the recognized government of the State.

It is a matter of very grave doubt whether, in the present condition of affairs, the civil authorities, unaided by the military, will be able to maintain order and execute the law. Civil process can only be served in the ordinary manner where offenders are the exception and the law is sustained by public opinion; but in the present ruined condition of labor in this State, thousands are without labor, and must subsist; consequently, deprivation is the rule and honesty the exception, while, on the other hand, to treat as vagrants four-fifths of the community is simply impracticable.

But these are matters for your consideration and of the law making power rather than for me, whose functions are entirely executive, and to you I submit the case merely with the surmise that it will be impossible to inaugurate any system for the relief of the blacks which is unanimously approved by the whites.

There is another subject worthy of attention in this connection. There seems to be a widespread belief, which is daily increasing among the freedmen, that the land in this State is to be divided and distributed among them, and in some sections of the State this illusion is assuming a practical form by the freedmen refusing to contract for the next year, or to leave the premises they have cultivated this year.

It is to be feared that this course, induced by evil disposed advisers, may lead to collisions, the extent and result of which it is difficult to surmise.

I receive almost daily petitions and memorials asserting the existence of organized companies of freedmen and asking the presence and protection of troops, and although I am satisfied that these representations are generally the result of fear and exaggerated rumors, yet the existence of such organizations in some sections of the State is certain. Commanders of troops and agents of the Bureau have been instructed to urge upon the freedmen the absolute necessity of abstaining from armed demonstrations; that they will be protected in all their rights, but that they must not seek redress by force or violence.

In order to avoid as far as possible bringing the races in collision with each other, I have advised that whenever practicable the "posse" summoned to assist in an arrest shall be of the same race as the person arrested. I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant, ALVAN C. GILLEM, Brevet Major General, Commissioner.

IMPORTING LABORERS.—The Wilmington Journal, in an article on the subject of immigration, says:

"Our farmers and land-owners are consequently more directly interested in the subject of immigration than any others, and they should by all means turn their attention to its increasing importance. Liberal inducements should be held out, and the kindest treatment extended to those who desire to settle in this section. Let those who are so situated as to be able to furnish immediate provision for, and make available, the labor of industrious immigrants, use the agencies, under trustworthy men, to introduce such upon their farms. The expenses are within the reach of many, and we do not think, however indifferent may be the success of the experiment, that much risk is assumed, and the trial may be rewarded with flattering returns. Thus the foundation of a reliable system of labor may be laid, and our agricultural interests may thus sooner than otherwise receive the only relief which can stay its distress and make it again prosperous."

News From Washington.

The Secretary of the Treasury has determined to postpone indefinitely the sale of the Disual Swamp canal stock.

According to the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Gazette, General Grant cannot even spell correctly. West Point will weep when it learns this fact.

It is currently rumored that the President has decided to remove General Pope from the command of the Third Military District, embracing the States of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, and to appoint Gen. Meade in his place.

The time to which the collection of the direct tax in the Southern States was delayed expired on January 1, but Secretary McCulloch, in answer to appeals from the South to protect them from taxation, has, it is said, responded that he does not intend to collect it unless forced to do so by Congress, and that he will appoint no collectors for that purpose.

The Director of the Bureau of Statistics has prepared for publication a table showing the value of the domestic exports of the United States during the fiscal year ending with June, 1867, to all countries except in cases where the domestic exports to any country did not amount to \$1,500,000 value in specie. The exact total is \$334,474,118. In 1863 the total was over \$373,000,000.

The Bureau of Statistics reports the total mileage of railroad in the United States at fifty-four thousand miles, whereof thirty-eight thousand and six hundred and fifty four million dollars.

Ex-Secretary Stanton has returned to Washington, and, having been furnished with a copy of the President's indictment, is busily engaged in preparing a reply to it. In this labor, it is understood, he has the assistance of two prominent Senators.

The Russian purchase threatens to cost us, in addition to the \$7,000,000, the loss of about four companies of United States troops. Dispatches have been received at the War office within the last few days stating that the soldiers sent to take possession of the icebergs are in a most destitute condition; that no preparations whatever had been made for their reception, and that the prospect is that they will be frozen to death or starved for life before supplies can reach them.

BURNING OF THE STEAMSHIP RALEIGH.—Charleston, S. C., Dec. 25.—The Steamship Raleigh, from New York for New Orleans, was burned yesterday twenty miles off the coast. Eighteen of the passengers and crew were brought in by a tug this morning. Thirteen lives are supposed to be lost, including Captain Marshall. Twenty-four more are missing, and when last seen were in a boat clinging to the pieces of the wreck.

WAGES DECLINING.—As an indication of the decline in the price of labor, we give the following item of information: "The Superintendent and Presidents of our various railroads, who, last year, paid for laborers \$16 per month with rations, have determined not to pay over \$8 to \$10 per month with rations, for the next year. These laborers, it will be remembered, are charged for all lost time, even fractions of a day."—Macon (Ga.) Telegraph.

Latest News.

MARKETS. New York, Dec. 28.—Cotton firmer at 15 1/2 cents. Gold 133 1/2. Liverpool, Dec. 28.—Cotton, Uplands 7 1/2, Orleans 7 1/2 pence.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Chief Justice Slough, of New Mexico, was killed in a rencontre with Capt. Rynerson. The receiving teller of the Bank of Boston is short \$50,000.

NEWS FROM MEXICO.

There is much misery throughout Mexico, in consequence of the exhaustion and disorganization resulting from war. The people are compelled by hunger to resort to brigandage.

The revolution in Yucatan is assuming formidable proportions. Santa Anna has been proclaimed Dictator and is hourly expected from Havana with men and a million in money. The fort and town of Sisal were in the hands of the insurgents, but the port is blockaded by two Mexican gun-boats. A number of Imperial officers have arrived from Matamoros.

A correspondent of the N. Y. Independent National Convention, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, naming Ben. Butler and Ben. Wade, as suitable individuals to represent that faction. The New York Times, in a lengthy article, endorses the movement as a good one. It advises the extremists, with Wendell Phillips, Horace Greeley, Sumner, Stevens, and others, to proceed with the good work, and effect an organization which will enable the people to know precisely what ground they occupy. This forebodes a big split in the Republican party, in the event of which the Democratic candidate will walk over the course. Pitch in, gentlemen.—Philadelphia Herald.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—On Christmas morning, a lad entered the office of the Superintendent of Police and left a parcel, which had been given him to deliver by a gentleman at the Astor House. The package contained checks on the Bank of the State of New York for \$3,683,435, the amount stolen from the Bank messenger, recently, in Wall street.

MARRIED.

At Davidson College, on the 26th inst., by the Rev. E. F. Rockwell, Mr. Cyrus H. Wolfe to Miss Jennie Hunter, all of Mecklenburg county. In this county, on the 25th inst., by J. T. Downs, Esq., Mr. John H. Kanier to Miss Sophia A. Fisher, daughter of John Fisher.

In this county, on the 17th inst., by Rev. W. McDonald, Mr. T. S. Ellington to Miss Clarinda E. Blair. In Ireddell county, on the 12th instant, Mr. J. M. Mercer to Miss Jennie Setzer.

DIED.

Near Statesville, recently, Mr. John Steele, an old and respected citizen of Ireddell county.

A RARE CHANCE To Save Money.

We have just received a new stock of all kinds of STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS. Bought in the last few days, since the recent heavy decline, which we are selling for less than the same goods cost in the Northern Cities early in the season. We would especially call the attention of the Ladies to our Stock of Dress Goods, Furs, &c. Give us a call before buying, as we will astonish you at the low prices at which we are selling Goods.

BREM, BROWN & CO., Will move their Hardware Stock To Oates' New Building, January 1st, 1868. December 30, 1867 3w

City Residence for Sale.

On the 18th day of January, 1868, by virtue of a decree of the Court of Equity, I will sell to the highest bidder, on the Public Square in Charlotte, that valuable property known as the late residence of M. F. Windle, situated on Tryon Street near the Statesville Railroad, fronting 310 feet on said street and extending 450 feet back. Terms: \$150 Cash, balance at 6 months with interest from sale, purchaser giving bond and security. December 30, 1867. C. DOWD, C. M. E.

AXES.

Celebrated Elephant Axes for \$1.50. Stewart's " " " 1.50. Sam'l W. Collins' Axes, 1.50. Next Door to the Court House. JAMES HARTY & CO. December 30, 1867.

Very Particular Notice, AND NO HUMBAG.

If you want bargains in Dry Goods you can get them at Dr. JAS. N. BUTT'S Variety Store, as he intends to sell them at very low figures. Also, Shoes and Boots for men, women and children at reduced figures. He has also a fresh arrival of Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Window Glass, &c. He calls your special attention to his Kerosene Oil, as it is so much cheaper than "andlers." JAS. N. BUTT, Variety Store, Trade Street, Sign of the Big Ship. December 30, 1867.

School Notice.

MISS H. MOORE will resume the exercises of her School at her room on the Lot between the Episcopal Church and the Crystal Palace House, on Wednesday the 1st of January, 1868.

Masonic Notice.

A called meeting of Phalax Lodge will be held on this evening, and business of importance transacted. Members are ordered and visitors invited to attend. Monday, Dec 30, 1867. S. L. RIDDLE, W. M.

CHARLOTTE MARKET, December 30, 1867.

CORRECTED BY SENEHORS, MACALAY & Co. Cotton—Last week being Christmas week but little Cotton came to market, and was sold at 10 to 12 1/2 cents for middling, purchaser paying tax, closing on Saturday at the inside figure. Sales for the week 114 bales.

Flour—The market continues firm at \$5.50 to \$5.65 per sack of 98 pounds, from wagons. Corn, from wagons, per bushel, \$1 to \$1.05. Corn Meal, \$1.10 per bushel. Oats, 90 cents per bushel. Peas, 50 to 55 cents per bushel.

Wheat, \$2 to \$2.25 per bushel—as to quality. Fresh Pork, 10 1/2 to 11 cents. Baltimore Bacon, from stores, 17 to 18 cents. Lard, 15 to 16 cents. Fresh Butter, 25 cents; Eggs, 20 cents; Chickens, 20 cents. Liverpool Salt, \$2.75 to \$2.85. Corn Whiskey, \$2.25 to \$2.50 per gallon. Molasses, 75 cents to \$1 per gallon by retail.

Foreign News.

The Fenians are represented as still active. An attempt was made by them to destroy the gas works at Glasgow. On the previous night attempts were also made to destroy the gas works at Washington, near Liverpool. In both cases these attempts were unsuccessful, owing to the watchfulness of the authorities.

The unsettled condition of affairs in Italy, and the changes impending in the Italian government, which it is feared will place Italy in a menacing attitude toward France, cause much uneasiness in Paris.

England has another barbarian war in prospect. Bishop Crother, of Sierra Leone, went on a visitation up the Nile, was taken prisoner, and, in the course of effecting his release by force of arms, the Vice Consul, Mr. Felt, was killed. Evidently the Africans have no regard for "prestige."

The Japanese ports of Hiogo and Osaka will be thrown open to foreigners on the 29th of January next. The Japanese government agree to provide sections of these towns for the residence of foreigners, and to furnish them with streets, sewers, sea embankments, &c.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Government's precaution against the Fenians continue, and the extensive preparations making to-day indicate that the authorities are in possession of information which induces the belief that a general attempt will be made to rescue the Fenians confined in various parts of the kingdom for complicity in the late outrages. Special constables are everywhere on duty.

DR. SIMS' DONATION.—Our readers will remember the liberal donation of \$1000 in gold made by Dr. J. Marion Sims, a resident of Paris, during the past Summer, for the relief of the destitute of this his native District. The Commissioners of the Poor, we learn, into whose hands the funds were placed by the Committee of gentlemen appointed by the Governor for its disbursement, has purchased a tract of land with a small portion of the fund, containing about 100 acres, four miles East of the Village, for the purpose of establishing a permanent home for the helpless and infirm. Contracts have already been let for the erecting of suitable and comfortable buildings, and the plans as minutely narrated us, are plausible, and in our judgment, promising the successful completion of the undertaking. The institution, we understand, will be designated "Sims' Home," and will be under the care of a competent and humane superintendent. This, we believe, a judicious investment, which will not only add to the comfort of the pauper class, but will materially lessen the heavy burden of taxation arising in this direction. We wish its success.—Lancaster (S. C.) Ledger.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC SALE. At Auction.

On Tuesday, the 21st day of January, 1868, I will sell, at the late residence of James H. Davis, dec'd, on a credit of six months, the purchaser giving bond and security, all the personal property of said deceased not sold at the recent sale, consisting of Nine of his best Mules, One good Saddle and Brood Mare, Twenty Head of Cattle, a few fine Essex Shores, about

Sixty Bales of Cotton.

1,500 Bushels of Corn, Two Thousand bushels of Cotton Seed, a large quantity of Hay, Oats and Fodder, a Thrashing Machine and Molasses Mill, a Buggy and Harness, Two Wagons, the Library of the deceased, the remainder of the Household and Kitchen Furniture, Fifty Boxes of Lime, Three Cotton Gins, and many articles not mentioned.

All persons indebted to said Estate are hereby notified to pay the same, and all persons having claims against said Estate are notified to present the same duly proven within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. M. L. DAVIS, Adm'r. By F. S. DeWolfe, Attorney. December 23, 1867. 4w

EQUITY LAND SALE.

On the 4th day of January, 1868, on the Public Square in Charlotte, I will sell, to the highest bidder, that valuable Tract of LAND belonging to the Estate of John R. Daniel, dec'd, on the West side of Big Sugar Creek, adjoining the lands of M. L. Wallis, Thos. Downs and others, and known as the Hugh Harris Tract, containing 223 acres. Terms: \$150 Cash; balance in two equal instalments at six and twelve months—bond and security required of the purchaser. Dec 23, 1867. C. DOWD, C. M. E.

DR. PRITCHARD.

Has taken the Store third door above the Mint. He is fixing it up in good order, and all persons having claims against said Estate are notified to present the same duly proven within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. M. L. DAVIS, Adm'r. By F. S. DeWolfe, Attorney. December 23, 1867. 4w

TAX NOTICE.

All persons owing Taxes for the years 1866 and 1867 are hereby notified that their property will be returned to the January Court for an order of sale to satisfy said taxes. We are compelled to have money to meet the expenses of the county. Pay before that time and save cost and trouble. R. M. WHITE, Sheriff. Dec 23, 1867. 3wpd

PLANTATION FOR RENT.