

T. B. Hildridge, J. D. Kernodle, Editors.

CHRISTMAS.

In our editorial experience this is the second time that we have had the privilege, as well as pleasure, of greeting you, dear readers, with a "merry Christmas."

We deem it hardly necessary to tell you that this is the last visit we will make you in the old and well-nigh spent year of 1881, you need not expect us next week. Every one of you must have a heart, stirred at one time or another by generous impulses, and now you will forbear and let us rest a week and spend some time with our friends, enjoying their companionship and hospitality.

We have endeavored to serve you faithfully, and if at times you did not find the GLEANER as readable as you expected, we point you to the extreme difficulty of preparing something novel every week. If you have been displeased once or twice, we have been many times. We have tried to be faithful in the publication of the news, and at all times have spoken our sentiments on public matters; in these we do not try to conform our sentiments with those of all our readers. Men will differ in their opinions, honestly, and because an opinion emanates from the editorial sanctum, it is not expected that it will meet with universal favor. If we have brought any man to reflect, then we think we have accomplished some lasting good.

For every reader of the GLEANER we feel a friendship, and we desire the prosperity and advancement of all for the building up of our common country. More especially, have we devoted ourselves to the interests of Alamance county, which was our first duty and therefore took precedence.

It is natural to feel some regrets for duties unperformed and those ill-done, to all who have such regrets we would venture a word of encouragement and beg them not to give up or yield to despair, but resolve to start in with the new year with more earnestness and fixedness of purpose. A great death has visited a smiling country and a prosperous people, but there is enough for all, and the generous Providence who doth all things in wisdom will not let this visitation pass without teaching erring humanity some useful lesson.

During the holiday festivities let all, old and young, take freely of pleasure and enjoyment, but of one thing be certain, that your pleasures and joys are harmless and innocent. The young, the little folks, must not be forgotten, their little hearts must be made glad too. Many of them have thought it ages since last Christmas, and now that the time is at hand again, don't disappoint them.

Early next year we will present ourselves at your fire-sides and pass around the home circles again. We want to do better than ever before and to this end, we ask the co-operation of all our readers to aid us in enlarging our subscription list and giving us the items of news from all parts. A very little help from each one will enable us to do very much for you.

There is much more we might have said under this head, but we forbear. Again wishing all a merry Christmas and a happy new year, we let the curtain fall on 1881.

The Roxboro Herald, if we read aright, is in favor of abolishing the Internal Revenue System and leans to lynch law. If the latter prevails we assure that journal that ere long it will be of no use to abolish the Revenue System, for there will be no government to sustain such a system. The lynching business is getting to be too common. We know that the cry is heard on all sides, that the law is too tardy to allow base perpetrators of foul deeds to await its verdict. It is better to have tardy justice, order and protection for the people and State, than lynching, anarchy and disintegration.

The Wilmington Star refers to the tariff as "The great giant monopoly of Christendom—the American—High Protective—War—Prohibitory Tariff." And it is about right. We are glad to see that prominent Democratic senators are making an effort to have the tariff revised. It is wrong to prohibit the importation of foreign goods that home manufacturers may grow rich. The tariff laws take money out of the pockets of consumers and give it to manufacturers without returning any adequate consideration. It is high time to have this thing changed.

Col. John W. Forney, editor and publisher of the Philadelphia Progress, died a week ago. Though a republican, he was a warm supporter of Gen. Hancock in the last Presidential campaign, and withal a bold writer.

Our space was so much taken up with the "Exhibit" last week that we could not get in anything about the trial of Guiteau and the President's message. We will speak of the latter in another article in this issue, and as for the former it continues, and is likely to continue some time yet. Witnesses for the prosecution are being examined now, and with rather a bad showing for the prisoner.

A bill will be introduced into the Virginia Legislature, we learn, in a few days providing for the removal of the political disabilities of persons who engaged in dueling during the campaign of 1879 and last Fall, in that State. It would be a most excellent thing to let them cool a while longer, and they would, perhaps, exhibit more sense and less furor in subsequent campaigns.

The comments by the press upon the President's first message to Congress, so far as read by us, have been very favorable. The words of wisdom contained in it have been greeted with commendation generally.

We have read the paper and in the language of another consider it "ponderous." To give those, who have not read extracts from or the whole of it, some adequate conception of it, would require a very long article, which we have neither time nor space to get in.

Our diplomatic relations have been satisfactory, and our high position as a great nation has been preserved. Already we have given something of the Treasury department.

The allusions made to the Navy, Postal Matters, Internal Improvements, the Mormon question, Department of Justice, Education, Merchant Marine and what should be considered Presidential in ability, are of special interest to the country, and we shall take occasion to refer to them in detail shortly. Many bills have already been introduced in congress upon these important matters looking to their revision and improvement. The President recommends the abolition of internal revenue except on tobacco and spirituous liquors. But we shall write on the matters again and for the present we say no more.

Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16, 1881.

There has never been a greater scramble for office than that inaugurated with the opening of this Congress. It beats everything. The city is full of strangers and they are nearly all after something. Six years ago when the Democrats came into control of the House of Representatives it was the first sight they had caught of the "spoils" for many years and naturally there were numerous applicants for the two hundred small offices to be filled. We all remember the terrible howl that went up from the Republican press about the hungry Democratic "mob." But there has been right here in Washington during the last two weeks a larger and more ravenous mob of office-grabbers than was seen in December 1875. This great Republican party which has had 100,000 offices under its control for twenty years scrambles harder for the few small places under the House than did the whole Democratic party when a few loaves were all it had to dispense. It is a party of fleshpots and spoils. But for these it would have been beaten in every election for the past ten years. Take them away now and the party would never control another Congress or carry another general election. Clerk McPherson has had a hard time satisfying the different State delegations whose demands exceed his resources. Then in addition to his old crowd who held office under him before have all come back except those who are dead. A d the overflow from the House cast eager glances towards the Senate, where the corrupt form of Judge Davis alone stands between them and the seventy or eighty positions now held by Democrats under that body. Even ex Members of Congress are candidates for the privilege of opening the doors which were once opened for them.

Aside from the avalanche of bills dumped into the two houses there is little worth talking about in Congress as yet. Perhaps every conceivable matter upon which Congress has authority to legislate has been thrown into the hopper already, and the performance has but just begun. I notice plenty of Congressmen going around with pockets bulging out, waiting their turn. Among the mass already offered there are bills to repeal taxes and to impose taxes, to erect public buildings, improve harbors and dig out the beds of rivers, erect inter-oceanic canals, provide against epidemics, create additional executive Departments, to amend the Constitution in several particulars, grant pensions, and to undo every possible thing that the ingenuity or cupidity of man could suggest. A large number are old acquaintances that have made their appearance in Congress with regularity for years past, and many of them were presented in the last Congress and failed for lack of merit or lack of time to reach them. The adjournment of the present Congress will find these bills suspended in the same manner and for the same reasons, but their familiar faces will doubtless be found on the calendars of the succeeding Congress. New members always introduce the greatest number of measures because they generally imagine that their future importance is determined by the ingenuity displayed in this direction at the start. Senator Logan's bill to place the great American beggar, Grant on the retired list of the Army will probably pass the Senate, but I doubt if it gets through the House. Senator Edmunds' \$100,000 bill providing for the payment of the expenses attending the illness and funeral of President Garfield will pass both

houses. It was generally believed that this amount would not be sufficient to cover all demands, but doubtless the Senator has made a correct estimate, based upon information. The bill offered by Representative Hewitt of Alabama, in the House, to amend the arrears of pension act, ought to pass. The effect of it would be to cut off the arrears for the time intervening between the date of discharge and the time of filing the claim in the thousands of cases now pending. President Arthur states in his message that it will take \$235,000,000 to settle the 193,000 pending claims, and it is estimated that Mr. Hewitt's bill would save \$200,000,000 of this. One of the novelties comes from Mr. Phelps, of Connecticut, who wants authority given the President to appoint a commission of three colored persons to inquire into the intellectual condition of the colored people of the Southern States, their needs and what, if anything can be done by the Federal Government for their relief.

We are promised some new developments in the Star Route frauds. It is stated that within a few days there will be made public a remarkable report on the straw bond system that prevailed under which the Government lost heavily. As to the Philadelphia cases it is understood that certain persons who were behind the ostensible contractors will indemnify the Government for losses sustained rather than risk criminal prosecution. Mr. Dorsey is reported to own a ranch of great value, but it is believed that he is under some heavy pecuniary obligations to John Bostick, ex-Indian contractor, and now of Carlisle, Pa., that he is by no means a rich man. General Brady who attributes his fortune to lucky speculation in telephone stocks, is commonly credited with having to stand the brunt of the expenses under the prosecution. Three expensive lawyers engage themselves in the defence. There are two or more newspapers that are avowedly conducted with special reference to the defence. There are manifold other expenses and there are reports of promiscuous bribery. Even if the Government fails to secure a conviction the money fished from the pockets of the people will not have done the conspirators great good. Already Mr. Bliss, and Mr. Brewster who is expected to be made Attorney General, are the subjects of fierce attacks by the ring organs.

Resolutions of the N. C. Press.

(Atlanta Constitution.)

At a meeting of the North Carolina Press Association, held at the Exposition Hotel, Thursday evening, the following resolutions offered by Mr. H. A. Loudon, Jr., were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the North Carolina Press Association are hereby tendered to the railroad authorities for transportation over their respective lines, and especially to the Richmond & Danville Company, for placing a special car at the disposal of the association, and also to the exposition managers for courtesies extended.

Resolved, That we are under obligations to the Williamson Manufacturing Company for an invitation to a reception.

Resolved, That we have seen with pride and pleasure the creditable exhibit of the resources and products of North Carolina, made by the State Board of Agriculture and the Richmond & Danville Railroad Company and the citizens of North Carolina, who have contributed thereto.

Treasurers' Account.

[News-Observer.]

The Commissioners appointed by the last General Assembly, viz: Messrs. V. V. Richardson, O. W. Carr, H. F. Grainger and D. C. Moore, to examine the accounts and vouchers of the Treasury Department of the State met on Tuesday. They examined the accounts of the State Treasurer for the fiscal year ending on the 20th of September last. After comparing the entries of receipts and disbursements with the vouchers they found the balance as stated by the Treasurer, to be \$235,286.26. Of this balance, \$85,778.55 belonged to the public fund, applicable to the several charitable and penal institutions, the interest on the public debt and a small amount to general expenses. They counted the coupons of the new four per cent bonds, amounting to \$63,597.00, and the coupons of the seven per cent mortgage bonds of the Western North Carolina Railroad, amounting to \$37,240. This part of the duties of the commissioners was very onerous, and in addition to the general examination made their labors very tedious. They report the result of their investigation as highly satisfactory in every particular, every entry being properly made, and the books kept in a strictly business manner. They examined also the accounts of the charitable and penal institutions, and the Agricultural Department, (the Treasurer of the State being ex-officio treasurer of these institutions), and found all entries properly made.

The payments to these institutions (being a part of two years in each instance) were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Institution Name and Amount. Includes items like Penitentiary (\$163,163.48), Insane Asylum (Raleigh) (\$9,763.10), Eastern Insane Asylum (colored) located at Goldsboro (\$14,947.23), Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, white and colored (\$8,750.01), Agricultural Department (\$4,180.75).

Ignorance or Prejudice?

[Charlotte Observer.]

A prominent agriculturist of the country, and one who is identified with the efforts to bring about an improvement in the agricultural and stock interests of the State, has handed us a clipping from the Cultivator and Country Gentleman, which is suggestive, to say the least, and is anything but creditable to the manner in which our State Agricultural fairs are managed. Here is a case in which the gentlemen serving as judges in a certain department are convicted of ignorance that is inexorable, and which is well calculated to work serious injury to one of the first interests of the State, viz: The improvement of the stock. It demonstrates very clearly that if the Agricultural Society would have its awards worth the paper on which they are written, it is necessary that men must be appointed who can appreciate the difference between a "scrub," a "grade" or a "thoroughbred." The action of the judges in the case noted is about on a par with the spirit which sometimes awards a premium of greater intrinsic value to a collection of fauce but worthless hot house plants than the exhibitor of a selection of useful farm products can secure on his exhibit.

We give below the extract in question: 'A strange case of ignorance or prejudice in connection with the North Carolina State Fair at Raleigh, has just come to my notice, and I ask this statement in your columns, because the case is closely connected with some of the best Jersey herds in the State of New York, and, unless corrected, will tend to lessen the usefulness of a valuable animal, in a section of the country where he is capable of great good.

Through an advertisement in the Country Gentleman, Mr. William Barna, proprietor of Malville Stock Farm, on Haw River, N. C., last spring purchased the four-year-old Jersey bull Butter Boy, No. 3248, A. J. C. C., from Houghton Farm. Upon exhibiting this bull at the fair named, last month, accompanied by his complete pedigree, the judges ruled him out entirely as 'not a Jersey!'

Now Butter Boy is not only a herd register Jersey, but comes of stock both fashionable and productive. Besides this, his own get (in the herds of his former owners, Mr. Wing, Mr. Fattle, and Mr. Valentine) are with few exceptions animals of great promise. His sire Balsora was at the head of Mr. Edwin Thorne's herd, and was also sire of Eugenia, who averaged 15 pounds of unsalted butter per week. The dam of Butter Boy was Mr. King's well-known Oak Leaf, who made a butter record of 16 pounds 10 ounces in a week, and whose dam Echo and sister Maple Leaf did almost as well. Through Oak Leaf, Butter Boy traces by different lines, four times to Saturn and three times through Jupiter to Rhea, the parents of the famous Alpha, and also to the fine cow Edith, imported with Saturn and Rhea, by Mr. R. M. Hoar. Other branches of this bull's pedigree are Messrs. Samuel Falle, J. P. Swain, Kittridge, Watson, Hughes, Tainton, and the Massachusetts Society.

There may be better bulls than Butter Boy in North Carolina, but when 'Judges' pass him by as 'not a Jersey,' they make a grand mistake, and really injure the dairy stock interests of their own State. HENRY E. ALYDOR, Mountainville, N. Y., Nov. 12.

Guiteau in his Cell.

TALKING TO VISITORS AND GIVING HIS AUTOGRAPH.

WASHINGTON, December 11.—The refusal of the authorities to admit representatives of the press and visitors to the jail last Sabbath had a tendency to decrease the demand for admittance to that institution to-day. While many were refused, a favored few were admitted to the corridors. Your correspondent accompanied by an artist, called upon Warden Crocker, who first called attention to the scaffold man, which Guiteau will be executed if the jury find him guilty. Upon this instrument of death three criminals have already expiated their crimes. Among the number is one whose head was torn clear from his body. The structure is firm and well braced and commands a full view of the corridor which crosses the rotunda to Guiteau's place of confinement and in passing to and from the jail he is given the full benefit of its appearance.

After making a drawing of the scaffold, the hall was crossed and the iron gate unfastened, which gives entrance to the narrow passage, away where Guiteau is confined. He has been removed to the far end of the passage for the day, where he might enjoy more light and room. When your correspondent entered, he was found reclining upon a narrow cot, attired in a red flannel undershirt and a shining old cutaway coat. He looked bright and fresh and said he was feeling much improved in health, as he had had a good rest from the court service. As to his feelings towards certain members of the press, he said it would be all right in the end, and with a smile shook hands with those he met. He said he would give his signature to the document he intended to read in court when first arraigned to-morrow. He seemed much pleased to know that three of the jurors were unwell, but did not express himself upon the subject. He said the furnishing of his autograph to callers had become quite a feature in connection with his confinement. He had autographed Charles Guiteau since he had earned public notice last June a year ago and Charles J. Guiteau prior to that time as an attorney. He then procured his ink and paper, and kneeling at a chair, furnished several autographs. He said that his brother had not been down to see him during the day. His callers were here saluted with a smile and a hand-shake and Guiteau was left alone in his glory. The artist present made a portrait of Guiteau in his Sunday attire and in his Sunday cell.

The sickness of the jurors is the subject of much speculation. Mr. Scoville said this evening he should waive none of his rights in the case. If a juror is taken ill the trial must be postponed. He is of the opinion the case will go over on account of the juror's sickness.

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