

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

WM. H. STEWART, Ed. and Pub.

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It is really wonderful how those papers which published the full disgusting details of the Thaw trial are endeavoring to make it appear their readers demanded such stuff. Wonder how they so quickly ascertained the wishes of said readers? This is going old Adam one better.

Since our friend W. T. Bost has occupied the editorial chair on the staff of our neighbor, The Post, it has greatly improved, particularly in the editorial department. In fact it now appears to be a genuine newspaper with life, vigor, convictions, sensible views and bright paragraphs, all of which have heretofore been entirely foreign to its make up and habits. The Post has done well in securing Mr. Bost.

As may be seen in another column, the case of the State against the Bradys, for a murderous assault upon John Owens, has been settled and the defendants are now free men. We don't want to criticize anyone, but remembering the circumstances of the assault, and calling to mind the fact that he will never recover from his injuries, we feel that we must congratulate Mr. Owens upon escaping a long term in the penitentiary.

There were no exceptions made in the application of the third-term resolution upon its passage and no power on earth can now change its meaning and intent then. Men have gone in and out under its provisions and unless it is henceforth to be a dead letter it still refers to every office under the control of the democratic party both in the city and the county. The Democrat who is not willing to abide by this rule is not loyal to the party and cannot be trusted to carry out any pledge he or she party might make. Such fellows need watching.

Some fellow in the Legislature, who has about as much of an idea of popular government as the tyrant Nero, has offered a bill making attendance of the public schools compulsory. Too much law is worse than no law, and the continual placing of laws on the statute books that are not the result of popular demand will sooner or later give trouble. While education is of great benefit to all, who use it rightly it is not a panacea for all human woes. We stand ready to endorse most anything that may be said favorable to popular education except compulsion.

The great trouble with our contemporary, the Charlotte News, is that its egotistical and fanatical worship of its own views obscures its vision of higher and nobler things. We understand and endorse the necessity for the proper care and training of children; but because we think this should be done by the more tender care of the child's parents, instead of the State in a stockade, it is no indication that we oppose any worthy and helpful institution that this age of good fellowship makes a necessary part of every humane citizen's privileges and pleasures. The fact is our fight has been for such higher ideals than those of the News that it does not realize to what depths it has fallen.

In regard to the cotton-weigher law, mentioned in these columns last week, no one need have any hope of the present legislature

doing anything of benefit to the people. It seems the whole crowd have gone to Raleigh for the single purpose of punishing its enemies, loading the State with debt and the people with burdensome taxes. The gentleman from Rowan are too much in the hands of our cotton-speculating boss to dare to offer a bill that would save the farmer anywhere from 10 to 50 pounds on a bale of cotton. We call attention to this matter at this time for two reasons. First: the Legislature is in session and the opportunity to do the proper thing is at hand, and secondly, because some of these gentlemen will be asking the farmer for his vote two years hence. Their excuse, which many will swallow, will be that "the matter was not properly brought before them." Watch and see.

The business people of Salisbury, having grown tired of the "Colonels" (?) swagger about having a new and modern depot, have decided to carry the matter before the Corporation Commission, and it is expected that some definite steps will soon be taken to this end. We have a very little time for those who are everlastingly hammering at the railroads for one cause and another, believing the Southern to be awake to its interests and the interests of the towns and cities through which it passes, and believing that it would soon recognize the need of a modern depot at Salisbury and construct one of its own volition, we have purposely failed to join in the effort to hold up this great beneficial corporation to the tune of \$25,000 to \$50,000 in the way of a depot. We believe, however, that Salisbury needs and ought to have a modern depot and that if the Southern is able to erect one it will be discreditable to itself should it fail to do so.

In another column will be noted an article from T. H. Vanderford, which is deserving of the serious consideration of every voter of Salisbury who favors the proper and legal administration of municipal affairs. Mr. Vanderford is not the man to make wild, unfounded assertions in order to further his own interests in the matter of his candidacy for the office of mayor. What he says in the article referred to, is said quietly, deliberately, and withal, very plainly. He says he will make no assertion regarding city affairs which cannot be supported by proof which practically amounts to demonstration. True, he does not say this in his article, but he has said so publicly and those who know him will give him credit for the ability to do just as he promises. Moreover, Mr. Vanderford is in a position to know whereof he speaks. He calls attention in a forcible manner to certain irregularities which have taken place in the past, and it is the knowledge of the very things which cause so many citizens to insist that there should be a change in the office of mayor. While there are a number of irregularities which may not be known and understood in all their details, yet enough is known to satisfy people that there is something radically wrong somewhere. Mr. Vanderford will make it a point to supply the needed details as the campaign progresses. But we must not anticipate. The matters to which Mr. Vanderford now calls attention are of much importance and they cannot be thrust to one side in this campaign. These statements of Mr. Vanderford must be met squarely and satisfactorily disproved, or else citizens at large will be justified in the assumption that they are true. And if they are true, as citizens are thoroughly satisfied they are; then it seems a self-evident proposition, that for the good of the people, for the best interests of the city, for the sake of truth, honesty, justice and square dealing, a change of administration is an imperative necessity.

The editor of the WATCHMAN has always placed a very high value on the principles of personal liberty, one's inherent right to do whatsoever he may choose without governmental interference, so long as he does not become criminal or a public nuisance. Next to this we believe in the unalloyed sovereignty of the citizen, the government that will guarantee these rights with the least possible law and burden, and consequently the principles and ideals of a true democracy is our first choice politically. While we have, at times, denounced men and measures endorsed by the organized party so named, believing true democracy was being wickedly tramped under foot, we never knowingly, in any manner, opposed the principles and convictions set forth above. These things are sacred, the very mudsills of our freedom and welfare as sovereign citizens of a great republic. We have continually and jealously opposed any and all efforts that would abridge these primary and important rights. This, so far as to law and authority, but with only silent contempt for the anarchical or despotic bulldozer who would endeavor to abridge another's rights or injure his business because he does not think, believe and act as he would have him do, and, with amazement, have we observed men, who knew better, vote for and advocate measures, whatever their motives may have been, that were destructive of peace, law and business. Having such beliefs, it was but natural for us to join with the barkeepers and distillers in their fight against the prohibition forces several years ago, then trying, as we saw it, to regulate men's appetites and morals by law. Having no use for whiskey, nor patience with men who make immoderate use of stimulating beverages, we took our stand solely on the ground of principle. We believe the bar-keepers have rights as well as other men and that as such they are entitled to due consideration and the same protection of the law as is given to other people and other people's businesses. We are living up to these convictions to-day and shall continue to do so so long as we may hope to see equal and exact justice done unto all men. The whiskey dealers have the same rights as other citizens and they are permitted to conduct their businesses here under certain conditions granted them by their fellow citizens through duly authorized officials. In this particular it might be worth while for them to reflect upon the results of indiscreet conduct. There is such a thing as the abuse of citizenship and privileges and too great a zeal in an effort to dictate and control the affairs of a city. If such acts are persisted in by the barkeepers they will soon cause the just indignation of the citizens to arise and put them out of business. When it comes to the point that the citizens must choose between the domineering influences of the bar-rooms and the control of their own affairs, the bar-room keeper's sun will set, and that good and hard. As said above, we bear our portion of credit, good or bad, for the continuation of the whiskey business in Salisbury, and, so long as they do not become too pernicious in their efforts to dominate the elections and affairs of the city we are willing that they shall remain, under proper surveillance. But, when they serve notice on a business man that if he continues active in his choice for mayor, or any other lawful and peaceful pursuit, they are getting dangerously near an offensive position; when they say to the people of this community "we will not contribute to the erection of a city hospital unless you elect our choice for mayor, they are then inviting the resentment of every good citizen in the town. And when the people learn that the three-term pledge of the Rowan Democracy is to be violated to suit the pleasure of a whiskey ring, the party ties will not be strong enough to keep in bound the popular indignation and the voters' roar, which can be summed up in one word: "GET." There never has been a time in the history of the world when people did not sooner or later throw off the bonds of tyrants and the exactions of usurpers. Such events have occurred often and they can occur again. If it occurs in this case it will be because the whiskey people bring it upon themselves.

MR. VANDEFORD COMES AGAIN.

He Calls Attention to Several Irregularities in Our Municipal Affairs.

Salisbury, N. C., Feb. 19, 1907

TO THE CITIZENS OF SALISBURY:—

It has been circulated that I oppose the further improvement of the City of Salisbury, and that, unless I am elected, I will oppose the further issue of bonds.

I wish to say that these statements are without foundation.

I am now, have always been, and expect to remain, in favor of anything that looks to the upbuilding of Salisbury.

I am in favor of a bond issue, to be disposed of as needed for use. TO GIVE EVERY CITIZEN ALIKE. THE BENEFIT OF GOOD STREETS, without discrimination, in favor of one section and against another; to give the City of Salisbury a better water-supply; to extend the sewers to the river, and thereby remove a menace to the health of the people on whose land they now empty, (and who are now threatening to sue the City) to buy, for the betterment of our present fire-department, a steam-engine, and provide a place to keep it, and give the City an up-to-date fire-alarm system; and, last but not least, to provide funds for carrying out the violated pledges made to the people of the South and East wards, that they should have a school, by purchasing a lot on the South-East side of the Southern Railway, and on Innis St. and erect thereon a creditable public-school building. Three lots, viz., the Rauey lot, the Blackwelder lot, and the Beaver lot, were bought for public school purposes, on Fisher St., the three lots costing about \$6,000. This money came out of a \$10,000 bond issue, and the people were induced to vote the bonds upon the promise of this public school for these wards.

The Rauey lot was sold by Mr. Boyden to a negro named John Mowery (recently deceased) and his family still live there, and cannot be bought out, thereby reducing the value of the surrounding property, one man having sold his adjacent property for \$200 less on this account. Mr. Boyden was urgently requested by white citizens owning the surrounding property, not to make this Mowery sale. I say that the remaining \$4000 and the property on Fisher St., still owned by the City, should be made the basis of a fund for the building of the Innis St., school, and the balance needed should be provided for by a bond issue.

To do all this work, and make all these improvements, will require considerable time and money; and, while I am in favor of issuing bonds for these purposes, I do not favor issuing them all at once, nor do I favor a careless expenditure of the money. The people should know what the bonds bring when sold, and the expenditure of the money, especially as the work progresses.

I am opposed to the past loose system of paying out the City's funds upon vouchers passed upon and signed by the Mayor and the Clerk. If I am elected, it will be so arranged that for every cent of public money paid out, there will be a receipt giving the name of the payee and the purpose for which the money was paid out; the books and vouchers will be open to the inspection of the public, and I will comply with the law requiring yearly statements to be published showing the nature and amount of public expenditures. And when these statements are made, they will be full and specific, and the public can and will be able to tell from them WHERE THE MONEY WENT. My friends will not have to ask leniency for failure to make the report, nor apologize for such a statement as that made by the present Mayor, a statement which contains little or no information. I am informed that they have now employed an expert accountant to make an intelli-

gible statement, and I join every citizen in Salisbury in hoping that the new statement may convey much desired information.

All this talk about my being opposed to the further improvement of Salisbury, has, I suppose, grown out of my criticism of Mr. Boyden in not inviting the Advisory Board to assist the Board of Aldermen in passing upon the bids for the contracts for street work, although the Advisory Board was expressly provided for and named in the bill authorizing this issue; and, also out of my criticism of his disregard of the wishes of the residents of the South and East Wards in regard to the school, and the sale of part of the property purchased for that purpose to a negro, and the failure (as I am reliably informed) to require an itemized statement of the money expended in the extension of the sewer system. I am reliably informed that the sum of about \$10,000 was placed in the hands of one of the City officials, to be used for the extension of the sewers, and that this official has never yet filed any itemized report showing what was done with this money, although the Chairman of the Sewer Committee made repeated calls for this report. No such thing as this can or will happen if I am Mayor! And if I should be permitted to remain in office as Mayor for three terms, I promise not to violate a principle adopted by the Democratic party, and which is now conceded to be the best move ever taken for the upbuilding of the party, upon the flimsy pretext that I have been petitioned to run a fourth time. What officer who has just retired in consequence of the third term rule, could not have gotten some of his warm personal friends to petition him to run again?

Very respectfully,

T. H. VANDEFORD.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve
The Best Salve in The World.

\$4,500.00

SACRIFICE SALE!

We will commence closing out one of the best, newest and most up-to-date lines of Shoes that has ever been closed out at any sale in this town on

Thursday, February 21st.

These are not odds and ends or Sample Shoes or odd sack, but everything is New, Fresh and up-to-date goods, but we have made up our minds to go out of the shoe business and these Shoes must go out. Our prices on these Shoes will be the manufacturer's, plus the freight. None of these goods will be charged or taken back. We want to close out this stock inside 80 days if we have to sell them bulks to some merchant. Don't wait if you want the best.

Another line we are going to close out is our **Art Squares and Rugs**. We have a big line of them bought direct from the mills. These are all new fresh goods of the very latest make and the Newest Patterns.

Our 9x12 Ingram Art Squares worth \$6.00 to \$6.50 will be closed out at **\$4.25.**
Our 9x12 Saxony Art Squares worth \$10.00 at **7.00.**
Our 9x12 Alma Art Squares worth \$10 to \$12 at **\$7.00.**
Our Royal Axminster 9x12 worth \$25.00 at **\$18.00.**
Our 9x12 Shiraz worth \$18.00 at **\$13.00.**
Our Oriental Art Squares worth \$80.00 at **\$21.00.**

We have a big line of small Rugs to match these Art Squares that will be reduced in the same proportion. We also have a lot of Hall Runners that will go in at Manufacturer's Cost.

Brittain & Campbell.

Robbers at China Grove.

Every now and then an epidemic of burglary and robbery occurs in various sections of the State, and it appears that this portion of North Carolina is now being visited by an organized gang of thieves. Reference is made in another column to the recent attempted burglaries here, and just a little later, China Grove seems to have been selected as a field for further operations. The home of Mrs. Cowan was entered on Thursday night, but nothing was secured. Mr. Fletcher, Station Agent T. H. M., Superintendent Ross, of the Patterson Company, the cotton mill, and other places were broken into. An attempt was made to enter the home of J. N. Dayvault, but he had not gone to bed when the visit was made, and the robbers learning this, left the place. Mr. Thom is minus a gold watch and a small sum in cash, Mr. Ross lost a watch, a mileage book and about \$14 in cash. It is quite probable that suspicious looking characters will be treated rather coolly in the China Grove neighborhood for the next few weeks.

Greensboro Gets Semberich.

Madam Semberich, the world's most noted singer, will sing in Greensboro on March 18. She will sing at only one place in North Carolina and Greensboro is to be congratulated on getting this wonderful singer. Madam Semberich uses the Baldwin piano and this shows her good judgment. B. P. Jarrett, Salisbury, N. C., sells the Baldwin piano.

Ptomaine Victims Better.

High Point, Feb. 16.—Two of the young children of Mr. Warner Jackson have been removed to the Junior Order Hospital, where they are being treated for ptomaine poisoning. It will be remembered that several days ago the wife and mother of this household and a child died from this poisoning, caused by eating pork, and the remaining three members of the family, the father and two children, were seriously ill and were expected to die from the same malady. Mr. Jackson seems to have the best chance for recovery, while the two children are making a desperate struggle to win out in the battle for life.—Special to Charlotte Observer.