The ROANOKE NEWS

VOL. XXIII. WELDON, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1892. NO. 10

THE NOMINEES.

SKETCHES OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

We publish below a sketch of the Democratic nominee for State Auditor. He is a member of the Press gang and has done splendid service for Democracy.

R. M. FURMAN FOR AUDITOR.

The convention did a wise and graceful thing in the nomination of Mr. Furman for auditor—a wise thing in that it was a distinct recognition of the services of the Democratic press of North Carolina, and a graceful thing in that it endorsed and promoted a gentleman distinguished in an unusual degree by long, faithful and unselfish devotion to the Democratic party. There are but few men in the State of more personal popularity than Mr. Furman. In the western part of the State his nomination will be peculiarly gratifying. For nearly a quarter of a century he has given his voice and pen to the support of every man and measure calculated to promote the development of that region. His public spirit was not bounded by county or sectional lines but extended to every locality and interest in the State; and he is happy in having lived long enough to see his fellow citizens in the enjoyment of a prosperity to which he has so effectually contributed, and to receive that reward which a generous people will always bestow upon faithful and deserving servants. He is especially qualified by his natural talents and familiarity with our State policy for the duties of the office to which he has been nominated.

Robert M. Furman was born at Louisburg in 1846, and is therefore now 46 years old. He was educated in the home schools of his native town. He early in life was employed in business at Norfolk, Va., and at the universal call to arms, entered the army. He was a lieutenant in the Junior Reserves. When little more than 17 years of age, and in the latter years of the war when service meant action, did severe laborious, brave and dangerous duty, enduring hardships of the march, the privations of the camp and the perils of the battlefield. His tastes led him to journalism, and he established a Democratic paper at Louisburg, He came to Raleigh in 1870 and was engaged for years as reporter for the Raleigh *Sentinel* acquiring experience, enlarging his political information, and maturing his judgment. In 1872, he became the owner of the Asheville *Citizen* and thus to the *Citizen* was due the power gained for the Democratic party in Western North Carolina, and the knowledge impressed upon the whole party of the weight and value of that section. In 1876 he was elected secretary of the Senate. His first term determined his value to that body; and never after has he been troubled by the anxieties of a re-election. His election as his own successor has been a foregone conclusion, an incomparable officer, a courteous gentleman, a well informed statesman, an adroit politician, the Senate has always in advance, recognized his services as indispensable. He is now the editor of the *Democrat*, the weekly paper he publishes at Asheville.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

POINTS FOR THE PUBLIC RELATING TO LETTERS, LOCK BOXES, ETC.

A new code of regulations concerning postoffices has recently been issued by Postmaster General Wanamaker.

One of the rules reads as follows: "When a letter has been deposited in a postoffice for mailing the writer may, upon identifying the same to the satisfaction of the postmaster, withdraw it from the postoffice, but if the stamp thereon has been cancelled it cannot be remailed without the prepayment of postage anew thereon."

Another regulation is: "A postoffice box rented by a society or association is not available for the use of individual members of such society or association, except the officers thereof when addressed in their official capacity." And another, which is this: "In the event that the holder of a lock box forgets to bring his key the postmaster should, upon application, deliver his mail to him; but such mail must not be delivered by the postmaster to any one other than the holder of the box, except upon his written order."

The value of the above rule will be readily appreciated when it is considered that it was made with the intention of preventing employees, discharged without the cognizance of the deparment, from obtaining possession of important matter.

A rule regarding the box laws is important. A landlord cannot have his tenant's letters placed in his postoffice box for delivery. The use of a box in a postoffice is confined to "one family, firm or corporation."

Another of the new rules will effectually prevent a man or his friends for him doing any incidental or impromptu advertising via the medium of Brother John Wanamaker's portfolio.

"Mail matter," says the rule, "upon which an indefinite address is written or printed, such as 'The Leading Vegetable Dealer,' or 'Any Intelligent Farmer,' is not deliverable."

The lover and clandestinely inclined correspondent is also headed off in the following sententious manner:

"Letters addressed to 'A. B.,' or other initials or fictitious names, in care of a letter carrier at a free delivery office, are not deliverable and should be treated as improperly addressed mail matter."

PONIES ON THE N. C. COAST.

New Bern Journal.

On the "banks" which begin at Beaufort inlet, four or five miles from either Beaufort or Morehead and extend to Ocracoke inlet, there are about 2,000 ponies. There are three places where they are regularly penned. One is near Cape Lookout, twelve miles from Beaufort; the next twenty miles from Beaufort, and Cedar Banks pen is thirty miles away. There is a diversity of opinion as to how and when these droves of ponies were first established on the banks. That they were not there in 1737 is shown by the fact that Dr. Bricknall's book on natural history, published at that time, which gave description and pictures of every kind of animal found in the State, does not contain any allusion to them. The prevalent opinion is that they are descendants of horses which escaped from shipwrecks and degenerated in succeeding generations into ponies, from lack of care.

A DUEL FOR BLOOD.

ONCE IN FOR IT A FRENCH OFFICER CARRIED IT TO THE END.

New York Recorder.

The recent meeting of Borrowe and Fox on Belgian soil as a result of the Drayton matrimonial scandal, and the later encounter of Milibank and De Morny, have caused a revival of the assertion that duels taking place in France or kindred countries are "mostly fakes." In a regiment, stationed at Marseilles, the captain of one of the troops was a notorious bully. He took a special delight in torturing the youngest of his lieutenants a bright, laughter-loving lad, who was the delight of the regiment—officers and men.

One day after the mess the captain grossly insulted the boy and followed it by calling him a liar and slapped his face. The lieutenant flushed and left the room. He had previously shown his courage at Algiers, and his comrades did not understand why he should tolerate such continued insults. They followed him to his quarters and told him that if he did not call out his enemy he would have to go Coventry. The young officer explained that he had strong religious scruples about dueling and could not conscientiously go out.

Finally the colonel of the regiment sent him the alternative—fight or leave the service. The boy then agreed, on condition that the fight should take place with pistols and over a handkerchief. One of the weapons was to be loaded and the other unloaded. They were to be chosen by lot. The men stood up, each holding the edge of a handkerchief. At the signal the captain pulled the trigger, when it was found that he held the unloaded pistol.

All eyes were now fixed upon the calm, resolute, fair-headed boy. The spectators were confident that, as he held his adversary in his power, he would either discharge his pistol in the air or not shoot at all. But not so. He took deliberate aim and, placing the muzzle of his pistol as near the other man's face as he could reach, blew his brains out. Then leaning over the prostrate form of his enemy, he dipped a handkerchief in the blood and smeared the face with it. Then with exultation he turned to those in the field and said: "There! do you consider that I have wiped out the blow I received?" He then strode from the ground and that evening sent in his resignation. Since that incident there has not been so much bullying or dueling in any regiment of the French army.

RECEIPT FOR A GOOD TOWN.

Grit.
Vim.
Push.
Snap.
Energy.
Schools.
Morality.
Harmony.
Cordiality.
Advertising.
Talk about it.
Write about it.
Cheap property.
Speak well for it.
Help to improve it.
Advertise in its papers.
Good country tributary.
Patronize its merchants.
Elect good men to office.
Help all public enterprises.
Honest competition in prices.
Make the atmosphere healthy.
Faith exhibited by good works.
Fire all loafers, croakers, and dead beats. Let your objects be the welfare, growth and promotion of your town and its people. Speak well of the public spirited men, and also be one yourself.

A FRENCH COLONY

SUCCESSFULLY CULTIVATING GRAPES IN MOORE COUNTY.

Eight miles away from Southern Pines over the rolling pine hills there are several small settlements of poor French peasants who are devoting their attention almost entirely to the cultivation of grapes. They came to North Carolina with scarcely money enough to buy the cheap rough ground they occupy, but they set to work with a will, built themselves rude log houses, cleared the land in many instances, and many of them now have profitable as well as promising vineyards. One of them says he can make every vine pay him a dollar each season, and all agree that the soil is just what they want for grapes. Some of them the past season, on their poor little plots of ground, made two and three hundred gallons of wine, which they expect to bring them a dollar a gallon. These are but a few out of many cases that might be cited of the belief that prevails here as to the value of hitherto barren sand hills. Time alone can determine how much foundation there is for the conviction, but the careful and long-sighted Northerners have studied the matter closely, and they think there is much money in it. If they should be only half as successful as they anticipate this whole section may eventually become dotted with vineyards and orchards, its waste sands transmuted into gold, and the face of of nature changed from homeliness and desolation into an aspect of beauty and life.

PENNIES ARE UNLUCKY.

AND SO SUPERSTITIOUS PEOPLE THROW THEM AWAY TO AVOID A HOODOO.

Have you ever picked up a penny on the street? If so, you probably have not stopped a minute to think how the copper coin came to be lying there. It probably never entered your mind that the former owner of that penny threw it away purposely. Your natural conclusion after finding the coin was that some one had accidentally dropped it.

It is a fact that Chicago has many men whose superstition takes the form of regarding the possession of copper coins as unlucky. These men will never keep a copper in their pockets if they can help themselves, for which newsboys are profoundly grateful. Should a stray penny find its way into the clothes of these superstitious creatures it is quickly flung away with a sigh of relief—and as quickly picked up unless invisible to the Chicago eyes.

This habit is common among politicians, speculators, gamblers of the ordinary kind, actors, and some business men who would rather lose a good dinner than be among thirteen at the table. These men, who look upon the despised copper as a "hoodoo," are the same men who carry the left hind foot of a rabbit, a horse chestnut, or other supposed charm in their vest pocket to ward off the evil genius known as bad luck. Some of these cranks go so far as to keep pennies out of their homes, and as long as the children get their pocket money in more valuable metal, there is no objection to the boycott on copper. There are men in the City Hall and the County Building who honestly think they would be beaten at the polls or lose their job if a penny got into their pocket.—Chicago Tribune.

A GRAND OPENING FOR PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. June 6.

EDITOR ROANOKE NEWS:—And still the course of Rocky Mount is onward and upward. Now and then we hear it said "Rocky Mount is on quite a boom." Now we are not on a boom in Rocky Mount in the common acceptance of the word, although everything is booming in our town but we have a solid, steady healthful growth, a growth that does not jump upward with a few bounds, to fall back to where it started, and a growth steady, and with a solid backing which guarantees its continuance, and men who invest judiciously in Rocky Mount can depend on their investment being an exceedingly profitable one. Investment in Rocky Mount real estate is not a speculative one, for there is no danger of loss, and a certainty of a big profit to the investor. Rocky Mount is to-day a very prosperous town, and has enough interests to give an assurance of a vigorous and healthy growth. Our railroad interest alone are enough to make us a prosperous and wealthy city. The great railroad centres of Eastern Carolina, its immense shops now building, its being the distributing point of the great Coast Line system, guarantees its being one of the great railroad centre of the South. Our unequalled position as a tobacco market and tobacco manufacturing town, gives an assurance that this one interest will build up as quickly as it did Durham and Winston. Our extremely favorable railroad position, tapping as we do the great section producing the raw material material, and our unexcelled facilities as a distributing point puts Rocky Mount in a position where all that is needed to make her one of the most prosperous and important cities in the country, is capital and energy and these she has.

Letters have been pouring in from every direction written by men who wish to cast their lots with us, some of whom have unlimited amounts of capital behind them, and who propose to engage in manufacturing enterprises in the future "Great." They have plenty to encourage them, as our present manufactories are all paying very largely, and have orders for many times more of their products than they can supply. We will have at least one other tobacco sales warehouse here next fall, and a large number of new leaf factories. Wilson & Co., and the American Tobacco Company are now building immense leaf factories. The Rocky Mount Improvement and Manufacturing company keeps steadily at work improving their very valuable property. The West End Land and Improvement company are doing good work on their property, while the South End Land Co., are doing good service in extending Church street to the R. R. Shops. Arrangements have been made to extend Gold Leaf street to the Tarboro road, which it will strike near the cemetery. This will cut off from a mile to a mile and a half in the approach to the town from that direction. Everybody in Rocky Mount and in fact in Eastern Carolina is talking about the big land sale on the 15th, and there will be undoubtedly an immense crowd present. The company give very favorable terms, one-sixth down and the balance in easy payments. Their property is bound to be the popular residence portion of the town, while the railroad passing through it, and the river bounding it on the North furnish unequaled manufacturing sites. The person who invests intelligently on the 15th is sure to come out a head. L.