

TERMS TO CLUBS.
The price of the paper to clubs is \$1.00 per copy, postage paid. Clubs of 10 or more, postage paid, \$1.25 per copy.

LET EVERY SUBSCRIBER TO THE WEEKLY STAR READ THIS.
Under the new law which goes into effect January 1st, 1876, we are required to pre-pay postage on the WEEKLY STAR. And while this will add to the cost of publication, we shall make no advance in price of subscription, except in rates to clubs. We cannot afford to furnish the paper at \$1.00 per year and pay the postage besides.

The following will be our revised terms of subscription:
One Copy 1 year, postage paid, \$1.50
6 months, " " " " 1.00
3 months, " " " " .50
Clubs of 10 or more, postage paid, \$1.25 per copy.

MAKE UP CLUBS.
Now is the time for getting up Clubs to the WEEKLY STAR. Show the paper to your neighbors and friends, and get them to join in. We want the biggest subscription list in North Carolina.

We have no club rates for any but yearly subscribers; but for 10 or more subscribers the paper is only \$1.25 per copy per year, free of postage.

A HIGH THIMBLE TO OUR LADY AUTHORS.
We reprint the following article from the Petersburg Index-Appel because it is as just as well as generous tribute to the female writers of the Old North State. The editor of the I.A. is one of the most accomplished of younger American journalists, who is himself not unknown to readers of periodical literature and who if he finds time in the busy-burly newspaperdom will probably write something of more enduring fame.

Our contemporary is mistaken, however, both in crediting the "Odd Trump" writer to "the sex" and to North Carolina. He is a man and a Marylander, we think. His name is Lucason. But if we cannot claim the author of "The Odd Trump," "Harwood," and "The Lacy Diamonds," we have our writers of celebrity of which any State might be proud. Since the war—not to go back to the days of Hawks, Caruthers, Philo Henderson, etc.—the old State has given to the world some rare legacies of song and story. In the names of Mary Ayer Miller, the pure and true-souled singer; of that other bard whose beautiful numbers have both soothed and thrilled our people in war and peace, Mary Bayard Clarke; of that elegant and strong-willed prose writer, Cornelia Phillips Spencer, who at once delights and instructs by her social and moral essays and charmingly fine historical composition; of Miss Cameron in earnest and entertaining fiction;—and leaving our good and gifted women—the names of such brilliant prose authors as Haywood, Guion and such fine poets as Edwin W. Fuller and The M. Hill—we say in names like these critics and readers of choice literature will recognize some of the best representatives of recent Southern literature.

Poor in dollars, Carolina is rich in her daughters and her sons whose pens illustrate the spirit of a noble though unpretentious Commonwealth. There are also the names of learned scholars of our State, some of whom have been added to this category of the State's literature. The accomplished and devoted Biogensch, whose Latin text books are in every school room, has gone to his repose; but his work remains. And there is young Henry Shepherd, whose bearing on the History of the English Language has been highly praised.

than any previous work on this side the Atlantic. He lives to increase his reputation and his labors in the cause of academic culture.

Space fails us, and we simply copy with thanks our Virginia neighbor's general good words without further stop.

The last two novels announced from the pen of a lady writer are both the productions of North Carolina. The first is "The Lacy Diamonds" by the author of the "Odd Trump" series. We have not read either of these volumes, for we never have time to read anything but the leading articles of the day, but we are sure that the author of "The Lacy Diamonds" would have a just right to be proud. She has not only written a novel, but she has also written a history of the leading cities of the country, to stand among the first novels of the day, their full force. In fact, the literary ladies of North Carolina are, for a long time, the pride of the South. We might even say without exaggeration that the ladies of no Southern State have developed any such literary taste and intellectual powers as to fit them for eminent recognition in the field of letters. We take a high degree of pride in the modest yet signal triumph of the pen which have been won by these ladies of North Carolina. They reflect the highest credit on the education and the highest credit on the State. It seems wonderful saying that a people capable of producing so many and such flowers of literary excellence and beauty must be a people of active power and genius, and one of the noblest in the Old North State, whose abundant proofs of their culture and talent. They add an increased lustre to the honor of the Commonwealth, and are achieving high and permanent pedestals for themselves in the temple of Southern authorship.

WORK OF THE CONVENTION.

We are enabled to place before our readers, in advance, we believe, of our contemporaries of the State press, a complete synopsis of the work of the Convention.

The total number of amendments adopted is 31. The Judicial Department deserved and received more attention than any other in the Constitution. That Article was so amended as to give the General Assembly power to establish other Courts inferior to the Supreme Court, with power to prescribe the manner of appointing the presiding officers of such Courts, who shall hold for a term not exceeding 8 years.

The number of Supreme Court Judges was reduced from five to three; of Superior Court Judges from twelve to nine—all to be elected by the people. At the first election the Superior Court Judges are to be chosen by general ticket, but the General Assembly may provide that at succeeding elections they be chosen by Districts, as at present. Both Supreme and Superior Court Judges to be elected for eight years.

The General Assembly are authorized to require the Supreme Court to meet at points other than the State capital.

The important principle of rotation of Judges was adopted; and no Judge can hold the Courts of any District twice in succession except at intervals of four years. Sections 15, 16 and 17 of Art. 4 of the Constitution, which prescribe the original jurisdiction of the Superior Courts, and regulate the matter of probate administrations, etc., are stricken out, and in lieu thereof the General Assembly are empowered to allot and distribute the judicial power, regulate the jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts, all matters of appeal, practice, &c. Section 31 of the same Article is so amended as to limit the duration of the term of the Governor's appointees to vacancies in this Article to the next regular election for members of the General Assembly, thus avoiding the recurrence of the "unseemly spectacle presented in this State if two persons only chosen to the position of Superior Court Judge contesting for the unexpired portion of the term. Section 33, same Article, is so amended as to leave the original jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in civil actions to the General Assembly. The criminal jurisdiction of these officers is retained.

ties and forfeitures in the hands of the respective county officers, together with the poll tax and such property tax as is levied on that behalf. The article on Penal Institutions, Penitentiaries, &c., is so amended as to give the Legislature power to farm out penitentiary convicts on public works, public roads, &c.

Separate schools for the two races are to be provided.

A Bureau of Agriculture, Immigration and Statistics is established with full power to the Legislature to protect sheep husbandry.

The 13th article is so amended that no Convention of the people of this State can hereafter be called, except by a two-thirds vote of each House of the General Assembly, such call to be first submitted to the qualified voters of the State for their approval or rejection.

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by a three-fifths vote of each House of the General Assembly, and at the next general election a majority of the votes of the whole State approve the same they shall become a part of the Constitution.

An ordinance has passed declaring that no amendment adopted by the Convention shall have the effect of vacating any office or term of office now existing under the Constitution, and filled or held by virtue of any election or appointment.

The per diem of members of the General Assembly was fixed at \$4.00, their mileage at 10 cents, and sessions limited to 60 days.

The General Assembly are invested with power to denounce sitting penalties for carrying concealed weapons.

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.
A subject very dear to THE MORNING STAR has always been the composition of a History of North Carolina. We are truly glad to have it in our power to announce to-day that such a work will be commenced shortly by one of the most gifted of the old State's writers. We are advised by letter that Theodore B. Kingsbury, Esq., editor of *Our Living and Our Dead*, will begin the preparation of "A History of North Carolina from 1564 to 1860, for Schools and Families." The book contemplated will comprise some 350 pages duodecimo, with illustrations of our greatest men and maps illustrating the text. To enable him the more thoroughly to execute his task Mr. Kingsbury will retire for some time to his quiet home at Oxford, Granville county; but his important labors on the magazine will not be interrupted. This work is intended to be preliminary to a larger and more ambitious one.

A word first as to the author; then a suggestion which we venture to make in connection with his plan. Mr. Kingsbury is eminently fitted by scholarship and literary facility, by a catholic and critical spirit, and by an unvarnished love of his native State to the labor proposed. He is at the period of his life when the counsel of experience comes to the aid of the ardor of youth, restraining it within proper bounds and solidifying the understanding while it regulates the will. He can, and we feel he will, accomplish a most excellent work which will supply a long-time want and gratify the just pride of his fellow citizens. He can, and we are satisfied he will, write the narrative in a conscientious, perspicuous and able manner, presenting facts in an elegant and picturesque style not too scholarly or ornate for the class of readers for which the book is intended, primarily and yet up to the high standard set in his previous excursions in other fields and to the general standard of historical composition.

While we commend the undertaking in these terms we are inclined to think that a combination of the two plans in the hands of the writer would be productive of a work even better than either could separately produce. We are sure that a combination of the two plans in the hands of the writer would be productive of a work even better than either could separately produce.

hensive work indicating and dilating upon progress rather than glorifying the actors by whom that progress has been made—could be written in three or four years, when published, one volume of good story, cloth leather would easily be in the reach of all. If a grammar school compend should be performed by another, Mr. Kingsbury's valuable time should not permit him to devote it to this purpose.

The Democratic have lost Ohio through a combination of circumstances which it would certainly be unpleasant if not unprofitable to explain particularly, and comment upon as we feel like doing. The defeat seems a national sorrow, though we doubt not there are those in the ranks of the party at the North and East who greatly rejoice there. It may not turn out disastrously. The large mass of the friends of the anti-reconstruction policy will certainly unite with those opposed to their views in restoring the harmony of the Constitutional party of the country as far as may be.

Allen and Pendleton made a gallant fight, and went down after all had been done. This is the first defeat ever sustained by the veteran William Allen.

NARROW GAGES TO THE WEST.
The Northern Piedmont section of our State is desirous of a contraction by rail with their best seaport, Wilmington. At times were as they used to be financially there might not be much difficulty in accomplishing their wishes, which, it is needless to say, are likewise ours.

A recent meeting of the Mt. Airy Narrow Gauge Company was addressed by several gentlemen in explanation of the plan. Several resolutions introduced by Mr. Robert S. Gilmer were adopted unanimously. One of these locates the Eastern terminus of the Western branch at Greensboro, while another resolution directs the Secretary to correspond with some of the leading merchants of Wilmington in order to ascertain what assistance can be obtained to complete the road to Wilmington.

A Desperado at Bay—He Attempts to Shoot His Partners and Finally Escapes.
A correspondent at Warsaw, Duplin county, informs us of an incident that took place there on Friday morning last. It appears that on the Saturday night previous Ed. Bobbett, colored, contrary to an ordinance of the town, fired off a pistol within its limits, whereupon the Mayor, A. H. Parker, directed that upon his next visit to Warsaw he should be arrested and required to answer for that offence. On Friday morning, as intimated above, Bobbett made his appearance in town prepared to take his departure from the county. The Town Constable, Mr. John Hoffman, met him and informed him of the intention of the authorities of dealing with him for the aforesaid offence, when he promptly replied that all of the men in the town could not arrest him. Mr. Hoffman instantly armed himself, summoned three or four others to assist in the arrest and went to the depot for that purpose. Bobbett, who was there, placed himself in a defiant position, with gun and pistol in hand, going backwards and forwards of the platform, when the posse was directed to take him. When about thirty steps off he raised his gun and deliberately fired upon one of our best citizens, Mr. T. Thornton, twice the weapon being a double-barrel gun, but missed his aim, one lead going into the warehouse, the other not being traceable. Mr. Thornton stood the fire each time like a brave soldier, as he had once proved himself, and attempted to discharge his gun, loaded with buckshot, but the weapon snapped twice in succession. Others fired pistols at long range, but without effect. Bobbett then took to his heels at a quarter of a mile, with quite a crowd in pursuit, but he succeeded in reaching the woods, when the race came to a close. About three months ago three separate unsuccessful attempts were made to arrest the said fugitive, but each time, as in the case above referred to, he effected his escape through the use of deadly weapons.

Our Harbor and River.
We find among the estimates for river and harbor improvements included in the report of Col. Criswell and Albert G. Humphreys, Chief of the Engineer Corps, one for \$20,000 for the Cape Fear River. The estimate is for the ensuing fiscal year.

The Survey Vessel.
The Survey Vessel, of Mr. Airy, asks: "What will one Wilmington friend do towards extending the Mt. Airy Narrow Gauge Railroad through to Wilmington at Greensboro? Let us hear from you!" We would like a connection with you, but really we fear the gauge of money is too narrow at present.

Col. H. B. Bennett, the able, mild-mannered and bold delegate from Anson county to the Constitutional Convention, is in the city, on his way home. He is getting over the effects of rheumatism.

A decided improvement in the market for the purpose of suspending his place during the past week, was taken to our commercial reports by a cable from New York yesterday.

Summary of the Vote of Ohio for ten Years.
Year. Office. Republican. Democratic.
1865. Governor. 228,653. 228,653.
1866. Secretary of State. 218,804. 218,804.
1867. Governor. 243,805. 243,805.
1868. Secretary of State. 249,621. 249,621.
1869. Governor. 280,229. 280,229.
1870. Secretary of State. 288,592. 288,592.
1871. Governor. 321,719. 321,719.
1872. Secretary of State. 328,976. 328,976.
1873. Governor. 350,000. 350,000.
1874. Secretary of State. 358,531. 358,531.
1875. Governor. 381,667. 381,667.
1876. Secretary of State. 394,024. 394,024.

STATE FAIR.
FIRST DAY.

Great Shows of Machinery, Fine Stock, Farms and Garden Products, House Furnishing Articles, Ladies' Dressing, &c., &c.
Condensed from the Raleigh News of the 15th inst.

The Fifteenth Annual Exposition of the North Carolina State Agricultural Society opened on yesterday. At 12 o'clock the Fair was formally opened by an address by His Excellency, Gov. Brogden, delivered from the Grand Stand.

The display of machinery, farm implements, tiding vehicles, farm, orchard and garden products, horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, house furnishing articles, ladies' handwork, &c., &c., exceeds that of any previous exhibition, and reflects general credit on the management.

The President, Secretary of the Society, deserve very great credit for their efforts on the ground for the success of the Fair.

The moderate fall of rain on Monday night laid the dust and left the track in excellent condition.

It may be remarked in passing that the machinery in place and at work in the hall set apart therefor, is considered by all to be the largest and best exhibition ever witnessed in Carolina.

Floral Hall is rapidly filling up. In spite of the frosts of last Spring the fine apples of many varieties, from Guilford, are here, with grapes and other fruits, wines, brandies, cordials, &c. Mrs. Wilson, our old friend, is here again, with her share of innumerable articles in the household department.

The Superintendent of the Iasane Asylum contributes splendid specimens from the garden of that institution. The corn cannot be excelled, particularly the beautiful white bread corn. Mr. Petrie, of Stokes county, exhibits a mammoth corn containing 1,400 to 2,200 grains on the ear, the result of 35 years, selection of seed. He claims to raise 125 bushels to the acre of this corn. Also the Mexican red oats, by T. A. Granger, of Wayne, and many other fine things, including peas and beans of all kinds, potatoes, wheat, turnips, &c. A box of 540 cotton bolls, 3 locks to the boll, and 40 bolls to the pound.

WEEKLY STAR.
The Currency Issue—A Plea for State Banks.

Mr. Turner presented a petition from the Grand Jury of Wake county, praying that the General Assembly shall not pay the special tax bonds unless submitting the question to the people at the ballot box.

Mr. Chingman presented a petition from the Mayor of Charlotte in regard to the re-establishment of the branch mint in that city.

Mr. Burnett, from the Committee on Judicial Department reported a resolution that the Committee were unanimous in the opinion that this Convention had no power to grant divorces.

By Mr. Badger, an ordinance to amend Art. 7. Referred.

By Mr. Wilcox, a resolution to allow J. M. Barrow, the contestant from Surry, mileage and per diem. Calendar.

By Mr. Bryant, an ordinance to regulate and establish the salaries of State officials. Referred.

The ordinance to amend Art. 11 by the addition of a new section, was taken up. The following is the proposed section:

The Constitution of this State be added at the end of said section as follows: "The foregoing provision for imprisonment with hard labor, shall be construed to authorize the employment of such convict labor on public works or highways, or other labor for public benefit, and the farming out, thereof, where and in such manner as may be provided by law."

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.
THIRTIETH DAY.

Mr. Turner presented a petition from the Grand Jury of Wake county, praying that the General Assembly shall not pay the special tax bonds unless submitting the question to the people at the ballot box.

Mr. Chingman presented a petition from the Mayor of Charlotte in regard to the re-establishment of the branch mint in that city.

Mr. Burnett, from the Committee on Judicial Department reported a resolution that the Committee were unanimous in the opinion that this Convention had no power to grant divorces.

By Mr. Badger, an ordinance to amend Art. 7. Referred.

By Mr. Wilcox, a resolution to allow J. M. Barrow, the contestant from Surry, mileage and per diem. Calendar.

By Mr. Bryant, an ordinance to regulate and establish the salaries of State officials. Referred.

The ordinance to amend Art. 11 by the addition of a new section, was taken up. The following is the proposed section:

The Constitution of this State be added at the end of said section as follows: "The foregoing provision for imprisonment with hard labor, shall be construed to authorize the employment of such convict labor on public works or highways, or other labor for public benefit, and the farming out, thereof, where and in such manner as may be provided by law."