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THE MESSAGE.

The President's message is well written. It is long, which is the fault of nearly all of the public documents of the day, but it is short when compared with one of Mr. Tilden's annual messages to the Legislature, when he was Governor of New York. It will repay the reader, and contains many passages that are well deserving of careful attention. We believe it will make a good impression upon the country, however much exceptions may be taken to particular parts. Mr. Hayes may be said to have no party—to be without any organs to champion his cause and praise all he says. The fashion in other days was for the partisan press to indorse and laud all that was said by their President, and for the opposition to criticize adversely all that was recommended. There was no honesty in such praise or criticism. Mr. Hayes will fare better in some sense. He will not be praised throughout by any paper, we dare say, but he will be justly treated by all papers, of every party, that are governed by a sense of right and fairness.

There are some things in the message we cannot approve. There are other things that are worthy of the highest commendation. We can only refer briefly to a few points.

His remarks upon his efforts to secure "domestic tranquility" to the country are certainly deserving of hearty praise. He began his administration with a set purpose to give peace to the country, and he has done so. It is with truth that he declares that "political turmoil and turbulence have disappeared; useful industries have been resumed; public credit in the Southern States has been greatly strengthened; and the encouraging benefits of a revival of commerce between the sections of the country lately embroiled in civil war, are fully enjoyed."

In the discussion of the financial questions now before the country the President commits himself clearly and irrevocably to the resumption of specie payments. His views upon the silver bill are not precisely what we supposed they were from reading the brief synopsis telegraphed. He thinks it wiser to fund the debt at a low rate of interest than by forcing silver upon the holders of its obligations. He has a kindly leaning towards a silver currency, but as an unlimited legal tender, but to be restricted by boundaries. But we were doubtless correct in saying that he will veto the Silver Bill if it passes Congress in its present shape. His only indorsement of silver is to make it a legal tender to a limited extent.

His remarks upon civil service reform will not increase the confidence of the country in the ability of the President to carry out successfully his plan. The comment of the Philadelphia *Times* may be accepted as just:

"There will be disappointment in some quarters, as we have before hinted, that the message is not more aggressive in its enunciation of the principles of civil service reform, upon which the administration has staked so much of its good name. No doubt, however, it is better that such aggressiveness should be seen in deeds rather than in words, for of the latter we have had quite enough in previous official and semi-official utterances of the President and his Cabinet. All that was needed on this occasion was a concise statement of the principles that animate the administration and the assurance that they will be faithfully executed. This statement and this assurance we have, but in language that will neither arouse the enthusiasm of the friends of reform nor greatly quicken the ire of his enemies. It is clear that Mr. Hayes is a man of infinite patience."

We do not fancy his ideas concerning popular education and governmental aid, and we hope they will not be adopted. The text of his message in regard to Mexico gives less grounds for complaint than we had supposed. He does not desire war with Mexico, and does not regard the outlook in that direction as serious.

We are not prepared to indorse his suggestions as to a renewal of an import duty on tea and coffee. He thinks its renewal would yield more than twelve million dollars annually. He says this sum would relieve the country of all revenue by internal taxation, except on whiskey, spirits, beer and tobacco. If this proposed duty on tea and coffee could rid the country entirely of the revenue system we should unhesitatingly advocate its renewal at once. We also take exceptions to his recommendation of an increase of the army. We hope the South will never agree to an increase, but that its reduction is certain not very long hence. There are other topics to which we cannot refer now. It is a good document in the main, and will do the President a real service.

THE WEEKLY STAR.

VOL. 9. WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1877. NO. 7.

THE SHEEP QUESTION.

The people of North Carolina are becoming more and more interested in the sheep question. If the papers of the State would take hold of it and press it with half the vigor they do mere party questions of not a tenth part as important, we believe that even the proverbially timid North Carolina legislator could be goaded on to a discharge of his duty, and could be constrained to vote for the passage of a law for the protection of sheep husbandry. But we are glad the people themselves are stirring the matter, and we hope they will attend to this question when the party manipulators begin to select the candidates for whom the people are to vote.

We take pleasure in publishing the following letter, which contains a practical suggestion that is worthy of the attention of all friends of the innocent, highly useful, terrified and often destroyed sheep:

BOGUE, COLUMBUS CO., N. C., Dec. 4.

EDITOR STAR:—We are glad to see the stand the STAR is taking for the sheep men, and hope you will continue to lend us your aid, until we get a law to protect sheep husbandry. No better plan than for our next Legislature to pass a law taxing all female dogs five dollars per head; this will materially lessen the number of males, and those who wish to keep female dogs can afford to do so, as this law would create a demand for good male dogs, and it would be to the interest of dog fanciers to keep nothing but the best stock, while we sheep men would do the same. This law will protect us both, and by all means let us have it. MUTTON HEAD.

THE PRICE OF COTTON.

Every one in the South is more or less interested in the price of cotton. Why it has remained at such low figures for so long a time has been a mystery to everybody, and many causes have been assigned. The fact that cotton *is* very low is about the only certain thing in connection with it. At one time it was believed it ruled low because of over supply. There is no doubt that the inexorable law—the law of supply and demand—has had a good deal to do with the depression in price, but there are doubtless other causes to be considered.

Eaton's Cotton Circular of a recent date throws some light on this perplexing subject. It says:

"The most important depressing influence is the number of people who have lately gone into the business of offering every night to Europe, from every Southern port, cotton at cheaper prices than can be done in any legitimate way. These people calculate that the necessities of planters will compel large deliveries and lower prices, and enable them to cover the accepted offers, with a commission. This system interferes with all regular business, and, from the number of offers, it gives a false impression to the European spinner about the actual state of the crop. As Europe is a buyer of our cotton, of course the feeling there is generally bearish, and, if they have the help of people on this side, it has a powerful influence.

"The policy in New York appears to have been, for the past two years, in the same direction. Instead of offering advances to planters and others to carry cotton until a fair price can be obtained, every effort is made to depress prices, in order to secure at low rates 200,000 to 250,000 bales, against which contracts are then sold for some future month. Then, by sending out notices of delivery when unexpected, or withholding them when looked for, these parties control the market at their pleasure."

The important question in which every reader is directly or indirectly concerned is, how to remedy this evil—how to contravene the adverse causes at work. The circular says:

"The question is, shall we endeavor to let Europe have these cottons as low as possible, or shall we, as any merchants would, try to get the best attainable price?

"When we consider that 1c per pound on the three millions exported is $15,500,000, and 2c. is $27,000,000, it becomes a subject of great importance to all the country; because we cannot benefit the planters of the South without also increasing the prosperity of the whole country. My idea is to have the bank officers consider well this subject. If there is anything safer than an advance to merchants on their notes, backed by cotton at these prices, with a fair margin, I don't know what it is. Let the merchants make fair advances to the planters, on their crops, to be held until fair prices can be obtained. Let the banks help the merchants in this.

"Let the cotton come forward from the plantations to some interior town or port, there to be held where it can be well insured.

"Keep the cotton in this country until Europe has to send over here for it at a fair price."

These suggestions are practical and certainly worth considering. If by keeping back the cotton even one cent per pound is gained, it is an item of great importance. A planter who has fifty bales of cotton would receive, at this rate, not less than $225 additional for his cotton, or $4.50 for each bale. At two cents he would receive $9 more on every bale made.

When men are compelled to sell they must take the market price. Men who can afford to hold ordinarily secure larger prices than they who are forced into market. It strikes us that the suggestions of the circular are far from visionary, and, if acted upon, might be of immense benefit to the South.

A Young Man from Fayetteville Arrested on the Charge of Highway Robbery.

Chief of Police Brock received a telegram from Fayetteville, Thursday evening, signed by E. P. Powers, J. P., requesting him to arrest one John Williamson, charged with highway robbery, who would arrive here during the night on the steamer *A. P. Hurt*, with further directions to search the prisoner and send him back to Fayetteville. Accordingly a look-out was kept for the steamer in question, and at 2 o'clock yesterday morning she landed at her wharf, near the foot of Mulberry street, upon which she was boarded by Sergeant Savage, of the police force, and the young man was arrested in his berth, where he was lying asleep. He aroused and dressed himself, asked no questions as to why he was arrested, and was taken to the guard house, where he is held to await a requisition from the authorities of Fayetteville. The sum of twelve dollars and fifty cents was found on his person.

Williamson, who is a young man of prepossessing appearance and well dressed, stated, in conversation with the Chief of Police, yesterday morning, that he talked with Mr. Powers, on the market square in Fayetteville on Thursday morning, just before the steamer left, and that nothing was said about the matter for which he is now under arrest, and that no effort was made to detain him; if there had been he would not have been here; that he had intended to get off at a point on the river, but finally concluded to come here, and had expected to return on the boat yesterday afternoon. He also requested the Chief of Police to send him back to Fayetteville as soon as possible, in accordance with the instructions from Mr. Powers, Justice of the Peace; but as he would have to be sent under guard it was thought best that an officer should come after him, and a telegram to that effect was sent to Mr. Powers.

We learn that young Williamson has a mother in Fayetteville, who is highly respected.

After the above was written, Capt. Albert Worth, of the steamer *A. P. Hurt*, received a telegram from Justice Powers, of Fayetteville, directing him to bring Williamson up, and accordingly he was placed in the custody of Mr. James E. Flowers, at Capt. Worth's request, and delivered on board of the boat, which left for Fayetteville between 2 and 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Advantages of Railroad Connection with Onslow and Jones Counties.

A friend and correspondent at Palo Alto, Onslow county, Mr. Daniel N. Farnell, has sent us a communication relative to the advantages which, in his opinion, a railroad from Wilmington to Onslow county and from thence to Trenton, in Jones county, would result to this city and also to the people of those counties. He says: "If a railroad was thus constructed the vast products of Onslow and Jones would be rushed entirely to the Wilmington market. * * * From Wilmington across New River at Sneed's Ferry and from thence across White Oak River at Smith's mill and thence to Trenton, would be the most profitable route. Along this route would be found fertile lands which have no equal in North Carolina for all kinds of farming. Thousands of acres of very rich land, now nothing more than a desolate forest, would be brought into thorough cultivation, and the production of cotton, corn, peas and peanuts would be immense. Besides all this, vast quantities of fine fish and oysters from New River would be shipped, which have no superior on this continent or in the world. Fresh oysters would be shipped in the morning and would reach Wilmington in the evening, or would be shipped in the evening and be ready for delivery early the next morning." Our correspondent then proceeds to portray in glowing colors the great advantages which would speedily result to our port, which would soon rival some of our most progressive cities in wealth, population and strength, taken in connection with the railroad facilities we already enjoy. He says: "Our sister State of Virginia is going ahead with rapid strides to make Norfolk the chief of Southern cities. Let the enterprising men of Wilmington and other sections of the State carry this important project successfully into effect, and yours will soon be among the most important cities on the Atlantic coast. It is my earnest hope that our people may arouse to the importance of this subject and invest their capital and work steadily from this time forward until this great work is completed."

Appointments of the North Carolina Conference.

RALEIGH DISTRICT.
N H D WILSON, Presiding Elder.
Raleigh, Edenton Street, W S Black.
Raleigh, Person Street, W C Norman.
Cary, W M Jordan.
Rolesville, L J Holden.
Smithfield, R M Brown.
Tar River, R S Webb.
Youngsville Mission, R C Beaman.
Lewisburg, J W Smith.
Oxford Circuit, J T Gibbs.
Granville, J E Thompson.
Henderson, R O Burton.
Nashville, S J McLeod.
Editor *Christian Advocate*, J B Bobbitt.
President Louisburg Female College, F L Reid.

HILLSBORO DISTRICT.
L L HANDSOM, Presiding Elder.
Hillsboro, J H Wheeler.
Durham, F H Wood.
Alamance, B F Bumpass.
Chapel Hill Station, J F Heitman.
Haw River, W H Moore.
Pittsboro, T J Gattis.
Yanceyville, L H Gibbons.
Deep River, J F Craven; T O Moses, Supernumerary.
Leasburg, R A Willis.
Person, H H Gibbons.
Orange, J B Martin.
Professor in University of North Carolina, A W Mangum.

GREENSBORO DISTRICT.
M L WOOD, Presiding Elder.
Greensboro, S D Adams.
North Guilford, A D Betts.
South Guilford, J R Scroggs.
Ashboro, A Tyre and E Howland.
Thomasville and High Point, P L Herman.
Trinity, B Craven.
Lexington Station, T S Campbell.
Davidson, M C Thomas.
Randolph, C H Phillips.
Forsyth, M J Hunt.
Winston, P J Carraway.
Stokes, F H Pegram.
Madison, F L Hoyle.
Wentworth, V A Sharpe.
President Trinity College, B Craven.
Agent for Conference Colleges, J A Cunninggim.

SALISBURY DISTRICT.
D R BRUTON, Presiding Elder.
Salisbury, J J Renn.
Salisbury Circuit, J W Lewis.
Mooresville, T L Triplett.
Statesville, T A Coon.
Statesville Circuit, N S Norton.
Mocksville, T A Boon.
Davie, W C Willson.
Iredell, W C Gannon.
Alexander, J C Rowe.
Hunting Creek Mission, A M Long.
Wilkes, E J Endally.
Yadkinville, S D Peeler.
Mt Airy, James Willson.
Surry, W S Creasy and C M Gentry.
Pilot Mountain, S H Helsabeck.

SHELBY DISTRICT.
J S NELSON, Presiding Elder.
Shelby, J W North.
Shelby Circuit, H T Hudson.
Rutherfordton, G F Round.
Columbus Mission, A E Wiley.
Marion, C A Gault.
Upper Broad Mission, W B Manus.
Double Shoals, J D Carpenter.
Morganton, P L Groom.
Morganton Circuit, P F W Stamey.
Caldwell, J C Crisp.
Lenoir Circuit, J S Ervin.
Lenoir Station, W M Robey.
Happy Home, J C Hartsell.
Newton, C M Anderson.
Rock Spring, G W Ivy.
South Fork, W S Chaffin.
Dallas, J B Carpenter, and J W Puet, Sup.
Lincolnton, J T Harris.

CHARLOTTE DISTRICT.
W H BOBBITT, Presiding Elder.
Charlotte, Tryon Street, A A Boshamer.
Calvary Mission, to be supplied by J T Butt and W D Lee, Sup.
North Charlotte, W S Holton.
South Charlotte, M H Hoyle.
Pineville, L E Stacy.
Pleasant Grove, R T N Stephenson.
Monroe Station, J H Guinn.
Monroe Circuit, Z Rush.
Concord, H P Cole.
Concord Circuit, J C Thomas.
Mt. Pleasant, J B Alford.
Albemarle, I T Wyche.
Stanly, Miles Foy.
Ansonville, T H Edwards.
Wadesboro, T W Guthrie.
Wadesboro Circuit, O J Brent.
Lilesville, C M Pepper.

FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT.
R G BARRETT, Presiding Elder.
Fayetteville, L W Crawford.
Cumberland, F A Bishop.
Lumberton, D May.
Robeson, J J Carden.
Laurinburg, B C Phillips.
Mt. Gilead, M. V. Sherrill.
Rockingham, J W Jenkins.
Pekin, W B Doub.
Uwharie, W S Boyle.
Montgomery, I F Keerans.
Carthage, John Tillett.
Jonesboro, S V Hoyle.
Buckhorn, Gaston Farrar, and P Greening, supernumerary.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT.
L S BURKHEAD, Presiding Elder.
Wilmington, Front Street, E A Yates.
Wilmington, Fifth Street, B R Hall.
Topsail, J B Baily.
Duplin, T P Ricaud.
Cokesbury, G W Hardison.
Coharie Mission, H T Wiley.
Bladen, L Shell.
Elizabeth, J M Randle.
Whiteville, J F Lyon.
Waccamaw, J T Browning.
Smithville, D Culbreth.
Onslow, W B McCorkle.

NEWBERN DISTRICT.
WM CLOSS, Presiding Elder.
Newbern, J R Brooks.
Goldsboro, J T Bagwell.
Wilson, C C Dodson.
Wayne, John Wheeler.
Mt Olive, W H Watkins.
Kinston, J P Simpson.
Snow Hill, W H Call.
Neuse, to be supplied.
Lenoir, B B Culbreth.
Swift Creek, Wm Wine.
Craven, T B Reeks.
Jones, J Johnson.
Beaufort, J W Wheeler.
Carteret, N M Jurney.
Straits, M C Fields.

WASHINGTON DISTRICT.
J E MANN, Presiding Elder.
Washington, J N Andrews.
Greenville, L L Nash.
Warrenton, J M Rhodes.
Warren, J R Griffith.
Roanoke, J P Moore.
Halifax, A R Raven.
Tarboro, W S Roane.
Edgecombe, F D Swindell.
Edgecombe Mission, to be supplied by E D Hoover.
Williamston, J. D. Bule.
Plymouth and Jamesville, S M Davis.
Columbia, James Mahoney.
Bath, James L Lumley.
Mattamuskeet, J Cordon.
Portsmouth, Ocracoke and Hatteras, N A Hooker.
Transferred to Pacific Conference, N E Coletrain.

— The Atlanta *Constitution* says the morphia habit is on the increase in that city, especially among ladies.

Masonic Grand Lodge.

[Raleigh News Report Condensed.]

The ninety-first session of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was held in Masonic Hall last evening at 7 o'clock, Grand Master H. H. Munson in the Grand East.

J. B. Neathery, from the Committee on Credentials, made a partial report that delegates from over one hundred lodges were present, whereupon the Grand Master declared a quorum present and the Grand Lodge ready to proceed to business.

The committee on Credentials asked and obtained leave for further time to complete their report.

Past Grand Masters John Nichols and Geo. W. Blount were present.

GRAND MASTER'S REPORT.

The Grand Master delivered an able, interesting and highly instructive address of an hour's length. He stated that peace and harmony prevailed throughout the entire jurisdiction of the State, that the order was in a highly flourishing condition, and that its numbers were increasing.

On motion of Col. Kenan, the Grand Master's address was referred to a committee of three, consisting of Thos. S. Kenan, L. A. Bickle and John Nichols.

Committee retired for deliberation.

REPORT OF D. W. BAIN, GRAND SECRETARY.

As usual this most efficient officer made an exhaustive report, showing that while the progress made in the order during the Masonic year had not been as great as could be desired, yet it was fully up to the average; that the worthy who had applied for admission had been received; but the unworthy had been freely rejected.

The death roll exhibits the fact that many true and zealous brethren had passed from us to the Supreme Grand Lodge above.

Receipts of the year $3,784 90—which amount was paid over to the Grand Treasurer. He reported a deficiency in the per capita receipts of subordinate lodges.

Three new lodges were established under dispensation, five continued under dispensation, three have ceased to exist, having forfeited their charters.

From and including the year 1865 to the present time one hundred and twenty-nine Lodges have been chartered; one-third of which were successors to Lodges previously existing, but becoming from various causes dormant or extinct. The number of working Lodges in the jurisdiction at present is two hundred and thirty-four.

REPORT ON THE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

J. H. Mills, Superintendent, rendered an elaborate report of this noble institution, covering its proceedings since the last report:

Number of orphans reported last year, 103; admitted since last report, 53; total 156; discharged 26, runaway 6, total 32; leaving now at Oxford, 124. Cash receipts to December 4 have been $8,944.11; disbursements, $8,865.74; leaving on hand to-day, $78.37.

The amount received is less than usual and the falling off is mainly on the part of the Lodges.

The largest amount received by any one Lodge is from St. John's, No. 1, amounting to $201 90. Next on the list is Hiram, No. 40, which contributed $80 07. The smallest amount by any Lodge was $1, and there were three Lodges in this category.

After an experience of five years we find that the food, clothing and instruction of each orphan will cost about five dollars a month, and the repairs and incidental expenses will add another dollar, making a total expense of six dollars a month for each orphan in the institution. The work need not cost any more; but to be well done it ought not to cost any less.

He reported that the children and teachers of the institution for the year had been unusually good, and that there had not been a single death.

Dr. Grissom read a plan for the permanent endowment of the Orphan Asylum, prepared by F. H. Cameron, President of the North Carolina State Life Insurance Company, and asked that it be referred to a special committee of seven. It was so ordered, and a committee appointed, consisting of J. B. Batchelor, John W. Cotton, G. W. Blount, G. B. Harris, L. A. Bickle, Robert Bingham and A. M. Noble.

Dr. Grissom asked to be excused from serving on this committee.

SECOND DAY.

[Raleigh Observer Report Condensed.]

George W. Blount, Esq., P. G. M., from the special committee on the plan for the endowment of the Orphan Asylum, submitted a report, which was read and adopted.

Thomas Palmer, grand lecturer, submitted a full and satisfactory report of his operations, which was, on motion, ordered to be filed.

The committee on charters and dispensations submitted a report recommending that charters be issued to new lodges, which was adopted, and charters were issued bearing names and numbers as follows:

Bakersville, in Mitchell county, No. 357.

East LaPorte, in Jackson county, No. 358.

The committee on charters and dispensations submitted a report recommending that charters be issued as follows:

Mount Vernon, in Pamlico county, No. 359.

Mayon, in Cumberland county, No. 360.

A special committee on that portion of the Grand Master's report which relates to the Grand Orient of France was announced: Jas. Southgate, M. S. Tavis and J. C. L. Harris.

W. R. Cox, from the committee on the Orphan Asylum, submitted the report of that committee, which was read and considered by sections. Pending discussion on the report of the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 3 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the morning session, being the report of the committee on the Orphan Asylum. After a lengthy discussion on several proposed amendments, the report, which provides for $2,000 per annum for the support of that institution and other means of support, was adopted.

F. H. Busbee, Esq., from the committee appointed at the Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, on the 5th of May last, on the occasion of the funeral of Wm. G. Hill, P. G. M., to prepare a memorial of this distinguished brother, presented a memorial to his memory, which was ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

W. E. Anderson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That to the committee appointed to urge upon the General Assembly an annual appropriation for the Oxford Asylum, be added the names of Zebulon B. Vance, Edwin G. Reade, J. M. Worth, Eugene Grissom and Thomas S. Kenan, and that Thos. S. Kenan be made chairman of said committee.

NIGHT SESSION.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted as follows:

Horace H. Munson, Grand Master.
Robert W. Hardie, Grand S. W.
J. C. L. Gudger, Grand J. W.
W. E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer.
Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

THIRD DAY.

J. C. L. Harris, from the special committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address alluding to the action of the Grand Orient of France, in rejecting from the creed of Masonry an expression of a belief in Deity, submitted a report recommending that the seal of condemnation of the Grand Lodge be placed on this attempted innovation of a landmark of the order. The report was adopted.

Grand Master Munson appointed the following officers:

Thomas S. Kenan, Deputy Grand Master.
L. A. Bikle, Grand Chaplain.
F. H. Dewey, Senior Grand Deacon.
B. E. Sedberry, Junior Grand Deacon.
B. C. Manly, Grand Marshal.
S. H. Smith, Grand Sword Bearer.
Jas. Southgate, Grand Pursuivant.
Miles Goodwin, Grand Tiler.

On motion of C. D. Rice, J. H. Mills was unanimously re-elected Superintendent of the Oxford Orphan Asylum. The resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

J. C. L. Harris read a telegram from L. A. Norment, of Lumberton, announcing "that St. Alban's Lodge, No. —, was burned this morning. We saved jewels and charter." Whereupon the Lodge adopted a resolution remitting the dues of the Lodge.

The Grand Master announced the following Standing committees:

On Masonic Jurisprudence—E. G. Reade, F. H. Busbee and John Nichols.

On Foreign Correspondence—Geo. W. Blount.

On Credentials—B. C. Manly, T. C. Worth, Wm. Simpson.

On Printing—B. C. Manly, W. E. Anderson, D. W. Bain.

The minutes were read and confirmed.

The Grand Lodge closed at 1:30 o'clock P. M., until 7 o'clock P. M., on the first Tuesday in December, 1878.

Mexican War Veterans.

[Baltimore Sun.]

The Commissioner of Pensions, in a letter addressed to Mr. Ingalls, chairman of the Senate committee on Pensions, makes an elaborate calculation as to the number of soldiers of the Mexican war now living who would be entitled to pensions in case the bill pending for that purpose should be passed. The Commissioner, in summing up, estimates 38,000 as the probable number of pensioners under a provision of law granting the same for one day's service, not including, however, the widows and heirs of deceased soldiers. He says he has no means of determining, and has not attempted to estimate, how many soldiers of the Mexican war served in the two contending armies during the rebellion, nor how many were killed while so serving.

— Winston *Sentinel*: There are eight prisoners now confined in our county jail. —— The thermometer stood at 15 on last Friday morning. —— The number of marriage licenses issued by the Register of Deeds, of this county, during the past year ending December 1st, are 147. —— The sight of two intoxicated women created quite a stir on our streets on last Tuesday afternoon. —— One negro was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary at the late term of Stokes court for stealing. —— Miss Mamie Masten, of our town, left on Tuesday morning, for Raleigh, bearing a petition to the Governor for the reprieve of Thadeus Davis.

Spirits Turpentine.

— Winston *Sentinel*: Millions of pounds of tobacco raised in North Carolina and sold in the Virginia market, goes to the credit of that State. The markets of Winston and Durham alone sell more tobacco than the U. S. Commissioner credits us with. North Carolina raises more than double 16,500,000 pounds, but in this, as in many other things, other States get credit for it.

— Salisbury *Watchman*: Colored Methodist Conference has been in session in this place for several days. J. W. Hood is presiding. They have had a remarkably quiet and orderly session. —— Dr. Hill, of the vicinity, brought in town Tuesday morning, a pig, born alive but afterwards dying, with a snout very closely resembling that of an elephant. By lifting the snout, which hangs down over the face, the face bears a closer resemblance to the human countenance than to that of any other animal. —— Old Aunt Abby House, of Raleigh, has been attending Conference.

— Reidsville *News*: The Border Hunting Club held its annual session last Tuesday and Thursday. Col. Peter Hairston was elected President for the ensuing year. The first day's hunt was upon Major Hairston's "Leatherwood" plantation in Henry—the second, in the meadows, from the residence of J. H. Scales. The following gentlemen engaged in the hunt and killed the number of birds opposite their names: W. S. Redd 75, James H. Scales 66, J. H. Redd 52, Col. Peter Hairston 43, James E. Scales 34, H. Sampson 25, Captain Griggs 24, J. S. Redd 20, James Glenn 18, C. Stultz 12.

— *Biblical Recorder*: It is the duty of every good citizen of the State to contribute to the support of the Orphan Asylum. It is the noblest charity in the State, and is doing more for the poor and friendless children than all the other means used for their instruction and protection combined. Its management is as nearly perfect and as generally approved as possible for human institutions. —— The revival in the Thomasville Female College continued through last week. The last time we heard from Prof. Reinhart he was expecting Rev. Dr. Wetmore, of the Episcopal church, to aid him in the meeting.

— Hickory *Press*: During the heavy rains last week the Yoder bridge and the one at Mr. Ramsour's Mills, both on South Fork, were washed away. We hear of a number of other small bridges, some fences and other movable objects that were carried away while the creeks and rivers were swollen. —— To give persons not acquainted with Hickory some idea as to the produce trade here, we give the amount of a few articles shipped from this depot during the month of November: Flour, 200,000 lbs; butter, over 12,000 lbs; white head cabbage, 27,900 lbs; chestnuts, 800 bushels; and other articles of produce in proportion. Last Tuesday the shipment of butter was 4,153 lbs.

— Tarboro *Southerner*: A large amount of cotton has been shipped from Washington the past week, numbering over 2,000 bales, and about 2,000 still waiting transportation. —— Wiley Mitchel, the colored desperado, who was so severely stabbed W. H. Humber, a former resident of this place, now Assistant Warden of the penitentiary, while being arrested last December, has, we understand, been pardoned by Governor Vance. He was sentenced, by Judge Eure, at January term of Edgecombe Superior Court, to eighteen months, with hard labor, in the county jail, the nature of his offence not permitting his confinement in the penitentiary.

— Milton *Chronicle*: Aunt Mary, our colored cook, speaking of the freshet, remarked (alluding to the drowning of a negro here in a preceding freshet,) "if dey had buried de man on de high water mark, dis freshet would hab been kept off." —— Peter Brandon, colored, a noted banjoist, died in Snatchburg recently, and a big crowd of negroes followed him to the grave. Just as they finished burying him the meteoric display in the heavens occurred, frightening nearly all the darkies out of their wits. We understand the conclusion was that Pete was a wicked sinner, in that he went about with his old banjo picking people into torment, and that the "bustin' of his gall" caused the "phernomenon" in the heavens.

— Greensboro *Patriot*: Ice was thick enough on some of our ponds to give the little chaps some skating during the recent cool spell. —— We regret to learn of the death of Mrs. Anna Odell, wife of James Odell and mother of the Messrs. Odell, merchants, of this city. —— Messrs. D. F. Caldwell and C. P. Mendenhall started Monday to fill the series of appointments along the line of the Fayetteville Railroad. —— There are 82 students in attendance at the Methodist Female College in this city this year—56 boarders and 26 day scholars. —— Superior Court meets here next Monday, Judge Buxton presiding. Wednesday of the first week is set for the trial of Bowman, charged with the murder of his wife in Rockingham, and whose case has been removed to this county for trial.

— Washington *Press*: At a collection taken up in the Presbyterian Church on Thursday (Thanksgiving day), amounted to $25 for the benefit of the Orphan Asylum. If all the churches in the State had taken up a collection for the same purpose and done as well, the poor children of that institution would have been well provided for, for at least a year or two to come. —— Old Uncle Sammy Satterthwaite, colored, killed up the river, a few days ago, a large white swan, measuring seven feet from tip to tip. —— We are pained to learn of the accidental drowning of Paul Jones, of Nevil's Creek, on Wednesday night, while poling a small schooner up Durham Creek. He had just left Washington and was on his way home. He was a good neighbor and citizen.

— *Robesonian*: We may, in our next issue, publish the salient points of Judge Dick's letter. We would be glad for the reputation of the judiciary of our State that the charges cannot be sustained. —— Thanksgiving day in our town was not generally observed. —— Lumberton continues to improve rapidly, there being now five or six stores in process of erection. —— The new county jail is rapidly approaching completion. The building is 35 x35 feet in size, constructed of brick, and is too full stories high. —— The special term of our Superior Court will commence in this town next Monday, his Honor Judge Cox presiding, and Solicitor Norment representing the State. We suppose the entire docket, State and civil, will foot up not less than three hundred cases.

—Charlotte *Observer*: Dr. J. J. Mott, collector of internal revenue for this district, is somewhat of a temperance reformer. He has recently discharged seven of his subordinates in the revenue service for drinking intoxicating liquors in violation of his orders to them on the subject. —— The more courts this county has the more litigation of one sort and another there is. So far from diminishing crime and removing the causes which lead to law suits, exactly the opposite has been the effect of every additional court. —— During the month of November 11,529 bales of cotton were weighed and sold in Charlotte. —— The body of Harrison Grice, who was drowned near Lincolnton a couple of weeks ago, has not been recovered. —— The two hatters, one from Columbia and the other from Augusta, who "beat" the Charlotte Hotel out of several days' board last week, encouraged by their success here, passed on to Salisbury and there "beat" the Boyden House out of a board bill which they had run up to $16. It would be well for the press to pass these gentlemen around.