

Table with 2 columns: Description of items and their prices.

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THE RECENT DECISION.

We published at the time the announcement of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the case of Edwards vs. Kearsey, in which the opinion of Justice North Carolina was reversed.

Many good lawyers have insisted all along that the homestead law was unconstitutional in its retroactive feature—that no State could pass a law that impairs the obligations of a contract.

We notice in the last Norfolk Virginian a letter from Capt. W. B. Bond, a very intelligent gentleman of Scotland Neck, Halifax county, in regard to the battle of Gettysburg.

From the table furnished by our correspondent we make the following recapitulation of the losses in killed and wounded, sustained by the soldiers of the three States, and it will be seen that those of the gallant Old North State greatly exceeded her sisters.

Here we see that North Carolina actually lost nearly as many as both Georgia and Virginia. As Heth's division, commanded by the lamented Gen. Pettigrew, has been so grossly and inexcusably misrepresented by Northern and Southern writers—by Scribner's Monthly, by Swinton, by McCabe, by Pollard, by Taylor and others who ought to know better, and ought to have been governed by a higher sense of justice and courtesy—we give the casualties:

Table showing casualties for North Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia.

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PREACHER IN HIS PULPIT.

Beecher is a most extraordinary man. He is undoubtedly a man of genius—a man of prodigious mental resources. Just now probably three-fourths of the American people believe him to be a very impure and wicked man—that he is living an eternal lie. But he does not appear to be disturbed by this overwhelming adverse judgment. He goes on just as if his life was saunter and his character without blot or stain.

"This is the one day of all the calendar, because the whole alphabet of human hope is in this day. This rising of the Lord Jesus Christ is the seal and surety of immortality to mankind. Everywhere there is a longing for continued existence. We long for immortality. We cannot bear the conception of being extinguished as candles for a thousand years. Harriet Martineau may do this, but I think in that she put herself apart from her kind. I am not willing to go back to dust. I never read of the destruction of Phidias's statue of Jupiter without sorrow. I have sympathy with a broken and wrecked locomotive."

"Then there is the mystery of the future, the completion of God's universe. I believe that part after part of God's scheme is being wrought out. There is coming a time when all the discordant and disheveled elements shall be gathered up. I want to be there to see it. I am willing to work in the quarry and the mine, so that by and by I may see the outcome. And at last I shall see Him, and with Him I shall see my own. At last I shall join my father and my mother. Again in my arms I shall cradle my babies. But high among all chief among ten thousand, and altogether lovely, shall be Jesus, my Saviour and my God. They and I will not meet me, Lord, but unto Thy name be praise and glory, forever and ever."

GETTYSBURG.

We notice in the last Norfolk Virginian a letter from Capt. W. B. Bond, a very intelligent gentleman of Scotland Neck, Halifax county, in regard to the battle of Gettysburg. He sends the Virginian a list of the killed and wounded among the North Carolina, Virginia and Georgia troops. Capt. Bond writes:

"The part that refers to the first corps is an extract from a report published in April, 1874, by the Southern Magazine. That of the other two corps I have just received from the War Department. I will not send you the original as received from the War Department."

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der's division lost heavily also. His two North Carolina brigades lost as follows:

Table showing casualties for Lee's and Pickett's divisions.

It will be seen that the fifteen regiments composing that division had but 224 killed. In Pettigrew's brigade of North Carolinians there were but four regiments. How many were killed? We answer 190. Add to these the number of killed (see above) in the 55th North Carolina, and we have 229 killed in the five regiments from North Carolina in Heth's division, or actually five more than were killed in Pickett's fifteen regiments of "magnificent Virginians." This is very curious, to say the least, considering how much misrepresentation has been made.

We wish to state another interesting fact that the tables published in the Norfolk Virginian show. Virginia had eight brigades and three regiments; Georgia had eight brigades; North Carolina had seven brigades and three regiments. Now if North Carolina troops did not do much hard fighting and behaved as badly as Yankee and Virginia writers have represented, of course she did not lose half as many troops as either Virginia or Georgia, for cowardly or inferior troops rarely ever get up close where men bleed and die. But what are the facts? The tables show the seven brigades and three regiments of North Carolinians only lacked some five or ten of having as many men killed at Gettysburg as the sixteen brigades and three regiments of Georgians and Virginians.

As long as the world stands these figures will give the lie direct to all statements that would detract from the magnificent fighting qualities of the North Carolina soldiers at Gettysburg.

We add the casualties in other North Carolina brigades:

Table showing casualties for other North Carolina brigades.

We add the testimony of a Northern writer, as old newspapers become valuable in after years, because of the historical material they contain. "The 12th New Jersey regiment was opposite the left of Pettigrew's brigade. In a sketch of that regiment, contained in a volume, entitled, 'New Jersey, and the Rebellion,' is this testimony, (pp. 304, 305):

"But at last, as they crossed the Emmetsburg road, only one hundred yards from our immovable line, a storm of fire and lead burst right in their faces, volley after volley smiting their serried ranks. At the same instant, enfilading fires, from half a score of crests, swept over and among them. Then, at last, their stern lines wavered; they crumbled and broken, gave way. But again, in one fierce, convulsive effort, they returned to the charge, but again were swept away, like mere chaff, and now, disheartened and beaten, finally withdrew, leaving us victors at all points on the field."

This surely was highly creditable. We doubt if the "magnificent Virginians" could have done better. Capt. Fiske, 14th Connecticut, published an account of the battle in the Springfield (Mass.) Republican. It was dated, "Battle of Gettysburg, July 4, 1863." We copy a small portion. He was left of Archer's brigade, which was the right of Heth's division. Capt. Fiske says:

"In three magnificent lines of battle, preceded by a line of skirmishers, the rebels charged across the valley and up the slope, at the crest of which our single line of troops lay behind a stone fence ready to receive them. In most gallant style they came on. I don't believe troops ever made a firmer or most persistent charge under such a murderous fire. But it was too much for human valor to accomplish."

Gen. Joseph R. Davis (not a North Carolinian), in his official report of the battle, dated August 23, 1863, bears ample testimony to the courage and devotion of Heth's division, and has described graphically its advance. What he says is important testimony, but we can only make room for the following extract:

"Under this destructive fire which commanded our front and left with fatal effect, the troops displayed great coolness, were well in hand and moved steadily forward, regularly closing up the gaps made in their ranks. Our advance across the fields was interrupted by other forces of a similar character, in crossing which the alignment became more or less deranged; this was in each case promptly rectified, and though the ranks were growing thinner at every step, this division moved steadily on, in line with the troops on the right, when within musket range we encountered a

REMARKABLE CUTTING AFFRAY.

Two colored men met in mortal combat—fearful cutting and slashing—both men seriously wounded.

Last night, about 7 o'clock, a terrible cutting affray occurred on Ninth, between McBerry and Walnut streets, between two colored men by the names of Alfred Benton and George Cole, which resulted in serious injuries to both of the parties to the conflict. The two men were subsequently taken to the station house by Officers Allen and King, where we called soon afterwards and found Dr. A. E. Wright, the city physician, engaged in dressing the wounds of George Cole, while Alfred Benton was lying upon the floor in an adjoining room. Cole had been stabbed in the left breast, just under the shoulder blade, the wound being apparently two inches deep, and from which the blood was trickling. He also had two less serious cuts on the back and left shoulder, and one in the upper lip. Benton's wound consists of a severe cut on the left cheek, which was laid completely open, and from which blood was flowing profusely. In fact, the station house had more the appearance of a butcher pen than anything else, in consequence of the great quantity of blood that had flown from the wounds of the two sufferers.

Cole's statement is to the effect that a quarrel had ensued between himself and Benton on Thursday night last, and that Benton threatened to kill him. On Friday night his wife also overheard Benton making a threat to kill him on the first opportunity. Cole says he paid no attention to these threats, having no idea that they were meant to be earnest. Last evening, however, he was met on the street and assaulted by Benton, as before stated. After he had received the first blow he noticed a case knife on the ground at his feet and picked it up, with which he defended himself to the best of his ability against the deadly assault of his adversary, succeeding in inflicting the wound in the face which we have alluded to, when the fight ceased.

Cole's wound is considered by the attending physician as a very serious one, and may result fatally, it being somewhat of the character of the one received by Lewis Davis a short time ago, and from which he died, while that of Benton is one of the ugliest that it has ever been our fate to look upon, though it is not considered dangerous from the fact that it is not contiguous to any vital part.

Cole, who is well known, from his having been employed for sometime past as a laborer in Oakdale Cemetery, and who gave the necessary bond, was taken home in an ambulance provided by the Chief of Police, he being in too bad a condition to walk, while it was decided not to remove Benton until this morning.

ARREST OF AN ALLEGED CRIMINAL.

A colored Deputy State Constable from Columbia, S. C., by the name of Richard Jones, arrived here on yesterday evening's train in search of one Thomas Thompson, colored, charged with robbing a colored man in Columbia and running away from that place, and subsequently, in company with others, breaking open and robbing stores and other buildings at Eastover and Acton, on the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroad. A short time after the Constable's arrival here he was walking on Water street, in company with Deputy Sheriff Daniel Howard, when he encountered the very individual he was after, whereupon he was taken into custody and lodged in the county jail to await a requisition from the Governor.

A LARGE SNAKE.

A rattlesnake, measuring over four feet in length, was killed in Brunswick county, yesterday, by Mr. Ernest G. Goodman. His attention was called to the spot where the snake was discovered by the pitiful wail of a goaling, which had been struck by the poisonous fangs of the reptile and died in a few minutes afterwards.

COL. ALLER'S CARD.

We are authorized to announce that Col. WILLIAM A. ALLER's name will be before the Democratic Convention of the Third Congressional District for the nomination for Congress. He takes this method of making the announcement on account of his aversion to the ordinary methods of electioneering for nominations for dignified positions, and because his engagements forbid his doing so extensively in any other way.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special to Richmond Dispatch.] LIGHT-HOUSE FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA COAST. WASHINGTON, April 26. The Light-house Board to-day informed the House Committee on Commerce that they approve of the erection of lights in Currituck sound, Chowan river, and Albemarle sound. That in Albemarle sound will be erected at Laurel Point, as a light-house is required there. It will cost about \$15,000. The others are all to be beacon-lights, and will in the aggregate cost only \$20,000 more.

THE FISH HATCHING.

Mr. Ferguson informs me that he will continue operations in Albemarle Sound until the 10th of May, by which time he expects to hatch 20,000 young fish. Up to this date 3,500,000, chiefly shad, have been secured and distributed in the waters of Virginia and North Carolina. He has also hatched between two and three hundred thousand herring—the first successful experiment in this line made.

Laurinburg had a fire and put it out the old way. The Charlotte Observer says: "After it was all over some one remembered for the first time that the town had recently bought a fire engine from the city of Wilmington, which was waiting in the engine house for service."

FROM WASHINGTON.

The North Carolina Political Campaign—Judicial and Senatorial Contests. [Special to Baltimore Sun.] WASHINGTON, April 24.

North Carolina politics are attracting some attention here at this time. The Democratic convention to nominate candidates for Judicial officers, &c., will meet in June. For a month or two there has been a creditable squabble in progress between several of the aspirants for Judicial position, which has threatened the harmony of the Democratic party of the State. This has had the effect to stir up hopes in the Republicans of regaining some, at least, of their lost ground, and some of the more prominent have come on to Washington to consult with the Republican leaders as to what means shall be used to take advantage of the situation. One result of this consultation is said to be the understanding that both money and money should be supplied here if the outlook should continue sufficiently promising to justify it.

The Democratic Congressmen from North Carolina, while admitting that he quarrel with the Judicial office has not been beneficial to the morale of their party, are of the opinion that it will not have any serious effect upon Democratic prospects at the approaching election. Another element which will make the canvass of unusual interest is the senatorial succession. The contest will be between Judge Merrimon, the present Senator, and Gov. Vance. The great point attempted to be made against Judge Merrimon is that he was elected to the seat which he now holds by the vote of the Republican members of the Legislature, aided by a few Democrats who would not vote for Gov. Vance, who at the time was the Democratic caucus nominee. This seems a singular objection to make, as Judge Merrimon had no understanding whatever with the Republicans, and did not know that any of them had the least intention of voting for him. Although Gov. Vance may be just as good a man, it is only fair to say that Judge Merrimon has been one of the ablest members of the Democratic side of the chamber, and no one has fought harder than he in the last six years for the constitutional rights of the South.

Montgomery Blair and the Florida Confession.

[Washington Star, 24.] Star—"Do you consider this alleged confession of much value; will it have much weight?" Blair—"By it one pregnant circumstance has been added to what everybody already knew. Every person of average intelligence knows that Hayes was not elected. The confession strengthens a truth which no one doubts. Mr. Barlow, Attorney General of New York, himself said that Hayes was not elected. It is a confession of the fellows who aided in the GREAT FRAUD."

Star—"What were the motives, do you think, which led to the confession; was it forced?" Blair—"The confession is, I think, wholly voluntary. I understand that McLin has recently had a series of misfortunes. He has lost his children and been much depressed. This, with other misfortunes, has awakened him, and his conscience has been pricked. There is no doubt but that this confession is genuine and wholly voluntary."

Lord Leitrim.

[Dublin Freeman's Journal.] It was not that Lord Leitrim was a bad man. Many of those who knew and served him loved him well. But he had been bitten by two deadly tarantulas; an unwavering belief in the rights of property and a passion for litigation. In a word, a career which might have been a useful one was wasted, fruitless, and unhappy, bringing profit to no one save the lawyers, who have lost in Lord Leitrim the stoutest and most frequent litigator in all Ireland. The memory of the errors of that career will, however, now be, in a degree, overshadowed in the general horror at the crime which closed it—a crime at which we must again express our profound and heartfelt horror.

Southern Feeling.

[Boston Journal.] A gentleman who has just returned from a sojourn in the cotton States reports that a great change has taken place in the general sentiment of the white people of that section respecting Northern men. Heretofore no Northern man, particularly if he was a Republican, could avoid feeling that he was held at arms' length and on suspicion by the more intelligent natives of the South. The man from the North was constantly reminded in many ways that he was of another world, with which they desired to have little to do. This has gradually been wearing away, but it is only within a year that a Northern man could feel that such sectional hostility had disappeared.

Elizabeth City Carolinian.

The prospect of good crops in this section this season is very encouraging. Our farmers are at work, and are working harder than ever before.

Spirits Turpentine.

The commencement of Greensboro Female College takes place on the 29th and 30th of May. Rev. J. T. Bagwell, of Goldsboro, will preach the annual sermon, and Robert T. Gray, Esq. of Raleigh, formerly associate editor of the Advocate, will deliver the address.

Blount, of the Wilson Advance, heard from: Some glorious women—radiant in sunshine of joyous expression, and redolent with the perfume of angelical influences, are now on a visit to Wilson, stamping upon the hearts of our gallants the belief that here in our own midst is the loveliest retreat of earth. And that all the hours that pass under the shadow of their enchantment must needs be fringed with the rosier feelings of delight.

Newbernian: Judge Brooks. This estimable gentleman and pure official has been in our city, the past week, presiding over the Federal Court. He has always been highly esteemed in our community, as he has throughout the State. Learned in the law, honorable and conscientious in its administration, and scrupulously polite to all the members of the Bar, there are but few members of the Judiciary who have made themselves as popular and acceptable to the public as Judge Brooks.

Charlotte Observer: Yesterday Mr. James Maglen, master mechanic of the Carolina Central Railroad, erected and set in operation, at the water tank in this city, an engine which is run without steam—hot air being used instead. The grand jury of the Superior Court, in session at Lincolnville, yesterday found a true bill against A. H. Black, who, with Pendleton, was arrested for shooting James Anthony, at the home of Mrs. Beaford, about two weeks ago. A. F. Lattimer, of Davidson College, has accepted the invitation to deliver the commencement address before the Monroe High School, in June.

Charlotte Observer: The storm, an edge of which struck Charlotte about sunset before yesterday, amounted almost to a cyclone in parts of Iredell county. Along the line of the Charlotte & Statesville Railroad, about a mile this side of Statesville, trees were blown up, and houses blown off, and other evidences left of the prevalence of a very severe storm. Visitors from Gaston report that there is still excitement in some parts of the county on account of mad dogs. There are no persons have been bitten. The military is looking up. Several new members have been added to the companies recently. It is likely that there will be two or more visiting military companies here on the 30th of May.

Charlotte Democrat: At the late term of Buncombe Superior Court, Judge Cloud sentenced Simpson Petty, colored, to two years in the State Jail for whipping his wife. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court on the ground of excessive punishment. Candidates were quite plentiful at Lincoln Court, and all very clever. We managed to shake hands with all of them. The Rev. Mr. Atkinson, of Raleigh, formerly pastor of the Presbyterian Church of that city, recently visited this city, having under consideration the removal of his charge, next Fall, of the Charlotte Institute for young ladies. [Mr. A. is still pastor of one of the Raleigh churches, the Second Presbyterian.]

Raleigh News: Mr. Willie T. Gray passed through the city yesterday on his way from Winston to Annapolis, where he will enter the Naval Academy. He has recently received the appointment. Thomas Young, Esq., one of the Justices of the Peace in Newbern, died on Tuesday night, suddenly. His age was about 50 years. The stock of the North Carolina State Life Insurance Company sold yesterday at auction, was resold in 24 hours at a profit of 100 per cent. The white troops of the State have been ordered to parade on the 20th of May next, and annually on that day hereafter. Mr. John Nichols, the well-known publisher of this city, has filed his petition in bankruptcy.

Tarboro Southern: T. W. Toler died on Thursday last, in this place, of pneumonia, in the 49th year of his age. He was a native of Petersburg, a painter by trade, and had piled his avocation in Tarboro for many years. He was much esteemed. —Washington correspondent: The letter of Capt. R. A. Showell produced a profound and sympathetic sensation here. Beaufort county will cast her vote for Maj. Yeates for Congress. People in the lower part of this county and Hyde county are compelled to send to Newbern, the nearest express office, for freight. The distance traversed in some cases is over 100 miles. The Easter school of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Newbern, has raised \$84.70. Mrs. Randolph, an esteemed parishioner, contributed \$100, raising the subscription to \$184.70.

Newbern Nut Shell: Orange Presbytery commenced its session last night at the Presbyterian church, on New street. Rev. J. C. Dill, Moderator, presided. He preached a very interesting sermon, from Deuteronomy, XXXII chapter and 31st verse: "For their rock is not as our rock, even our enemies shall be as judges." At the conclusion of the devotional services the Presbytery was organized by prayer, and Rev. F. Johnston, of Winston, was elected Moderator, and Rev. H. T. Darnold, of Milton, and W. W. Womack, of Flatrook, Clerks. The religious meeting in the New Street Methodist Church last night was not so intense as was expected, though there were several penitents. John R. Good, a prominent colored man of this city, who has been offering the apples on one of our streets yesterday, and we learn, is now living in a very critical condition.

Raleigh Observer: Col. Polk returned to yesterday evening from Avoca. He reports the fish hatchings as going on there on a most stupendous and satisfactory scale. Dr. Capehart has made several hauls of 100,000 herring. It was told Col. Polk that Mr. Ward had made a haul of 400,000. He had previously hauled in 305,000 at one catch. Mr. Ned Wood had as many as 200,000 on his beach at one time. He had and rock season has been bad, but the herring run is splendid. To give some idea of the operations, Mr. Wood wrote a note to Dr. Capehart to please lend him 200 bushels of salt. Just think of it! 200 bushels—a small loan, wasn't it? Mr. Polk has been pardoned by the Governor. He was convicted at the spring term, 1877, of Union Superior Court, of manslaughter. He is sixteen years old, and his application is signed by the judge, the solicitor, and a very large number of citizens.

Salisbury Watchman: Mr. and Mrs. Luke Blackmer have been called to Hartford, Conn., to the bedside of their son, Mr. W. C. Blackmer, who is suffering with pneumonia. Mr. White Blackmer, who has been attending college in that city for several years, is a very promising young man, and we hope soon to hear of his recovery. Van Burkhead, a notorious character of this county, came to town last week and said that he had killed a negro. He was drinking and no one believed his story, but it has since been discovered that he was telling the truth. The difficulty seemed some trifling thing, but Burkhead, who was drinking at the time beat him to death with a handspike. He has fled the country. Judge Sevier has withdrawn from the judicial contest. It would have been better for him never to have entered it—not that we sympathize with him, by no means. —On Wednesday last a horrid accident occurred, on the plantation belonging to The Rev. Mr. Johnston, a mile north of Salisbury, resulting in the death of a child, three years old, the son of Mrs. Tretler. The same old story, leaving little children by themselves.