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CRIMINAL COURTS.

There is but little doubt that an effort will be made in the next Legislature to establish Criminal Courts for the whole State or for the larger counties. The great increase of crime and the heavy dockets demand some change—either an increase of court facilities in those already existing, or the creation of a new court for the trial of criminal cases alone.

We have noticed that some of the most judicious papers have been urging the matter, and we may suppose that it will not be allowed to rest. If there is a fair share of good lawyers in the Legislature we may expect some proper, intelligent legislation as to crime and its suppression.

We suppose there is no doubt as to a necessity of a change in nearly all the counties for the trying of criminals. To expedite punishment there must be an increase of legal means. The best way, probably, is to create Criminal Courts for the larger counties. The Pittsboro Record says:

"In many counties of this State it is almost impossible to obtain redress for private wrongs—to try a civil action—on account of the great number of criminal cases that consume the time of the courts.

The Legislature, four years ago, attempted to remedy this by providing for the establishment of Inferior Courts, but their jurisdiction is limited to the smaller crimes and their presiding officers are generally men of but little legal learning, so that while these Inferior Courts are of some benefit, yet they cannot accomplish the purpose intended. They may do well enough for some counties, but the larger counties require Criminal Courts of unlimited jurisdiction, to be presided over by a judge learned in the law."

Nothing is more calculated to repress crime than swift and unerring punishment. A Criminal Court to be held monthly would be more effective than one held quarterly. But, we suppose, a circuit will have to be arranged with a Judge to ride it, and such counties only to be embraced as shall demand it, or where it is manifest the Inferior Courts do not answer the ends of justice.

In those counties holding no Inferior Courts of course Criminal Courts will have to be appointed. We are not concerned now so much as to the details as to the establishing of Courts that shall tend to suppress crime by a speedy punishment of criminals. The idea, as presented in some of our exchanges, is to have separate Judges to hold the Criminal Courts, and to have nothing to do with civil cases.

THE MILITIA BILL.

The present session of Congress will be called upon to tackle a question that may provoke much discussion as well as disagreement. It is the reorganization of the militia. The Scales bill, now before the House, was reported upon favorably by the Militia Committee. Mr. Bailey, of New York, has introduced another bill, a substitute, we believe. It is thought by some that the Bailey bill will be preferred. We have not given either bill that careful consideration essential to the forming of an intelligent opinion, much less of dogmatizing about them. The Scales bill divides the militia into two classes; the Bailey bill into three. The following contains the main features of the latter bill:

factured desire that the militia should be reorganized and placed upon a footing something akin to efficiency. We do not know any pressing or real necessity for this. This country ought not to have any ambitious, aggressive designs, and no other country will be likely to invade the United States. So the need of a militia as proposed in the bill is not very apparent. But we suppose one or the other bill will pass, but possibly with some changes as to details.

The North Carolina Legislature will meet early in January. It has two months in which to transact the important business that will come before it. If it will go to work as soon as it assembles, and do not consume ten days in organizing, idling, &c., as is sometimes the case, and twenty days more in filibustering, dodging issues, and in gaseous displays of genuine incandescent Buncombe light, then the time allowed by the Constitution is ample. The new constitution adopted in Georgia limits the biennial session of the Legislature to forty days, and for that large and prosperous State this time is thought to be ample. And so it is, we have no doubt. The South Carolina Legislature, at its last session, transacted its business in thirty days, and then went home. That was business-like. The Louisville Courier-Journal wants a forty days' session for Kentucky. It says that is enough, and no extra session should be allowed, not even to sell a railroad. Excellent. Work, and not free drinks and general idleness, is what the people expect and demand.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATION.

The Star referred briefly to the recommendation of Attorney General Devens for the United States to take control of all elections for members of Congress, thereby meaning of members of the House. Senators are members of Congress as much as Representatives, but Devens referred to the latter. This is simply a demand, pure and simple, for a strong government. It is but another indication of the growing tendency among Radical politicians to a centralized power. The suggestion of Mr. Devens is noteworthy, coming from the official legal adviser of the Federal Government. It is more than a mere hint, we take it. It is a part of a matured plan to strengthen the hands of the Federal authorities whilst lessening the privileges of the people.

We do not mean to go into the discussion of the merits of such a proposition at this time. When the subject was up in the extra session we referred to the matter at large, and endeavored to show the dangers that lurk in the Federal election laws to the rights and liberties of the people. We will not traverse the ground anew. It is to be noted that the legal adviser of the Government takes occasion to recommend a change that is especially offensive to the Democrats, who constitute quite one-half of the voters of this country.

Mr. Devens thinks the next House will be such as he is, and hence his recommendation: "That the law providing for Federal Supervisors of Election be extended so as to include a National Supervisor over all polls at which a member of Congress is to be chosen."

The legal adviser of the Government is not satisfied with a mere supervision of elections by the Federal official, but he goes farther and asks that he also be empowered "to directly administer the law, instead of leaving it to State officials." If this is not a bold plea for centralization what is it? If this is not a bold purpose to so obtain control of the elections as to insure a continuance of the lease of the Republican officials then pray what is it? We believe that Devens's sole aim is to enable his corrupt party to retain possession indefinitely. The Democrats will do well to prevent if possible any attempts on the part of the Radicals to emasculate the right of suffrage and to invade farther the rights of the people.

THE RICE CROP.

There is no section where finer rice is grown than on the Cape Fear river. More rice is produced to the acre than upon any of the farms adjacent to Charleston. In fact, there are no better rice fields than those lying between Wilmington and Smithville. Of course most of the rice fields are not cultivated now, and it will require a large outlay of money and labor to recover them and place them in proper condition and make them every way desirable, but the time may come, will come, when this will be done. The growth of rice in North Carolina is increasing steadily and the crop of 1880 will be nearly double that of the year preceding.

The rice crop of the United States is so large that it is now thought it will equal the demand for home consumption. This is important, and shows progress in the right direction. In 1879-80, the year ending June 30, the United States imported 51,943,609 pounds of rice. The preceding year the importation was much larger, reaching the high figures of 70,271,247 pounds. If, now, for the year ending June 30, 1881, the rice crop should equal the demand, it shows remarkable growth. The following figures are taken from the Boston Commercial Bulletin:

"Foreign rice is far inferior to the native article, and can successfully compete with the latter only when it can be offered at a lower price. Last year the American crop consisted of about 100,000 barrels from Louisiana and 75,000 barrels from the Carolinas, or a total of about 175,000 barrels, as the barrel contains some 283 pounds and the tierce is equal to about two and a half barrels. This year the Louisiana crop is estimated at 250,000 barrels and the Carolina crop at 100,000 barrels, making a total of 350,000 barrels—an increase of nearly 50,000 barrels over last year. Prices have opened fully a cent a pound lower than a year ago, and the prospect is that the lower grades of American rice will be sold at a less price than 'Rangoons,' and consequently the latter cannot be imported at a profit. It will be seen that the largest increase in the American crop has taken place in Louisiana, where the area under cultivation this year has not been less than 50,000 acres."

The North Carolina rice will compare with the best, and, we have but little doubt, is better than that grown elsewhere. At present there are rice mills in Wilmington, Charlotte, New Orleans and Savannah. We hope the rice crop in this State will be stimulated and increased.

Since writing the above we have received a letter from Sheriff Taylor, of Brunswick, which contains matter that may very properly conclude this article. He says:

"I think there is a better prospect for old Brunswick. Turpentine, tar, &c. are or soon will be exhausted; but cotton and upland rice will take their place with less labor and better returns. This will be so more particularly of rice. There are hundreds and thousands of acres of low, savanna clay subsoil lands in Brunswick that will produce from 20 to 30 bushels of rice to the acre, that will not produce 3 bushels of corn per acre, or scarcely anything else. With a little manuring the will produce 40 or 50 bushels rice, which is more than the average on the Cape Fear river lands. Ten acres of uplands can be cultivated in rice with less expense than one acre on the river land. Some men have produced as much as 70 bushels per acre on upland, and any stiff clay lands will average 25 bushels per acre, which beats cotton all to pieces. I think, Mr. Editor, when all the river rice lands are reclaimed into a high state of cultivation, which I hope will soon be the case, and people get fully into the upland, our long neglected county will come to the front in agriculture."

The second railroad horror, this time near Charlotte, is very distressing. Surely the passengers could have been advised to get out of the hindmost car when another train was following fast. Five persons lost their lives through sheer neglect. Are not many railroad accidents the result of culpable carelessness? We have known two accidents that proper care would have avoided. In one instance the conductor acted against the cautionary advice of others, but he shouldered the responsibility, and had a collision with another train within four hundred yards of the depot, by which several were bruised, and one man had his thigh crushed, from which he died probably. The conductor, "having shouldered the responsibility," made tracks through the woods in double-quick time. Accidents will occur under the most watchful care, but many can be avoided. We must commend the cool, splendid courage manifested by Engineer Wisenburg, in the late catastrophe, as he stood by his engine and awaited calmly the fateful shock. It was a fine instance of genuine heroism, and was as grand a display of duty and pluck as could be seen on a battle-field.

THE ULCER OF POLYGAMY—HOW TO TREAT IT.

If we may judge of approval by the tone of the press there is nothing in Hayes's late message to the Congress that meets with such uniform endorsement as his remarks on the necessity of extirpating the curse of polygamy. Not that what he says amounts to a great deal, for his recommendation does not strike deep enough—does not go down to the roots of the evil, but it is felt that something prompt and stern should be done, and Hayes at least shows that he recognizes that a blistering shame exists and a very serious curse with it in the institution of polygamy in Utah. It is that recognition which pleases much more than any remedy that is proposed. The curse and blight is not confined to the Territory of Utah, but its emissaries and proselytizers are even visiting Europe, and some of the fellows have been in North Carolina endeavoring to sow their seeds of corruption and to allure men and women to their undoing. The evils are spreading to the adjacent Territories, and one of the Governors has appealed to Congress for protection against the baleful and insidious enemy that is at work.

It is singular—it is monstrous, that a system that saps the foundation of all society; that destroys the virtue of women and the family, and violates the laws of God and of man, should be allowed for a day. What a mockery, that a Mormon delegate—a dirty fellow who spits upon the laws and convictions and prejudices and sanctities of the country—should have a seat in the Congress of the Union, as a delegate from a Territory in which polygamy is the religion and the practice, and he himself a leading sinner in this direction.

The American legislators do not appear equal to dealing with the course, and the press of the country should agitate the matter until the whole land is stirred and such an indignation is aroused there will be no resisting it. Under the existing laws it is impossible to reach the ulcer. An exchange thus suggests the difficulty:

"Law against polygamy exist in Utah; but before an elder with a dozen wives can be punished for the crime, he must be convicted by the unanimous verdict of a jury and sentenced by a competent court. Now, increase in the American crop has taken place in Louisiana, where the area under cultivation this year has not been less than 50,000 acres."

How the evil is to be met we may not be able to determine, but the lawyers of the country ought to be able to devise a plan by which the great crime against civilization and morality shall be eradicated. The following suggestion of a cure may have a good deal in it, and it is well worth the attention of the Congress. The Baltimore American says:

"There is one plan that, it seems to us, would not be open to these objections; that is divide the territory of Utah between Nevada and Colorado. Let Utah disappear from the map. The right to pass such a measure can hardly be denied, though the consent of the two States would be necessary. The question would then be under the control of State law, which polygamy would find it hard to evade. The removal of a case from one part of the then enlarged Colorado to Nevada to another might be made by the State law by the prosecution as well as by the accused, supposing that a fair trial could not be had. A fair trial of a person charged with polygamy cannot be had in a community a large portion of which hold polygamy to be no crime. To remove the case to a part of the State where the laws are respected would require either the alteration of jury law nor the packing of a jury."

It strikes us that this is a better plan than that recommended by the President. It will be certain to meet the question boldly and squarely, and will result in success. Hayes's idea is to reorganize the Territory by appointing a Governor and Judges, and debaring all persons who practice or uphold polygamy from holding office or voting. This may answer, but it has the objection which is repugnant to American ideas of fair-play of packing the Court in order to obtain a verdict. The plan of the American will place the Territory under the control of States to be absorbed in them, and this will force the Mormons to either abide by the laws as all good citizens must do, or to leave for "parts unknown." The blight of a Territory being devoted to the vicious, monstrous, degrading, heaven-defying system of Mormonism will be removed.

Something must be done. There is no sense in delay, for the cancer is eating away all the time and the virus is spreading into the adjacent members of the body politic. If any one thinks that the Mormons are frightened, or even disturbed at the President's message, he need only to consult some of their papers. They have been so long allowed to defy the laws and to flaunt their wickedness and immoralities in the face of the whole people that they think nothing will be ever done, and they may go on indefinitely practicing their iniquities without fear of molestation or danger.

ONE MORMON PAPER SAYS:

"So far as the recommendations concerning Utah are concerned they need give no later-Day Saint any uneasiness. They are too unpractical and un-American for serious consideration by statesmen, and Lord rules in the earth beneath as well as in the heavens above."

Another of the organs of this defiant and immoral class declares confidently: "No extreme measures, and especially such as are monstrously vicious, unkind and unwholesome in themselves, will accomplish anything. If Congress persists in understanding this, if Mr. Hayes does not, we need have no fear that a provisional government for this Territory will be provided, nor that the 150,000 persons in this and other Territories, against whom the President's orders will be deprived of any more of their rights."

We repeat, Congress should take firm hold of this very important question and deal with it as one would deal with a poisonous serpent or a dangerous dog. It must be destroyed—rooted out. Nothing but the sternest, sharpest treatment will do.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE is prepared according to the directions of Professor E. N. Horsford, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, the well-known authority on nutritious bread and the cereals. Useful in Dyspepsia, Nervous Disease, Mental and Physical Exhaustion, &c.

TARIFF REVISION.

The Philadelphia American, a strong Republican high tariff paper, is urging a revision of the present tariff. This is significant. It is published in the greatest manufacturing city and in a State where the iron industries are more benefited than possibly any other by the war rates that now prevail. The American thinks it unwise to allow the matter of tariff revision to drop. It says if the protectionists—and they were numerous—who favored warmly revision before the Presidential campaign caused such a flutter give up the cause now they will "be pursuing a most unwise course," and "will be playing into the hands of their enemies." It does not hesitate, vigorous protectionist paper that it is, to admit that the present tariff contains "unfortunate and inequitable details." It says that the advocates of free trade are strengthened by "a good string of tariff abuses," and that they "will be delighted" to see the protectionists doing nothing to reform present abuses.

Before the election the North was stirred because John Welsh and other rich Radicals pretended that Hancock's election meant destruction to the manufacturing interests, and that the plank in the Democratic platform—a tariff for revenue—was simply awful. No greater fraud exists than the present tariff. It is a standing shame and reproach. The American is led to say:

"We do not know what is the strength of the party of inaction among the Protectionists in Congress. We do not even know the name of any person that favors that policy. We trust and hope that it is not a large one. We equally hope that they will give heed to the renewed declarations of the Industrial League and of the Iron and Steel Association on the subject. If they do not, they will be guilty of what would be both a blunder and a crime."

The two bodies referred to are in favor of a revision—a reconstruction of the tariff. The Eaton bill ought to pass, unless it were possible to obtain still more radical changes.

It is not generally known to our readers that the African race has produced one actor of very considerable genius who played in all of the great European cities. He was born at Belair, near Baltimore, in 1804, and died in 1887 in Poland, just as he was on the eve of starting for a professional tour in the United States. He had the physiognomy of the genuine African, but must have been an actor of no little power and originality. His first wife was an English woman; his second a Swedish Baroness. He played Othello to the great Edmund Kean's Iago, and also appeared with him in other plays. He was decorated by some of the European kings with titles. His career, altogether, was a very remarkable one. A negro lawyer, a man of ability and cultivation and who writes well, T. Morris Chester, of New Orleans, has two very entertaining papers upon him in recent numbers of Forney's Progress. The name of the eminent African tragedian was Ira Aldridge.

Professor Abbe, the gentleman who attended to the scientific part of the Signal Service under Gen. Myer, says only about one fourth of Vennor's weather predictions come true. We give an interesting paragraph from a recent scientific talk about weather and its prognostications, as he, Prof. Abbe, is reported in the Washington Post:

"I was a little amused last Tuesday morning," said Professor Abbe, "to hear ever so many people remark, as they made the best of their way through the heavy snow, that Vennor was indeed a wonderful man. Yet he did not, as I understand it, predict this storm in the slightest. He prophesied, if he said anything at all, a heavy snow storm on or about the 23d of December for the Dominion of Canada and the New England States. The snow, as everybody remembers, was to be eleven feet deep. Our weather-man will show you just how near Mr. Vennor came to his predictions. The storm did not extend further west than Columbus nor further north than Philadelphia. He was just about 500 miles away from his mark."

The Railway Review tells how distance is to be annihilated between New York and Philadelphia. The distance is eighty miles and a fraction. It is thought by the new route proposed an engine of sufficient power can make it in an hour. On the trial trip of the Baldwin locomotive, No. 5,000, it ran at the rate of eighty-one miles an hour on an ascending grade, and no doubt on a level road it would have run ninety miles. Mr. Le Van explained how he proposed to make a locomotive that can perform the latter distance.

John Robinson's big elephant, "Chief," that killed his keeper at Charlotte, gave a drunken fellow a tremendous hug in Cincinnati on the 26th. His name is Sullivan and it is feared he will die. He undertook "to prodig" with him.

A farmer told us the other day that he would not be without Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup if it cost five dollars a bottle. It must be a wonderful remedy. The price is only 25 cents a bottle.

Edwin Booth is gaining ground in England. On Monday night he played Bertuccio in the "Fool's Revenge," and with splendid success. The London papers are very cordial in their praise of the personation. The Times says:

"There are scenes in the Fool's Revenge in which Mr. Booth confirms the opinion that he is a most accomplished actor; but neither in his tenderness, rage nor despair was there sufficient depth. He acts in the last scene with admirable skill. Mr. Booth was badly supported."

The Irish Home Rulers are waxing more determined. At a meeting held in Dublin on Monday there were thirty-seven members of Parliament present. They resolved "to sit in opposition to every government measure that refuses the just demands of the Irish people, especially that for legislative independence." Thirty-seven resolute, united men—some of them of good abilities—must make themselves felt.

Here is something that concerns North Carolina and one of its mining companies. The New York letter to the Philadelphia Ledger says:

"The King's Mountain Mining Company has been placed in the hands of a receiver, Jonathan Brownell, on the application of Chauncey T. Bowen, a creditor. The company was incorporated September 10, 1877, with a capital stock of \$1,200,000. It had 500 acres of mineral lands in Gaston county, North Carolina, the buildings and improvements on which were valued at \$300,000. Hon. Andrew Curtin, of Pennsylvania, was President. The last sale of the company's stock was on December 23—300 shares at 60 cents per share."

The friends of the venerable Major N. H. Hotchkiss, our old railroad man, sent him a Christmas stocking. It contained \$1,200. We never heard of an editor's stocking, except the heathen one he hung up to catch a few hot buns from Santa Claus.

There is another diplomatic scandal. A Washington lady, Miss Carrie Carroll, was married two years ago to W. H. D. Haggard, an attaché of the British Legation. The fellow has abandoned her, leaving her in England. Mrs. H. now sues for a divorce.

Marshal Fitzsimmons, of Atlanta, Ga., is now known to be in arrears \$5,000. He will be removed, it is thought. He is one of Hayes's Democratic selections. It was not a good one.

Blaine is going to Europe and will be absent on a tour of eight months. Such is the report from Washington. This is denied, however, and another report is that he will be Secretary of State under Garfield.

The New Orleans papers anticipate considerable immigration from Germany during 1881. The first installment—some twenty odd in number—arrived a few days ago and obtained work at once.

The last news from Tennessee concerning the United States Senatorship is more encouraging. It is now believed that the Republican plan will not succeed.

Dr. J. Marion Sims, a native of Georgia, and one of the most eminent physicians and surgeons in the Union, is now very dangerously sick in New York.

THE CULTIVATION OF JUTE.

Mr. W. T. Hall, of Bogus, Columbus county, sends us a specimen of jute raised by him, from seed sent him by Mr. Don. McRee, of this city. The stalk measures ten feet in length, and Mr. Hall informs us that the one sent us is not the only stalk that will measure that much, nor he the only one in his section that has grown them that high. The seed were planted about the middle of June, which is considered very late. It seems to thrive well on stiff clay lands. Mr. Hall and other planters in his section would like some information as to the cultivation of jute and its preparation for market.

FOREIGN SHIPMENTS.

The Norwegian barque Stanley, Capt. Ellingsen, was cleared from this port for Liverpool, yesterday, with a cargo of 2,364 barrels of cotton. Messrs. Williams & Murchison were the shippers. In addition to the above, the German barque Theres, Capt. Hansen, was cleared for Hull, and the Norwegian brig Dolan, Capt. Dietrichsen, for Trieste, Austria, the former with 250 casks spirits turpentine and 3,980 barrels of rosin, and the latter with 300 casks spirits turpentine and 3,000 barrels of rosin; both by Messrs. Paterson, Downing & Co.

FORGOT THE BABY.

A woman started from Laurinburg for this city a few days since and left her baby on the platform at the depot. She didn't miss the little one until the train had gotten some distance from town, when her distress was painful to behold. At the first stopping place she got off and footed it back to Laurinburg, where she found her baby, but her mind was so upset in consequence of the incident that she concluded to indefinitely postpone her contemplated trip—although her "Saratoga" awaits her in this city.

A dispatch from Fort Buford says that "Gall" one of Sitting Bull's chiefs, who has been defiant, surrendered unconditionally on Monday at Poplar Creek, with twenty-six lodges. It is confidently expected that in view of this surrender and the severe weather, Sitting Bull and his one hundred lodges will surrender soon.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE

The Legislature meets next Wednesday. — Statesville American: The Statesville post-office has been raised to the grade of a Presidential office, with a salary of \$1,000, in accordance with a suggestion made by the Statesville American a few weeks ago. So much for private iniquity.

— Washington Press: We notice with pleasure the growing increase in favor of a general prohibition law in all sections of the State. Halifax and Chatham counties, through their boards of county commissioners, have already refused to grant any more licenses for retailing liquors.

— Mr. J. S. Tomlinson has disposed of the Hickory Press to Messrs. D. H. Tuttle and W. F. Tomlinson, who will have editorial charge with the next number. A pleasant and profitable time to all concerned. The Press will begin its eleventh annual volume with its next issue.

— Charlotte Home: The Mecklenburg Remedy gave a party, at the residence of Mrs. Margaret Brothers, last Tuesday evening, at the residence of Judge Everts, a colored girl, was arrested Friday, charged with having destroyed her infant by throwing it into a well. She is now in jail awaiting trial.

— Raleigh Star: A telegram was received today by D. R. Lewis, of this city, announcing the sudden death of Mrs. G. W. H. Cox, yesterday evening, at 5 o'clock, in the city of Philadelphia. The lady was in that city under medical treatment, but her death was entirely unexpected, and is a great shock to her many friends in this city.

— Wilson Advance: Up to the present time 15,337 bales of cotton have made ship from this place. There are 500 more which are in the hands of Judge Schrock and the members of the bar in attendance upon Court at Washington, Beaufort county, included in a little "mutual admiration and congratulation," at the close of the Superior Court for that county. Will this example be followed?

— The Charlotte Observer announces the death of Mr. Arthur Armour, the first settler of the land now occupied by Davidson College. He at one time owned nearly all of it. He had lived there sixty years. He at one time walked to New York, where he was the owner to Ireland, where he was interested in several mines of an estate, and on his return from abroad walked back home. Such were the means of that day.

— Hickory Carolinian: At Excelsior, some robbers entered the dwelling house of P. L. Estes on Sunday night while the family were at church, broke open some trunks, and stole some hundred dollars of money. Mr. Robert Carson, living ten miles east of Taylorville, in Alexander county, lost two barns of tobacco last week. He had fired up to keep his tobacco from getting in too high case.

— Raleigh Visitor: The Supreme Court meets in this city next Monday. Early on Sunday morning last the body of Sidney Hinton, alias Sidney Bates, was found on the west bank of Neuse river within a few feet of Millburne bridge, six miles from this city. From the evidence elicited before the coroner's jury, it appeared that the unfortunate man had been drinking freely on the evening previous, and was seen going in the direction of the river.

— At a McDowell mass meeting Mr. W. H. Malone, an old legislator, said: "In my opinion this is a happy era for Western North Carolina. Railroad and telegraphic communications have been established with the outside world, no longer pent up amid impassable mountains, and our natural facilities are unequalled. Here in this great undeveloped 'empire' we have discovered a new source of wealth. Here we have found the golden Eldorado on the soil of our mountains, and was seen going in the direction of the river."

— Toisnot Home: Rev. J. E. Carter of Wilson, and Rev. W. P. Blake of Weldon, assisted by others, organized a Baptist church in this place, last week, with about fifteen members. From what we learn, it is contemplated that early steps will be taken to build a new church. We learn that Spencer Harper and a negro by the name of Joe Ranting got into a difficulty with the members of the church, which led Bunting to draw a knife and cut Harper in several places. Harper, at last reports, was in a very critical condition, and not expected to live. Bunting made his escape.

— Fayetteville Examiner: We learn that the Commissioners of Harnett county have come to an understanding with the employees of the county serap, by which the former submit to judgment against the county to the amount of about eighteen thousand dollars and costs, which judgment is to be satisfied and discharged, provided the county shall pay twelve thousand dollars—two-thirds the amount of the judgment. A farmer of Cumberland, who was in our office not long since gave us an item which we place before the farmers of this section. He stated that from the sale of a one horse crop of cotton this year, he had received the sum of twelve hundred and thirty dollars. This statement may be relied on. What is the value of land that will net \$15 to \$18 per acre annually and without deterioration? The death of Mr. J. M. McNeill, Intelligence of the death of Mr. Charles E. H. reached Fayetteville on Tuesday last. She had gone to Raleigh for medical treatment only last week. The remains were brought to Fayetteville on Wednesday and interred in the cemetery of Mr. Charles E. H. husband, the Rev. George McNeill, in the Fayetteville cemetery.

— Charlotte Observer: Cotton receipts for the week so far, only five days, 1,686 bales. The largest were on Wednesday, when 448 bales were brought to town. — There are many ingenious couplings which would do away with this wanton exposure of valuable lives, and among them the contrivance of Mr. Charles E. H. of this city, is conspicuous for its simplicity and perfection. — Hon. Horatio O. Burdick, Director of the United States Mint, has ordered the compilation of exact statistics in regard to North Carolina mines and the amount of gold production. Prof. Hanna, of the mint here, has just returned from a tour of Mitchell, Burke and McDowell counties, with this object in view. He reports, generally, that the interest in mines is active everywhere, and a number of new mines are being opened. It is reported that an accident occurred on the Air Line day before yesterday by which one man lost his life and the train was entirely wrecked. Nothing could be squeezed out of the employees of the road, and it is all that could be learned, except that the wreck occurred ten miles this side of Atlanta. — Tuesday, Charles Traylor, a lad, was fooling with a gun in the front door of Maloney's store, in Salisbury, when it was discharged. Mr. John H. Bonner and his son, James, who were standing in the drug store just opposite, received shot in their faces. Neither was seriously hurt. — None of the injured in the accident on the Carolina Central have yet recovered from Lincolnton. They are so badly bruised up and so sore that they have to be abed. The remains of those burnt, not being distinguishable, have been boxed up, and will probably be interred together. — The Mooreville News says there have been 54 cases of measles in Fronts & Leasler's school within the last two months. There have been about 710 cases in town, and there is a chance for about 80 more. There has been but one death thus far.