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CENSUS STATISTICS.

In 1860 the cereal crops aggregated 1,229,039,616 bushels. Four years after they were 1,387,295,523—a very small increase on account of the war. In 1880 they reached the enormous figures of 2,714,602,681 bushels—an increase of 96 per cent. in one decade. New England increased 24 per cent., Middle States 11, Southern 48, Western 136, and Pacific States and Territories 113. Of the total raised 70 per cent. belongs to the Western States. Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska—ten States—raised 1,920,218,085 bushels in 1880, an increase of 136 per cent. in ten years. Two States, Maine and New Hampshire, and one territory, New Mexico, show a decrease of production. In the New England States during the last twenty years there has been an increase in wheat of 13.29 per cent., and a decrease in corn of 7.85 per cent. The South during that time shows but 5.62 increase in wheat. The other great sections have gone ahead tremendously. The increase in the Middle States in corn during the last ten years is 42.08; in wheat 3.2. In the Southern States, 49.73 in corn, 44.94 in wheat. In the Western States 195.49 in corn, 67.79 in wheat. The census shows that there are 3,500 men engaged regularly in the fishing business.

We can see no occasion for apology on the part of Mr. Cyrus W. Field for proposing to raise a fund for Mrs. Garfield and her children. Some of our Presidents have died poor and one or two almost in want. The President, however grateful, will be too manly and self-respecting to be controlled improperly in his action by those who contribute to the fund. Mr. Field has deemed it necessary to publish a letter in the New York Times justifying his course. He says to the point:

"He deems, moreover, such a provision necessary and commendable in view of the identification suffered by Mrs. Lincoln, after the assassination of her husband, in having her case discussed in Congress and in the papers, coupled with the paltry calculation how much—or rather how little—the nation ought to give her—the whole ending with merely the allowance of the rest of that one year's salary and the trifling privilege of 'this' and 'that'—all that a Congress which voted \$300,000 for Lincoln's funeral expenses could give to the widow of the man who had saved the nation. The Southern question was as dead as Julius Cæsar."

And now Senator-elect Miller appears as a man of liberal views towards the South. He is represented in the not very credible New York Tribune as saying recently of the campaign of 1880:

"Certain men have remained at the head of the Republican party in this State solely by keeping alive the Southern question. Year after year the speeches they have made and the political pamphlets they have had printed have rung the same tune of distrust in the South. Last fall they adopted the same old policy. I received pamphlet after pamphlet charging all sorts of things in the South, but the people would not read them. The Southern question was as dead as Julius Cæsar."

We hope the new Senator will turn out to be a sound prophet, and that the South may have rest.

The New York Legislature yesterday elected Lapham to fill the Senatorial vacancy created by the resignation of Conkling. Miller and Lapham! What a pair to represent the great State of New York in the Senate of the United States. Intellectually, pigmies. Tom Thumb, anything and everything that is remote from greatness.

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It is a good time to correct errors, historical or otherwise. It is so easy to fall into an error, and it is so easy for an error once started to live forever. A. H. Stephens, to be immortal. Not long ago the Charleston News and Courier got the date wrong as to the accession of North Carolina. Ex-President Davis, who loves the truth, has fallen into errors, some of which he has seen and which he will correct willingly in his next edition. His error as to the electoral vote for President in 1860 has been pointed out in the STAR by a well informed correspondent.

There is another error that should be corrected. It is important to do so now, for the longer an error lives the deeper it is to die. It is like wire-grass among other grasses. It flourishes to the detriment of truth. In the eventful winter of 1860-61 the General Assembly of North Carolina directed that the question of "Convention" or "No Convention" should be submitted to the voters of the State. Alluding to this fact our friend Montford McGhee, Esq., in his excellent sketch of the life and character of the late William A. Graham, uses the following expression: "The doctrine of secession met with little favor in North Carolina." Again: "The people at the polls pronounced with great unanimity against a Convention."

Mr. McGhee is in great error as to the last remark. It is, however, a very wide spread error. The actual vote on that occasion, taken from the official figures, (Governor Ellis's letter book) was as follows:

No Convention	46,803
Convention	46,409

Majority against Convention, 394. These returns do not include the vote of Davis county, which, if it had been received, would have increased the majority against Convention to 531. Surely there is no evidence of "the great unanimity against Convention" that our friend supposes. The vote was some 20,000 less than in the preceding August election, when it was about 112,500. This shows indifference at least. Probably those who did not vote were divided in the same ratio as those who did vote. There is nothing in the election to warrant the prevailing opinion now that the "doctrine of secession met with little favor in North Carolina" at that time.

The people of North Carolina, as an abstract question, did not prefer secession. They were devoted to the Union. They never would have seceded if the States South of us had not gone out and formed a Southern Confederacy. North Carolina hesitated long before she entered the Union; she hesitated long before she undertook to retire from the Union. Cautiously she considered the question of accepting the Constitution; cautiously she considered the great question of seceding from the Union. In 1860 there was not a very large secession sentiment in the State we apprehend. In 1861, when the election referred to above was held, there was a very strong sentiment. Our people knew that there was great moral force in numbers. They recognized the importance of taking our stand among the Southern sisterhood. Once resolved upon secession they determined like an heroic people who loved liberty better than life to be a power in the conflict. She voted 112,500 in 1860. She had over 124,000 in the war.

THE VICE PRESIDENT.

The crisis through which the President is passing, and we rejoice to believe successfully, has called attention to one fact of which parties have been very neglectful. It is the character and antecedents of the men nominated for the Vice Presidency. Heretofore, in many instances, the second place on the ticket has been regarded as so little importance that inferior men or men not in harmony with the views of the nominees for the Presidency, have been selected. Both parties have done this. John Tyler deserted his party and overturned all of the calculations of the Whigs, who had elected him. Andrew Johnson ran counter to the views and wishes of his own party in 1867. He first undid what the admirable Lincoln was trying to do when he was assassinated, and then, after two years, he began to undo what he had done himself. He had by this course neither the confidence of the South nor the confidence

denoe of the North. It is urged that the Republicans blundered in the same way in the nomination of Colfax with Grant, and so with Wilson for the second term of Grant. The Philadelphia Times says:

"Colfax was named with Grant. Does any man doubt for a moment that he would have carried out a policy diametrically opposed to Grant's had he succeeded? Wilson was next chosen. His protests against Grant went on record almost the first day he assumed office. The Democrats followed faithfully the same bad practice. To say nothing of such opposites as Blair and Seymour, Pendleton and McClellan, they joined two such extremes as Hendricks and Tilden."

We may hope that both parties will learn something from the past. If Garfield were to die every one knows that Arthur would at once change the whole policy of the present Administration, and commit his party to a line of action opposed diametrically to that which has been pursued thus far. It is believed that the friends of Garfield would be turned, adrift in almost every instance, and that to all intents and purposes the Government would be administered in the interests of Grant and Conkling and Arthur.

Surely, such an experience—such a threat of danger should be instructive—should serve as a warning. Common sense teaches that in selecting two candidates, one of whom may succeed the other, as has been the case three times, there should be concord, unity of views and plans and common devotion to the success of the party as well as to the prosperity and happiness of the country.

"AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION."

There is extraordinary depression in England in agricultural industry. Lands have been sold recently for less than one-third what they fetched a few years ago. The great North-west produces corn and wheat at such low rates that it can deliver it in England at less cost actually than it can be grown there. There is a scheme to try to revive agricultural industry on the joint stock plan. Several wealthy noblemen propose to raise a capital of \$5,000,000 and to lease on long time farms to be worked by careful managers. By this means it is believed that the producing properties of the land can be enhanced greatly and much land now uncultivated can be brought into use. The Louisville Courier-Journal says of this plan of Lord Derby and others:

"If this arrangement will result in handing over to the plow the thousands of acres now inclosed for deer and hunting purposes by the English lords, there is no doubt the agricultural depression will, to a great extent, pass away. There is land enough lying idle in the United Kingdom to support the whole population, but too much of it is locked up for picturesque purposes."

The distress among the tenants and poor laborers is without excuse. While the noble and rich are indulging their aesthetic tastes and fondness for pleasures and games, the working classes are pushed to the wall and thousands of them can gain with the hardest labor scarcely enough to keep soul and body together. But there is still the difficulty of cheap production that the farmers of England and Scotland have to contend against. When American wheat and American beavers can be sold in English and Scotch towns for less money than they can produce them, what then? Will not the cash buyers put their money where the food is cheapest—where a given sum will purchase the largest quantity?

South Carolina is being helped in the matter of immigration by Castle Garden. The executive officer of that place, Mr. Jackson, is selecting as far as he is able to do so, families who are sent South. He renders this service gratuitously. The Superintendent of Immigration for South Carolina, Mr. Edward M. Boykin, has made special arrangements by which immigrants are transported from New York to Columbia at \$10 each for all parties of ten. But there has been no provision made for their maintenance on arrival, and of course there must be more or less discomfort.

The excessively hot weather the world over is exciting quite naturally fears that epidemics of sickness may prevail. The yellow fever is showing itself in many places and the South will be very fortunate if it escapes. The best plan is to put your house in order before hand. Is the sanitation of Wilmington such as it should be?

John D. Stanford, of Duplin, is announced as one of the speakers to canvass Wayne county against prohibition.

HARMONY ALL AROUND.

The defeat of Roscoe Conkling is very complete. It is true the two men chosen in place of himself and Platt are ordinary mortals, but this fact rather increases the humiliation. If two strong men like Everts could have been elected the heaviness of the fall would have been broken, and the pain consequent thereupon would have been less intense. The fact of the inferiority of Miller and Lapham is not denied, we believe. The Philadelphia American, an able independent Republican semi-weekly, says of Miller:

"We have nothing against Mr. Miller except that he is too small a man for the office. We believe him to be an honest man and a consistent Christian. But the membership of the highest council of the nation, while it needs such virtues as these, requires over these more than it does in any other position. He is a man of fine gifts separated from them, calls also for the finest culture and the most brilliant leadership the party has in its ranks. We do not blame the newer Western States that they do not send such men as Mr. Everts. Under the absurd restrictions imposed by the Constitution, they have to send such as they have. But when the old Commonwealths have such men and send them not, they are unfaithful to their stewardship and to the nation."

We are pleased to hear that Miller is a Christian and an honest man. Those qualities are better than great intellect coupled with great vices. We would always prefer a man like George Washington for any post of honor and responsibility to Lord Bacon.

"The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind."

It is to be regretted that an able man, of whom it could be said he was a "consistent Christian and an honest man," could not have been found in the great State with its five million population. Is there a dearth of high talent in New York? It would seem so. When the American undertakes to designate men of the first rank it is driven to name Everts and Wheeler, the lone fisherman. Lapham is not a man of conspicuous ability. We hope he is "an honest man" also.

Conkling, by his own unwise and arrogant course, has brought the defeat and humiliation upon himself. He undertook far more than he was able to compass. He has found out that an Administration, with six or eight thousand offices for distribution among his own party in his own State, is far stronger than any one man, backed by all of the machine manipulators of large experience and constant practice. He will go into involuntary retirement. He will learn a lesson he will never forget in the rugged school of experience. Out of office he will be able to regard the political outlook from a standpoint somewhat new to him. Conkling is a man of superior abilities. He is credited by political foes with honesty as to money matters. His hands are clean. He is the ablest political manager in his party. He is too able to be kept down. We have no doubt that he will come to the front again in his State and become the leader of his party. How can it be otherwise with such leaders as Wheeler, Miller, Lapham, Platt and Arthur? These are the representative men of the Republican party in New York, and Conkling has more brains, more capacity for management than all of them combined.

The attempt to destroy President Garfield has had a happy influence, no doubt, in bringing about a patched-up harmony in the party. It is said that the relations of Vice President Arthur with the Administration is much more satisfactory than it has been, and that the same sad event brought this about. The circumstances of the last three weeks have brought the Vice President in more intimate association with the Cabinet, and hence a better feeling is said to exist. The American, in another editorial, thus refers to the reconciliation:

"There have been opportunities for mutual explanations and assurances, which would hardly have been possible except in the humiliating shadow of the great calamity which has taken the edge off so much of our partisanship. There is no need to assume that Mr. Arthur is less fervid than before in any of his personal attachments, or that he has changed his views on any of the questions of policy which divide the more from the less reformatory sections of the party. Without any such change it is possible to believe the Vice President has come to see certain acts of his own and others during the past three months in a light somewhat different from that in which they appeared at the time, and that if some things had to be done over again, he would take at least a less public part in them. Nothing we believe can have helped Mr. Arthur to this new attitude more than did the prospect of his own accession to the Presidency through such an act as this of Guiteau, and under circumstances so painful to himself."

We are concerned that out of all that has happened the country shall be benefited. Let there be reconciliation in the Government and in the Republican party in New York, but let there be peace between the South and the North. The President will have a splendid opportunity to make a great and endeared name by becoming the Pacificator of his country—by restoring to the discordant sections fraternal sympathy and peace.

There is one interesting point that arises. How will the election of Miller and Lapham affect the strength of parties in the United States House? There are four vacancies from New York now, caused by the death of Fernando Wood, Democrat, the appointment of Levi P. Morton as Minister to France, and the election of Miller and Lapham to the Senate. When Clerk Adams comes to organize the House how will the count of names be? The Washington Post says the Democrats will have the majority. But is this correct?

A correspondent who lives in Nash county and who has attended nearly all the recent meetings, writes us that the anti-prohibition majority in that county will be immense. In fact he estimates the vote at nine to one against prohibition. Ballots may be either printed or written, but must be on white paper without device of any kind. This is the law. We do not believe a county can be named in the Cape Fear section that will give a majority for prohibition. Do not forget the day of election—the first Thursday, which is the 4th day, of August.

Epithelioma, the disease Ben Hill is suffering with, is only a doctor's big name for cancer of the mucous membrane. It is very dangerous.

Personal-Crops in the West-Prohibition, &c.

Maj. John W. Dunham, who has been absent in the western counties for a month or two past, has returned apparently much improved in health. He gives a rather discouraging account of the crops in much of the region he visited, which have suffered materially from the long-continued drought in that section. West of the mountains he says the crops appear very good, but in the Piedmont section, especially in the counties of Iredell, Mecklenburg, Gaston, Lincoln, Davidson, and in parts of South Carolina adjoining those counties, the crops of all kinds are almost literally destroyed by the dry, hot weather. In fact it is doubtful on any of the lands in that region one-third of a crop is realized.

In portions of Mecklenburg it was stated that there had not been a seasonable rain since the first of January. Beginning with Anson county, coming in this direction, however, the crops are very fine.

Major Dunham says prohibition, pro and con, is being canvassed very vigorously in the West, and both sides appear equally certain of victory. Death of a Former Wilmingtonian. A telegram from Capt. C. S. Ellis, formerly of Wilmington, but now a resident of Savannah, Ga., received here yesterday morning by Mr. Wallace H. Styron, announces that Mr. David Pigott, formerly a well known citizen of Wilmington, died suddenly at that place Friday night from overheat. Mr. Pigott left this city with an excursion party to Charleston in April of last year, and after spending a few days in that city, went on to Savannah, where he has since resided, carrying on the merchandise brokerage business. Deceased, who was in the 64th year of his age, came here when a mere youth from "The Straits," in Carteret county, and was a clerk in the store of Messrs. Howard & Peden. During the war he was in the Quartermaster's Department, and since he has followed alternately the naval stores brokerage and the tobacco business. He had many warm friends in the community, who will regret to hear of his sudden death. He has a sister and perhaps other relatives residing in Carteret county.

Magistrates' Court.

The case of John McKoy, colored, heretofore referred to in the STAR, came up for a hearing before one of the magistrates in the Court House yesterday morning. The two daughters of the accused, Frances and Rachel McKoy, the former aged 16 and the latter 17 years, were examined, together with quite a number of other witnesses, the Court room, in the meantime being pretty well filled with spectators, mostly colored, but with a fair sprinkling of whites, and at the conclusion of the testimony McKoy was committed, without the benefit of bail, for trial at the approaching term of the Criminal Court, and was thereupon remanded to the county jail.

Mr. Solicitor Moore, of the Criminal Court, was present to assist in the examination on the part of the State, and Marden Bellamy, Esq., appeared for the defendant, making earnest and forcible arguments in favor of his client.

Anti-Prohibition in Fender.

We are informed that a large meeting of anti-prohibitionists was held yesterday at Rivenburg's Mills, about six miles from Burgaw, in Fender county. Speeches were made by Messrs. H. B. Bell, J. W. Madden and H. E. Scott. It is said to have been one of the largest meetings of the campaign, and to have been virtually unanimous against prohibition.

CAMPAIGN NEWS.

A Wayne county correspondent of the State Journal says that county will give 1,500 majority against Prohibition.

The Elizabeth City Carolinian, "conscientiously believing that the mis-named 'Prohibition' crusade is not a movement to promote honest temperance reform, and that its success will result in greater injury than benefit to the masses, cannot join it."

There would be a grand gathering of the Anti-Prohibitionists at Roxboro, Person county, on Saturday, July 30. A free public barbeque will be served. Able speakers will address the people. We are requested to put down Rutherford at 1,500 against Prohibition, and every county west of it with majorities the same way. Anson county will also give a large majority against Prohibition.

Durham Plant.

I fear that Prohibition is not gaining in this township. I believe that some of the best citizens are opposed to it, while others, equally as good, favor it; but the way of arguing seems to be wrong—making the argument personal. You can never convince by wounding the feelings or exciting the prejudices.

State Journal.

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Durham Plant.

Prohibition mass meetings will be held at Mangum's Store, Patterson's Mill and Olive Branch Church, on Saturday, the 23rd. Able speakers will attend all these appointments. —Luther Benson, of Indiana, spoke on Thursday night in Parrish & Blackwell's warehouse in favor of Prohibition. This was the first time our people ever heard Mr. Benson, but the reputation that preceded him had prepared them for his wonderful lecture. He is certainly a very remarkable man, and all who have an opportunity should be sure to hear him.

Weldon News.

The Prohibitionists and Anti-Prohibitionists both claim a majority of about forty thousand in August. We believe a small vote will be polled and whichever way the majority goes it will not reach anything like forty thousand. —The Prohibition canvass has become a little more lively in this section. Mr. Jonathan Boughton has been making speeches in this and adjoining counties. On Sunday he made a speech in this place and was replied to by Maj. T. L. Emory. Jas. E. O'Hara, Esq., spoke here last Friday night in favor of Anti-Prohibition. Hon. A. S. Merrimon did not fill his appointment at Littleton, Saturday, though other gentlemen made speeches.

Tarboro Southerner.

Mr. Jonah Broughton delivered two powerful speeches on Prohibition in this place on last Wednesday and Thursday nights, and was listened to by large audiences on each occasion. —The Anti-Prohibitionists were represented at their appointment at Leggett's Store, on Tuesday, by Battle Bryan, who for an hour or more entertained with his eloquence (?) an audience of forty or fifty colored persons and perhaps a dozen whites. Speeches in reply were made by Messrs. John and George Hart and H. L. Leggett, Esq. —The speech of Dr. Brown, colored, of Boston, on Prohibition, was listened to with great interest by a large crowd, both white and black, in the court house on Monday night.

From Judge Mack's Request for Retention.

"This religion has come down to us through the ages, attended all the way by righteousness, justice, temperance, mercy, transparent truthfulness, exalting hope and white-winged charity. Never was its influence for good more plainly perceptible than now. It has not converted, purified and reformed all men, for its first principle is the freedom of the human will, and there are those who choose to reject it. But to the mass of mankind, directly and indirectly, it has brought uncounted benefits and blessings. Abolish it—take away the restraints which it imposes on evil passions—silence the admonitions of its preachers—let all Christians cease their labors of charity—blot out from history the records of its heroic benevolence—repeat the laws it has enacted and the institutions it has built up—let its moral principles be abandoned and all its miracles of light be extinguished—what would we come to? I need not answer this question; the experiment has been partially tried. The French nation formally renounced Christianity, denied the existence of the Supreme Being, and so satisfied the hunger of the infidel heart for a time. What followed? Universal depravity, garments rolled in blood, fantastic crimes unimagined before, which startled the earth with their sublime atrocity. The American people have and ought to have no special desire to follow that terrible example and misery."

Major A. D. Banks, a former resident of Virginia and prominent politician, died at Fortress Monroe, Virginia, yesterday.

—Statesville American: We regret to announce the death of the excellent wife of our friend, Rev. Alfred Carson, of Taylorsville, which sad event occurred last week. We learn that a stone about last been struck that may lead to the discovery of the Thompson robber and murderer in Alexander.

—A man by the name of Dockery has been arrested and jailed in Caldwell county for the murder of James A. Thompson. The officers arrested one Church, a supposed confederate of Dockery. The Charlotte Observer says of the latter: He has made no confession, but old man Thompson identified some of the money found on his person, and another witness swore that Dockery inquired the way to Thompson's on the day before the murder.

—Raleigh Farmer and Mechanic: Mr. Wm. J. Best and family have removed to Marsheville, and expect to make North Carolina their permanent home henceforth. His success in leasing the New Berne Road, and the earnest manner in which he is surveying the Goldsboro and Salisbury connection, indicate a determination to make good the magnificent promises of April 1, 1880.

—We venture to say there are fewer Carolina boys at Yankee schools and colleges today than at any time within fifty years past, except four or five years ago, when, ascending the surrender. —Mrs. Gen. Bryan Grimes and her two sons (bright little men, fully awake to the fact wrong done their father and themselves by a grant of passing have come to Raleigh to reside during the summer with their relatives.

—Floating item: A number of respectable German citizens of Philadelphia have organized the Teuton Co-operative Colonization Society and purchased 3,000 acres of land near Philadelphia, North Carolina, between the Roanoke and Blue Ridge Mountains, to which they and others who may join them will emigrate. The capital of the association is \$15,000, and each member is expected to contribute \$100, besides paying an entrance fee of \$25. The town will be laid out, and factories, schools, houses, museums, theatre, etc., built, everything being on the co-operative principle. Beer saloons, churches and other amusements will not be tolerated in the settlement. Beer will be brewed, however, and distributed at cost price, while no profit will be made on articles sold to members for consumption. Hotels will be built, and every attempt made to entice visitors to the place as a summer resort.

—Kinston Journal: A. W. Oxley, Frank Green, Higgins Pollock and several others, of Jones county, went driving for deer one day last week. They killed two fine bucks which weighed upwards of 300 pounds each. A friend has kindly furnished us with a list of the old men of Onslow county, given below with their ages. He says the most of them are working men and are active and healthy: Jere W. Yopp, 78; James Hobbs, 78; John Brown, 89; Joseph Ennett, 86; John Yeates, between 90 and 100; Thomas Edens, 76; Thomas Hill, 77; Asa Siderbury, 77; Abner Erwin, 87; Thos. Jarman, 87; Britton Dawson, 77; William Roberts, 88; James Langley, 88; Ben Bryan, 82; Wright Horne, 77; James Patrick, 71; Daniel Futrell, 78; John R. Fountain, 70; Ezekiah Fountain, 70; Fendall, 70; and others.

—Weldon News: The crops are looking well, though the farmers are complaining of the cotton lice which may be found to a limited extent in nearly all the cotton fields—it has done but little damage yet, but will do some. We have been blessed with pleasant rains, but hear of much complaint of drought about Ringwood. —On last Saturday night a terrific thunder storm prevailed in and around Scotland Neck. The lightning played around everywhere and struck in many places in the town. The Methodist Church was struck and set on fire, but was put out before much damage was done. A small school house, which was a new building, was struck and the roof fell. —We learn that the Baptist Church in Scotland Neck has been sold to the trustees of Vase Hill Academy, and will, in a short time, be moved to the Academy grounds. The members of the church have contracted for the erection of another church in another portion of the town, upon which work will commence in a few days.

—Charlotte Observer: Here in this city the mercury has reached as high as 102, and the air has become so close that one seemed to be in a furnace. The engineer W. T. Newman, of the first mail on the Air-Line road, kept a sharp glance ahead of his engine while emerging from a cut about ten miles from this city. His head was mangled into a pulp, both legs were cut off above the knees, and he was more or less mangled in every portion of his body. He had evidently been dead for some hours, and the remains were left lying there to be removed with the sanction of the proper authorities. —Washington City letter: North Carolina is not much discussed, with the exception of Ike Young's case. There is a strong movement against him, which is pushed by Tourneur, Shaffer, Bill Smith and many leading men in the State. It is whispered that Shaffer is to have the place, and that he is backed by Judge Russell and Cady in addition to the above named leading Republicans.

—Tarboro Southerner: The crops between Washington and Greenville are flourishing, with the exception of a few farms near the latter place, where the hail played sad havoc with the crops. The corn that was cut down has been replaced by corn that is looking well. There is more evidence of thrift and enterprise in Pitt than of any of the surrounding counties. —We learn from the News and Courier that the legislator of the Peace Institute in Raleigh, has been killed. It wandered away to a strange part of the city, and was discovered to be in a man's yard, which frightened the inmates—who were themselves with a Winchester rifle and heavy plank and made an onslaught on the mysterious reptile, and shot and beat it to a jelly. When it was learned at the Institute that the pet viper slithered had been killed, a well vented from the Institute hard to be realized.

—Martin county items: Our community was blessed yesterday with a bountiful shower of rain, which was badly needed. Crops were suffering very much, and we had no rain in about twenty days. The Roanoke is quite low, and steamers cannot get higher than here. —The Balto & Roanoke R. & Co. have placed on the line a magnificent steamer called the "Concho," which cost the Company about \$40,000. It is said it has a carrying capacity of about 700 bales of cotton. —The citizens of town and county held a meeting several days since for a purpose of building a college in town. They appointed committees to get up subscriptions, and I hear that they have succeeded in getting the required amount. They will locate it near the Baptist church. —The Episcopal church is about completed. The Bishop says it will be one of the neatest churches in the diocese of North Carolina.