

Scientific men are studying the statistics of suicide. Many countries now cause records to be kept. Causes, ages, sexes, numbers, &c., are all investigated. Some nations are more prone to self-destruction than others. The French are supposed to be more given to suicide than other Continental nations. The Romans in Caesar's time and later, held life very cheap, and taking one's quietus was contemplated without horror or regret, and often with satisfaction. Some deaths by suicide were horribly protracted, as was the case of one, name not now recalled, a full record of which has come down to us.

Some of the most trivial causes lead persons to self-destruction. A day or so since we read in a Northern exchange of a lad's death by his own hand because his mother had reproved him. We read of a German woman destroying herself and child to escape a summons by the police. A daughter of good connections and well educated died the other day in New York city with her mother, because the latter was slightly insane and she feared the same misfortune to herself. We learn of a French girl committing suicide because her mistress had refused to allow her to skate.

It is a mistake to think that the poor are more liable to suicide than people in good circumstances. Boswell ascertained that of 4,595 cases in France 2,697 were in comfortable pecuniary circumstances. Of the whole, 1,454 were of bad or doubtful character. There are four suicides in France among the men to one among women. This is accounted for because the women attend church and the men do not. This is a good place to note the fact that in the United States the women are much more religious than the men. This is a fact. We asked a Methodist minister recently of high character and excellent sense why this was? His answer was—"They are better than men and are more accustomed to obey—to yielding to authority."

It is known that when women are had they are apt to be very bad. The worst animal that walks is a vicious, depraved woman with an infernal temper kept warm by drink. But let us return to the statistics. In Spain there is less self-destruction than in any other part of Europe. But the statistics are said to be unreliable. Ireland has the lowest proportion of suicides of any country. There is only one to every 50,000 of population. Italy comes next with one suicide to every 550 deaths from other causes. In Saxony dying with one's own hand seems to be a pastime. Of every 2,600 persons there is one suicide. In Denmark, on the other hand, there is but one in each 40,000 people. France and Russia, deal largely in self-destruction. The deaths recorded in all Europe show that in 1882 there was one suicide to every 7,436 persons. In Massachusetts in 1877, the ratio was 98 suicides to each million of people. Rhode Island showed 124, and Connecticut 109. There are no suicide statistics ascertained in this country out of New England. It is ascertained that suicides belong much to epidemic diseases. In most countries suicides are greatest in May and June. Up to fifteen more females destroy themselves than males, but after that the suicides of males very greatly predominate. It is ascertained that 104 men kill themselves to 41 women.

The means resorted to vary in order to "shuffle off this mortal coil." Women rarely hang themselves. Many jump into wells. Poison of the most excruciating kind is more generally resorted to. Men take the painless poison, or strangle themselves. More literary females die by their own hands than males. There is said to be an increase in the proportion of suicides as the years roll by. This is the case in Western Europe. This ought not to be the case in the United States. It is not known that such is the case as the data is imperfect or there is total neglect.

SENATOR VANCE MISREPRESENTED. There is either a sad want of intelligence or fairness on the part of many men connected with Journalism. The treatment of ex-President Davis by a portion of the Southern press is an instance. The conduct of some of the State press towards Senator Vance is another case in point. No man ever questioned his personal integrity. No man ever dared to question his devotion to the Southern cause in the war. No man ever raised a doubt as to his thorough consecration to the State of North Carolina.

No man believes that he is dishonest in his political views. Zebulon B. Vance is a manly man. He has confronted the Yankees on battlefields; he has been imprisoned by the mouth because of his intense attachment to the cause of his people; he has met the cohorts of Radicalism in contest after contest, and in 1876, literally saved the State after other leaders had in vain essayed to snatch it from the withering clutches of Black Republicans. It may be that he will have yet to save it from the conspiracy of Red Republicanism. True to his country, true to his State, true to himself he has never done or said anything that was not honorable, open, commendable.

And yet he has been set upon and misrepresented from time to time by men who were in their swaddling clothes when Vance was at the front being shot at by the blue coats; or languishing in prison because he loved liberty and was true to his honor and his people.

The latest specimen of injustice and misrepresentation was a special sent to the New York Herald by some recent son of the State or some slandering interloper. We saw the dispatch and thought we would contradict it, but our attention was called off to other matters. It represents our tried, trusted, approved Senator as having made war upon Mr. Cleveland, and by force of circumstances has been forced to become a quasi supporter of the President. We copy from our able contemporary, the Asheville Citizen, a misleading, the whole special is misleading. One would suppose that the Democratic party in North Carolina was so divided that it would be lost if Cleveland was renominated. One would infer that Senator Vance had proclaimed a war of resistance and had been organizing for the triumph of Radicalism in 1888 in our State.

All this is false, unjust, mean. Senator Vance, like Senators Beck, Bigsboro, Eastie, Morgan, Salisbury, Maxey, Coke and others did not like the President's antagonistic attitude towards silver and his manner of first administering the Civil Service law, and other things that he did. But they did not doubt his integrity, his desire to be a wise, patriotic, just President of the whole country. Senator Vance, as he did, opposed in an open speech the British system of life-insurance in office that was strictly a Republican measure, of Republican inspiration. But he has never made war upon the President in a spirit of open or secret hostility. He disapproved of certain things that were done and favored the repeal of a law he thought unjust, unsound and unrepugnant. Millions of Democrats have viewed the matter just as he did.

He finds the President growing stronger month by month with his own party and with the country and because he has become wiser with experience, more decidedly Democratic, more open to the advice of political friends, and more resolute in serving the country. The Senator finds that a large majority of his own party prefer Mr. Cleveland to any one else for the high office. He waives his own personal preferences, accepts the situation, and prepares to help elect him in the approaching conflict.

Senator Vance, and those who have thought with him, will do precisely like the Whigs did when Taylor was nominated or when Scott was nominated. The Clay men, the Webster men, and the others who had favored, all accepted the action of the Convention as final, and "pooling their issues" and laying aside their views for the time on this or that measure, locked shields and delivered battle with a solid phalanx. What would the men who adore Cleveland and sing Lo Poens to his shrine have conscientious, unflinching Democrats who have not been able to approve of all that the President has done to do in 1887? Do they desire them to say that they will not support him? Or are they sensible and fair enough to say, "You have a right to your choice, to your convictions, to your principles, and we are glad that you are ready to help save the country from the curse of Radicalism?"

MS. CARLISLE AND THE SPEAKERSHIP. There is said to be a movement among certain Democratic leaders to induce Mr. Carlisle not to be a candidate for the Speakership. He has made one of the ablest and best Speakers since Henry Clay's time. The plan is to put him on the floor as the leader of the Democratic side, making him Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. A special to the Philadelphia Record from Washington, of the 9th, says: "This matter was discussed with the President while Mr. Carlisle was at Oak View this week in connection with the tariff subject. Many tariff reformers think that Mr. Carlisle can be induced to be-ship of that important House committee this vexed question would forego his personal ambition and accept. What conclusion has been reached will not be developed until much later, as a general interchange of views, both by letter and personal interviews, must first take place among the members of the incoming Congress, which will be composed of many new members."

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gave satisfaction to both parties, a very great feat. Why sacrifice him now? Must Protection have a Democratic victim? Must the opposition of Handall be placated by surrendering for slaughter our noblest member in the House? Is that what the cohorts of Radicalism in contest after contest, and in 1876, literally saved the State after other leaders had in vain essayed to snatch it from the withering clutches of Black Republicans. It may be that he will have yet to save it from the conspiracy of Red Republicanism. True to his country, true to his State, true to himself he has never done or said anything that was not honorable, open, commendable.

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Four Alleged Illicit Distillers from Pender County Committed for Trial. The preliminary examination of the alleged illicit distillers captured in Pender county last week began yesterday before U. S. Commissioner T. M. Gardner. District Attorney Busbee was present, although he had sent word that he would be unable to attend. The examination took place in the U. S. Court room, over the postoffice. The prisoners, all white men, were four in number—Wylie Stokes and N. B. Taylor, the principals, and Giles Hawkins and Jacob Hines, charged with working in an unlicensed distillery. At the conclusion of the hearing the Commissioner held the accused for trial at the next term of the U. S. Court, and fixed the bond of Stokes and Taylor at \$500 each; Hines \$200, and Hawkins \$200. The prisoners failing to furnish bail were committed to the county jail.

The witnesses against the prisoners were Wm. Carter, Lewis Pickett, O. F. Watkins, Ben Hawkins and McNeill. The prisoners refused to make any statement themselves. Mr. Sanders appeared as counsel for Stokes and Hines. It was said that Taylor had engaged counsel, but if so, his lawyer was not present.

Wilkinson's testimony was given in the afternoon. He testified that he had seen the distillery in operation in Pender, near Rocky Point, by Taylor and that Stokes was probably in partnership with him. Witnesses visited the distillery when it was in operation and had seen the spirits made. The circumstances attending the arrest of the principals has been first lodged information against Taylor, and on the following day Taylor came to Wilmington and informed on Stokes. Both are regarded as dangerous men. Taylor was not safe to traffic. Taylor, it is said, has served a term in the penitentiary for killing a man named Sewell who informed against him when he was running an illicit distillery in Moore co; but it was claimed that the killing was unintentional. The revenue raiders, piloted by Sewell, had seized Taylor's still and were carrying it away at night. He followed them, fighting over their heads, hoping to frighten them and make them drop the still, and one of his shots struck Sewell and killed him.

Stokes is said, also, to have shot his man a year ago. Thinking he had killed him he went to the bank and left his clothes, disappearing from the settlement and leading people to suppose that he had drowned himself. But as his victim recovered, in three months Stokes returned home again, and was welcomed as one risen from the dead.

Col. Fleming Gardner, chief engineer of the Atlantic Coast Line, is spending a few days with friends in Edgefield, S. C. He is represented by a reporter of the Augusta News as being very hopeful of an early completion of the Manchester and Augusta branch of the Atlantic Coast Line. The contractors have been necessarily delayed from pushing the Manchester and Augusta road to Augusta, but will commence in a few days with renewed energy and push the road from Sumter to Orangeburg, thence west to Blackville and will enter Augusta from a point near the mouth of Horse Creek. The Beech Island route is rather mountainous and require too much grading. The company do not wish to be detained, but is coming to Augusta and have an independent line to Wilmington, N. C., where cotton can be shipped as easily as to nearer seaport towns. The distance from Augusta to Sumter over the Coast Line will be 119 miles, by the old route 130.

When a Note Under Seal is Barred. The question, "When a sealed note is barred by the statute of limitations, puzzled several of our best business lawyers. One of them looked the matter up and handed a solution to the reporter, with the request to publish. It is copied from "The Law in North Carolina of Notes and Drafts," and is as follows: "The statute of limitations bars an action on a bond or note under seal for the payment of money after ten years as to the principal and three years as to the surety. If, however, payments are endorsed thereon the time must be counted from the last payment. "If the statute of limitations bars an action on a promissory note not under seal after three years as to principal and surety alike, with the same proviso as to endorsed payments, as above."

Cotton Rates in Accord. The Charlotte Chronicle prints the rules adopted by the cotton buyers of Concord to govern the purchase of cotton during the present season, which are evidently based upon the rules said to have been adopted by the New York Cotton Exchange, but which were repudiated by that body. The following are the rules adopted by the Concord buyers: "From every bale of cotton bought from every less than 400 pounds and above 300 pounds we will deduct 1 cent per pound. "If the weights less than 350 pounds and more than 300 pounds, we will deduct 1 cent per pound. "If a bale of cotton weighing less than 450 pounds is being declared by the Cotton Exchange unmerchantable, and we will receive it only as loose cotton. "If all wet or damaged cotton, upon which the buyer or seller or his agent cannot agree as to amount of water or damage, the seller shall have the right to refuse to deliver the cotton, and the buyer the right to reject it. "If from every bale of cotton bought the buyer will deduct 5 cents per bale for weighing and 5 cents for inspection."

Children. Often seen some of the catlike and toadlike sort approaching sickens, or to relieve cold, headache, sickness, indigestion, dysentery and the complaints incident to childhood. Let the children take Simons Liver Regulator and keep well. It is purely vegetable, and unobjectionable to taste and safe to take alone or in connection with other medicine.

Notes and Wires. The coast line telegraph, extending from this city northward to Hatteras, was sold some time ago by the Government by auction. It was purchased by Mr. W. J. Kirkham, of this city, who starts out to-day to gather up the purchase. The line was abandoned by the Government because of the great difficulty and expense of keeping it in repair. It extended from Wilmington to Hatteras, a distance of one hundred and seventy-five miles, and cost between seventy-five and a hundred thousand dollars to build. There are ten or fifteen miles of sub-marine cable on the line that cost \$1,800. It is not likely that Mr. Kirkham will find his purchase to be a bonanza; but we hope, at least, that he will be well remunerated for the trouble and expense that will attend the removal of the wires and poles to this city.

Respect the Game Law. For many years good citizens desired the enactment of laws for the protection of the game birds of North Carolina which are fast disappearing from many parts of the State. The Legislature was prevailed on at length to pass such laws, and the purport of the bill was to beset on the part of the law to shoot quail before the 15th of October, and that limit is never too soon, for many broods of young birds are not matured even then.

It surely ought not to be necessary to appeal to sportsmen to respect their laws, yet I am told it is not an uncommon thing for men calling themselves lovers of this manly sport to kill quail before the season opens. There are some who are guilty of this practice, and that is to enforce the full penalty of the law upon all such offenders, and to put the law to the test, the earnest wish that any man who violates the law in the vicinity of Wilmington may be indicted and punished.

A Boy's Letter. The following extract is from a private letter written to the editor by his little friend Henry Sharp, who is now in Vance county: "Watermelons are scarce, but we are well supplied with apples and all sorts of vegetables. Pears and peaches have left us too. Cotton looks well but is just in bloom. We will commence curing tobacco about Thursday. Rabbits 'reporting promptly.' The turkeys and partridges are at hand. Farmers have sowed turnips and will sow oats soon. Tenants on the farm are pulling fodder for Timothy grass looks well. Corn crop is very fine. I am longing to see the streets of Wilmington, for times are dull. The straw is palper, though, and we know what is going on." Little Henry writes with pith and brevity will commend him to newspaper editors. In time he will be an ideal correspondent.

Schooner Fortuna. Schooner Fortuna Brooks was cleared yesterday for Port-au-Prince, Hayti, by Messrs. Heide & Co., with a cargo of 223,197 feet of lumber and 10,000 shingles, shipped by Messrs. S. & W. H. Northrop, and valued at \$3,899.16.

Nor. brig Sigrillan, cleared for Antwerp by Messrs. Heide & Co., with cargo of 1,274 casks spirits, re-arranged, shipped by Messrs. Peterson, Downing & Co., and valued at \$19,000.

Another Chance for Business. Work on the G. C. & N. railroad, from Monroe south, is reported as progressing rapidly. There is every reason to believe that trains will be running from Monroe to the Catawba river—a distance of twenty-five miles—by the first of next December. The road will pass through a fine cotton section. Of course Wilmington, by virtue of her position and her ability and willingness to pay better prices for the staple than competing points, should get a large portion of it. But all the same, Wilmington's merchants will have to reach out for this trade and bring it here, or not much of it will come of its own volition.

Bank Notes. There is a heavy demand on the banks here just now in consequence of the large amount of money required to move the cotton crop. It is expected that this demand will be met in a satisfactory manner, and that a large amount of gold will be paid out to supply the deficiency. A strange and unexpected feature of the financial situation here now is the small amount of silver held by the banks. No doubt this is attributable in part to the large amount of silver change required by the planters for paying the wages of the cotton pickers. In any event, the banks will have plenty of money of some sort to accommodate their customers.

Goldboro Notes. A correspondent of the STAR writes that Wayne Court is in session this week, his Honor, Judge Merrimon, presiding. The criminal docket is very large, there being 144 cases on the trial docket at this time. The farmers are bringing in cotton and selling at 89 cents per pound. The Gregory House has changed hands and the present proprietors, Messrs. Hunter & Street—have made very great alterations and improvements in every particular since they assumed charge.

WASHINGTON. The President's Views on the Purchase of Bonds by the Government. By Telegraph to the Morning Star. WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—In regard to the purchase of bonds by the government, the President's views are represented by the following letter to Secretary Lyon: "The criticism upon the action of the Treasury Department for refusal to accept any of the offers of bonds last Wednesday it seems to me, is inordinately made. In the first place the offers were higher considering the large amount they had to run than they had heretofore been, and did not present as favorable terms to the government. In the next place, the number of offers was much less than on former occasions. These facts may well give rise to the inference that people holding bonds preferred them to money. The government wants to buy bonds to answer the requirements of the law relating to the sinking fund, and is willing to advance interest on such bonds at a rate not less than and thus supply any immediate demand there may be for money. These two movements of the Treasury Department are calculated to release a good deal of money and turn it into business channels, if required; but they are both expedients and must be performed with regard to the interests of the government, as one of the parties to these transactions. There is no disposition to make a sharp bargain with the holders of bonds, but it will not do to say that there is no side offer of the bonds except that the seller holds, and that these bonds must be bought and interest advanced on such terms as their interest alone dictates. The competition offered in the sale of bonds is not to fix their price, and will be fairly pursued, as long as it seems to protect against any loss on the part of the government. Results in offers which upon business considerations ought to regulate their value as between private parties. The Government sets no limit to the amount of bonds for public purpose, to identify itself with private business or speculation."

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—In answer to the inquiry of the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary Sherman has written to the effect that the United States Government has no objection to the seizure of British vessels sailing in Alaskan waters, Secretary Bayard said that his attention had already been directed to the matter and he would make the statement with surprise. He knew nothing of the mailing of an order such as described, and he would refer the matter to the Judiciary, awaiting action of the Courts, which will determine the legality of the seizure. Touching that part of the statement which relates to the seizure of a vessel, he says that the seizure are to be discontinued while fish-boat negotiations are in progress, Secretary Sherman said that he had no objection to the connection of any kind between the seizure in Alaskan waters and questions arising under the treaty of 1818 with Great Britain. Negotiations with the British Government upon the last named subject are progressing as well as can be expected. Secretary Sherman said that he had no objection to the seizure of British vessels sailing in Alaskan waters, Secretary Bayard said that his attention had already been directed to the matter and he would make the statement with surprise. He knew nothing of the mailing of an order such as described, and he would refer the matter to the Judiciary, awaiting action of the Courts, which will determine the legality of the seizure. Touching that part of the statement which relates to the seizure of a vessel, he says that the seizure are to be discontinued while fish-boat negotiations are in progress, Secretary Sherman said that he had no objection to the connection of any kind between the seizure in Alaskan waters and questions arising under the treaty of 1818 with Great Britain. 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