

A case in the chain of circumstantial evidence proving the guilt of Cluverius has recently been discovered that establishes his guilt beyond any doubt. The day after the murder of Lillian Madison a watch key was found at the scene of the murder, and ever since the owner of that key has been sought. When the officers arrested Cluverius they noticed that his watch-key was missing from his chain, and next day the chain itself was gone. A jeweler, named Joel, was found who testified that he had repaired such a key for Cluverius and he thought this was the key. He could tell with certainty if he was allowed to open the key, as he had placed certain marks upon it. The prisoner's counsel objected, and the identity of the key was not fully proved at the trial. Last week, however, when petitions were presented to Gov. Lee for the pardon of Cluverius he sent for Joel and had the key opened, and on it were the very marks which Joel swore he had placed on the key of Cluverius. There can be no doubt then that this key belonged to Cluverius, and having been found the day after the murder at the scene of the murder (which was an unrequited place) proves that he is the justly convicted murderer of Lillian Madison. Gov. Lee refused to pardon him, but respited him until the 14th of January, on which day he will certainly be hanged.

A WOMAN was convicted in this State last week as an accessory to the murder of her husband, and was sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for life. On the 23d of last September, A. D. Owens, a merchant at Creswell, Washington county, was shot by Jim Ambrose, a noted negro desperado. Ambrose was killed in the attempt to arrest him. Isaac Jones and Stark Simpson made a voluntary statement of the whole matter, implicating Mrs. Sarah Owens, wife of A. D. Owens, as one of the leading principals in the terrible deed. The two negroes and Mrs. Owens were placed in jail at Plymouth and at the fall term of Washington county court a request was secured to Beaufort county, and they were tried in the latter county last week. Simpson was convicted of murder, and Mrs. Owens and Jones as accessories. It is such an unusual murder that it has attracted much attention.

A sad case is that of Hon. James W. Reid, the Representative in Congress from the fifth district. We have never known so brilliant a career, so suddenly and so sadly cut short. But yesterday his many admirers pointed to him with such pride and pleasure as one of the most brilliant men and eloquent orators of which our State could boast, and today they hang their heads in shame and bitter disappointment. His fall proves the great weakness of our human nature, which is never fully developed in any man untried. Let us all take warning by his example, lest we too may yield to temptation and fall away in the hour of trial.

Mecklenburg county is one of the most progressive counties in the State, and the latest proof of its progressiveness is its action in regard to improving its public roads. According to law no criminal is admitted to the penitentiary for a shorter term than one year, and in the large counties there is always a considerable number of criminals who are confined in the county jail or work-house because they cannot be taken to the penitentiary. In Mecklenburg these criminals are employed in a work that is much needed in many other counties, and that is improving the public roads. From the Charlotte Observer we copy the following:

Within the next twelve months, all the public roads leading into Charlotte will be macadamized from the crossing of the township line to the crossing of the city corporation line. Outside the city limits and inside the township limits, there are fifty-two miles of public road, all of which is to be thoroughly macadamized and made as sound and as good in all respects as the macadamized streets of the city. The work is to be done by the county convicts, under the very able superintendency of Reuben S. H. Hilton. For the past eighteen months the convicts have been employed in grading the public roads of the township, and now the roads are to be further improved by macadamizing. This done, it will be many years before any additional work will be required on the roads leading into Charlotte, and ten-foot mudholes, wheel-wrecking ruts and many hills will be henceforth unknown. The work is to be well done, and then Mecklenburg county can boast of fifty-two miles of solidly macadamized roads, a boast that no other county in the State can make.

When the work of macadamizing the roads of this township is completed the convicts will be rotated around the county until every mile of public road in Mecklenburg is leveled and coated with rock.

Judicial Reform.
There is a very general opinion that a reform is needed in our court proceedings, and that the "law's delays" should be remedied. Judge Walter Clark has written to the Raleigh News and Observer a communication on this subject, in which he makes some valuable practical suggestions, which we hope will be carried out by the Legislature. For the information of our readers, we copy Judge Clark's communication as follows:

"We live to little purpose if we do not gather wisdom as the years go by. Every change is not progress, but without change there is no progress. In judicial proceedings there is a tendency to ultra-conservatism and the introduction of more business-like methods is highly desirable. In the middle ages when our legal system began there was little legal business and at first it was dispensed in a day. Hence the legal fiction that all the business of the term is as of the first day of the term. When, as is the case with our supreme court, the term is a matter of fact last nearly six months at the spring session this would be amusing but for the practical fact that the business is necessarily made to count as of the last day of the session. The first step to correct abuses is to point them out. Now take an example of the working of this rule. Suppose a case tried in August, September or October in any of our superior courts. An appeal is taken. By a little delay in settling the case on appeal the appeal stands little chance of being heard at the fall term of the supreme court. It goes over to the spring term. It is then argued and the decision announced say in February, March or April. Owing, however, to the above-mentioned legal fiction of regarding the whole term as one day the opinion is not certified down till the court adjourns say in July. The opinion goes down to the fall term of the superior court and should then stand for trial, but a case of court holds that and the case goes over till the next spring term of the superior court. That is to say, to make how important or how trifling a case goes up to our supreme court, the chances are of eighteen months delay, and very often twelve months, and the opinion of the supreme court is known before clients are allowed to act upon it. This is not business. It would not be tolerated anywhere else and ought not to be tolerated in the law. Where the appeals are in State cases this delay is no less injurious, and is rather unjust to the public or to the defendant in every instance. The abuse is palpable. What are the remedies? Many may be suggested. The writer, with diffidence suggests the following:

1. Instead of retaining all the cases to be certified down in a month at the end of a six month term it might be provided that on the first Monday in each month an opinion of the supreme court which shall have been on the ten days shall be certified down. As now, any dis-satisfied party would have his remedy by way of petition to rehear at any time within six months.

2. The rule that cases shall not stand for trial at the first term of the superior court after the opinion comes down, should be repealed and they should be, of all cases, the cases which are for trial.

3. In State cases, where the judgment of the court below is affirmed, instead of waiting till the next term of the court for the appeal and absurd formality of resentencing the defendant, the superior court clerk on receiving the opinion should notify the sheriff to execute the sentence of the law already pronounced and affirmed (except in capital cases) by collecting the fine, or imprisoning the defendant in jail or penitentiary as the case may be. In all cases where the appellant has to remain in jail pending the appeal this would be a mercy to him and a great saving in the aggregate to the taxpayers. In capital cases, the governor upon being notified of the affirmance of the judgment by the supreme court should issue his warrant to the sheriff, under his constitutional authority to execute the laws. This is the course adopted in many States.

4. The present supreme court are able lawyers and do as much hard work as any three men who can be found anywhere. They are over-worked. Hearing causes three hours per day is strain enough. The fourth remedy suggested is by a constitutional amendment to increase the supreme court to five and thereby to enable the court to hear causes four hours each day. The additional hour per day would be six hours per week or two days added to each week at the present rate of hearing cases. This would dispose of one-third more cases each week and detain counsel a much shorter time in Raleigh. With the present number of judges the increase of the time now allotted for the hearing of cases would be impossible. Our system of appeals in both civil and State cases is cumbersome and seems framed to add to the law's delay which the great dramatist mentioned as one of the greatest ills that flesh is heir to. The above suggestions are made with diffidence, but with the hope that the press of the State, which has a ways done so much for the abolition of public abuses, may call public attention to this evil, that either the above suggestions or better ones may be adopted by the incoming legislature. WALTER CLARK.

Our Washington Letter.
(From our Regular Correspondent.)
[WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 1886.]

Congress, in less than a week from its re-opening, has settled down to the serious consideration of business. The re-assembling of both the Senate and House were accompanied by scenes customary on such occasions. There were the usual crowds of spectators in the galleries who looked down upon the some tumultuous disorderly crowd on the floor of the House, all talking at once and at the top of their voices, and upon the quiet, slow-moving men on the floor of the Senate Chamber who began the new session with a little flurry as on any day of the old one.

There were the usual warm hand-shakings, and exchange of greetings, and flower bedecked desks, the Democratic side being the most favored floodily, which caused some public censure, that the change of doors would the change of the Administration. To the victors belong the spoils. Representatives S. S. Cox and Abram Hewitt were the lions of opening day. When they entered the Hall in an air, they were greeted by a sound of applause. Mr. Hewitt received congratulations upon his election to the Majority, and his possession of right upon his retirement from Congress. Those who had received in former Congresses with Mr. Cox gathered round him cordially, and those who did not know him sought introductions. Representative S. S. Cox was occupied just session, the same, being used by Mr. Cox, gracefully and took the one suggested by Mr. Politz.

Mr. Cox has already alluded to his record by introducing a bill to prevent Representatives from receiving two salaries at the same time. He thus manifests his intention to denounce the Congressional salary which has secured since Mr. Putnam's resignation. Republican papers give Mr. Cox a hearty welcome to the House. Mr. Cox had just returned from his tour in Europe, and was trying to get two salaries, one as a member to Congress and one as a Congressman. As a matter of fact, he is supposed to be the exception of the House as to the salary, but he is under the law that he could not take two salaries at the same time. Mr. Politz resigned, and this bill just introduced shows what Mr. Cox intended at the time he did so.

While the President's message takes up the Kansas question, the Senate, in the House, the five topics which were the strongest interest here was the tariff. The tariff reform bill, which is now in the hands of the Finance Committee, is expected to be reported in the next few days. It is expected to be reported in the next few days. It is expected to be reported in the next few days.

Some of the business English members of Congress prefer and little else, but they during the session he had the passage of the Appropriation bill. One of the English members is now in the work during the session, and they expect to be very active from now until the fourth of March. In fact, there is little temptation to imagine that they will be very active, and they expect to be very active from now until the fourth of March.

Two years ago Republican prophets were positive the country would go to ruin in consequence of a reorganization of the Democratic party. Now they are compelled to see a steady and general return of industrial and commercial prosperity. The facts and figures of all the Government reports show this result, and indicate a largely increased volume of business throughout the country. There is nothing so convincing as truth, but the enemies of the Administration say: "It is Cleveland's luck."

Robbing A Train.
Four Wagon, Tex. Dec. 12.—In broad daylight yesterday the mail and express train on the Fort Worth and Denver railroad, bound for this city, stopped at a water tank just north of Bellevue station, seventy-five miles north of Fort Worth. A few minutes before the train arrived three men had ridden up to a house two hundred yards from the tank, and their horses and ordered dinner. They walked leisurely towards the tank, and about that time the train pulled in. One of the robbers with drawn pistol ordered Elmer or Ayers and his friend and O. G. Miller, an other engineer who was riding in the cab to alight, which they did. He then marched them some thirty feet from the train and went through their pockets, and the robbers they had. While this was going on the other men went through the train. It appears that one of the passengers who was looking out of the window and saw the operation with the train men, diving the situation, went in to the forward car and exclaimed: "Put away your money and your arms, we will be killed!" At once the passengers started, and they could not recall exactly. In the confusion there were four United States soldiers engaged, belonging to the Tenth Cavalry, under command of Capt. C. C. Moore, in charge of two platoons who were being taken to Fort Worth from Fort Sill. When it was seen that the soldiers were going to fight, Henry Elmer, of Fort Sill, U. S. Army, and another man, began to submit tamely, saying the woman and child on a wagon were alarmed, and that all the valuable goods had been taken. Obediently Elmer and his friend, and the two men had reached the soldiers, and were being taken to the soldiers' quarters.

Many of the passengers secreted their money in various ways, giving most of it to their domestics, to avoid being searched. Miss Kate Ross, of Fort Worth, took charge of a child and other valuables, also, and her husband and some diamonds, valued at \$5,000, and some jewelry. Mrs. Wittick, of Fort Worth, took her husband's gold watch and several hundred dollars.

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Shot His Daughter by Mistake.
Arlington, December 11.—J. C. Hill, a prominent resident of Edge wood, a suburb of this city, mistook his own daughter for a burglar last night, and shot through the neck, inflicting a mortal wound. It is feared that the young girl will die. The young girl was in a certain condition, and her father, mistaking her for a burglar, shot her through the neck, inflicting a mortal wound. It is feared that the young girl will die.

Anxious To Become White.
From New York.
Mr. Washington Jackson, a resident of the Orange Mountains, is as black as a storm cloud. For some time he has been part of a party of white men, who are anxious to become white. They are anxious to become white, and they are anxious to become white.

Methodist Statistics.
The statistical report shows that within the bounds of the North Carolina Conference, which does not include the territory of the Blue Ridge and east of Roanoke river, there has been a gain of 5,541 members, and a membership of 86,438 persons.

Accidentally Shot.
Petersburg, Va., Dec. 10.—Yesterday afternoon Thomas Johnson and Richard Hill were hunting in the woods in Surry county, when they became separated. Johnson's dog flushed a covey of partridges, and he fired. The contents of his gun, however, took effect in Hill's body, who had been in a short distance from Johnson in a line. Hill's injuries proved fatal shortly after.

Counterfeiters Arrested.
Chicago, Dec. 10.—A special from Cairo, Ill., says: Late Wednesday night officer John Dopey, of Richard county, Ky., accompanied by a posse of citizens, broke into a nest of counterfeiters and arrested six of the gang—four men and two women. The gang went to Ballard county from where they had been arrested in two Illinois towns. They had not a single legitimate employment, and were suspected of subsisting by unlawful means. Last Saturday one of the men went to Wickliffe, a small town several miles from Fort Jefferson, and bought a large quantity of counterfeit money, such as is used by counterfeiters, which he paid for with a counterfeit check. The officer and posse went to the nest in the night and all the counterfeiters were arrested. The counterfeiters were taken to the jail at Fort Jefferson. They gave the names of Charles and John Taylor, Thomas Simpson, Lewis Kelly, and Mrs. Thompson. The sixth man was a young girl about 12 years of age. They were all taken to Ballard county jail to await the action of the U. S. authorities.

A Steamer Burnt.
Memphis, Dec. 11.—It is currently reported that the elegant steamer, J. M. White, running between Vicksburg and New Orleans, was burnt at an early hour this morning near Baton Rouge, La., and that fifty lives were lost.

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A Rise in Stocks.
From the New York Times.
The 30th of George E. Spencer, of Arlington, looks singularly good gold recently. A few years ago he had 100,000 shares of a certain mining stock for less than \$25 a share. The stock had risen to \$100 a share, and he had a fortune of \$10,000,000. His children get half of the fortune and he has a fortune of \$5,000,000. He now advises his friends to hold on to all their worthless mining stock and await future developments.

For want of Dry House Powder.
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C. F. & V. V. RAILWAY.
Condensed Time Table No. 14.
To take effect Sunday, May 23, 1886.
DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.
Train No. 1 (Northbound) leaves Charlotte at 7:30 a.m. and arrives at 11:30 a.m. Train No. 2 (Southbound) leaves Charlotte at 1:30 p.m. and arrives at 5:30 p.m.

A GRAND DISPLAY!
—AT—
W. H. LEONARD'S
TEMPLE OF NOVELTIES!
I have just returned from New York with one of the largest and most complete stocks of
WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELRY,
SILVERWARE, NOTIONS,
FANCY GOODS,
TOILET ARTICLES, FLUGH GOODS, LAMPS,
VASES, METALWARE,
GUNS AND IMPLEMENTS, PICTURE FRAMES,
and all kinds of
Christmas Goods Confectioneries, &c.,
ever brought to any country town in North Carolina, at prices to astonish every one, and I cannot be had elsewhere. Come or write all, and see for yourselves and be convinced of the above facts.
I return my many thanks to the public for their liberal patronage in the past and trust to merit a continuance of the same.
W. H. LEONARD,
Fittsburg, N. C.

FOLLOW THE CROWD!
AND YOU WILL FIND YOURSELF IN THE STORE OF
BERWANGER BROTHERS,
RALEIGH, N. C.,
The Leading Clothiers,
Where you will find
THE LARGEST AND BEST SELECTED STOCK
MENS, YOUTHS, BOYS AND CHILDREN'S
SUITS and OVERCOATS.
People Always Buy Goods Where They Can
Buy The Cheapest.
What is the reason that people come from far and near to our Store?
Because We Sell First-Class Goods at Low Prices.
You will be curiously treated whether you buy or not.
No trouble to show goods. Very Respectfully,
Nov. 11, 1886.
BERWANGER BROTHERS,
RALEIGH, N. C.

THE DURHAM FURNITURE MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
DURHAM, N. C.,
MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
EVERY KIND OF
AND ALL KINDRED ARTICLES.
MATTRESSES OF ALL KINDS MADE TO ORDER.
SPECIAL PRICES TO THE TRADE.
The firm is only one year old and has sold more furniture than any other House in the State during that time.
They can afford to sell THE BEST FURNITURE at the VERY LOWEST prices. Call and see for yourself.
Nov. 11, 1886. 6ms.
W. A. SLOAN,
DURHAM, N. C.
A. J. SLOAN,
CHATHAM CO., N. C.

BUFFALO WAREHOUSE,
JONESBORO, N. C.,
FOR THE SALE OF **FOR THE SALE OF**
LEAF TOBACCO.
We have just completed and filled up 80 feet to the Buffalo Warehouse, and we have 150 feet long, and have filled it up with all of the modern leaf tobacco.
FULL A-D AMPLE AN OMSERVATION FOR MAN AND BEAST.
PERSONAL CARE TO EVERY PILE OF TOBACCO!
POLITE ATTENTION TO FARMERS.
EXPERIENCED AND ATTENTIVE HANDS.
THE HIGHEST PRICE GUARANTEED ON EVERY SALE!
A FULL CORPS OF BUYERS ALWAYS ON HAND!
NOT WIND BUT WORK IS OUR MOTTO.
W. A. SLOAN & CO.,
Proprietors.
Oct. 7th, 1886. 3ms.

THE CHATHAM HOUSE!
WYATT & TAYLOR,
GROCERS
—AND—
General Commission Merchants
RALEIGH, N. C.
Call on them or send them a your orders, if you wish a square dealing.
July 20, 1886.

SERGEANT MANUFACTURING CO.,
Greensboro, N. C.
MANUFACTURERS OF
FARRAR TURBINE WATER WHEEL,
COOK AND HEATING STOVES,
Saw Mills, Cane Mills, Horse Power,
Plows, Straw Cutters, Andirons,
And Castings of Every Description.
Send for Price-List.