

The Chatham Record

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1888.

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

The swindlers in the city of New York, who cheat their victims by pretending to sell them counterfeit money, are no greater rascals than the men they cheat—they are more shrewd and cunning, that is all. These New York swindlers send their circulars all over the country (as the Record has frequently warned its readers), addressed "confidential" to the man who receives it, and informing him that for a small sum of money he can buy a lot of counterfeit money, which is called "green goods". When any man is fool or rascal enough to attempt to buy these "green goods", he goes to New York, gives the swindler his good money and the swindler counts out to him a lot of genuine greenbacks, but by a sight of hand movement delivers instead a package of sawdust or other worthless stuff, which the victim carries away thinking it is a package of the money he has counted.

A good deal of this species of swindling has been done recently. One of the latest cases was one wherein the victim was a man named Perkins from South Carolina. He received one of the "confidential" circulars, and carried \$400 in good money to New York, and received therefor \$4,000 (as he believed) from a fellow calling himself Rogers, but before he left the city he discovered that his package only contained sawdust. Thereupon he had Rogers arrested on a charge of larceny. In his examination Perkins stated that he was a deacon of his church and a county commissioner, and no doubt at home he was considered a highly respectable citizen, and yet here he was paying \$400 for what he believed to be \$4,000 of counterfeit money! We can feel no sympathy for such a fellow.

The SENATE passed two bills, a few days ago, which we are pleased to know were opposed by Senator Vance. We refer to the bills granting a pension of \$2,000 a year to the widow of Gen. John A. Logan and Gen. Francis P. Blair. In the first place these widows were not in actual need of a pension, either one of them being worth much more than the majority of our people. There are thousands of widows of Union soldiers, who are much poorer and who receive a pension of only a few dollars a month. If the government is disposed to give away its "surplus", then in the name of common humanity let it be given to those who most need it! Gen. Logan may have been the brave officer during the war, as claimed by his friends, but no more so than thousands of other Union soldiers whose widows are now struggling for a livelihood. And besides, he has held, since the war and up to the time of his death, some lucrative office nearly all the time. Year after year he was a Representative in Congress and then a Senator, and drawing all the while a salary of \$5,000 a year. And now that he is dead, a pension of \$2,000 a year is to be given his widow. We think that Senator Vance's constituents will approve his vote against this pension, even if he was in a small minority. We believe that the granting of such pensions is wrong in principle and without constitutional authority.

We HAVE received a copy of the annual report of the Superintendent of the North Carolina Insane Asylum at Raleigh, and are pleased to learn therefrom of the good work done by this great State charity. Although there has been a larger daily average number of patients under treatment than in any previous year, yet the mortality has been less than usual, and the Institution is in a better condition for the health, care and cure of its inmates than it has been since the war. The number of patients now under treatment amounts to 292, and yet the utmost capacity of the Institution had been supposed to be only 250.

The total number of admissions since the opening of the Asylum, just 32 years ago, amounts to 1,892. Of these 1,043 were males and 849 were females. The total number of discharges has been 1,600, of which 503 were considered cured, 260 much improved, 335 unimproved and 501 died.

Dr. Griesom pays a touching, truthful and eloquent tribute to Miss Dix, who died last year, and through whose influence and efforts this asylum was established.

We regret that there is no hope of the present Congress reducing letter postage to one cent, the Senate committee having reported adversely a bill to that effect.

The Natural Advantages of N. C.

Correspondence of Raleigh News and Observer.
I have rarely heard so complete and eloquent a presentation of the natural advantages of our State as that made by President Battle at the recent Farmers' Convention. It was a capital speech, well delivered and well received. It ought to be printed and circulated over the United States and Europe by the Board of Agriculture. I send a very brief and inadequate summary.

"North Carolina has, as a farming country, many extraordinary advantages.

1. Range of productions—the same as if the State stretched along the sea coast from the Gulf of Mexico to New York.

2. The climate.—Our average thermometer is that of South France, Florence, Yeddo. Dakota's range of temperature is from 105 deg. F. in summer to 38 deg. below zero; Kansas, from 98 deg. to 25 below; Indianapolis, from 100 deg. to 22 deg. below zero; West Texas, from 102 deg. to 12 deg. below zero. In Pennsylvania and New York farming operations are hindered about five months in winter.

3. North Carolina has no blizzards, and as the cold waves start from the northwest the telegraph gives our people one or two days' notice of their coming.

4. We have pure air and pure water in most of the State and therefore health. With cistern water the eastern counties are also healthy.

5. North Carolina has comparative freedom from drought. We have 47 inches per annum of rain, while Dakota has only 21, and West Texas only 18. At El Paso there were one year only 11½ inches and about one-third of this fell in one month.

With deep plowing and good cultivation we need not suffer from drought.

6. Grasshoppers (called locusts in the Bible) flourish where there is a dry land near rich vegetation. They will always infest Kansas, &c., while North Carolina is free from them.

7. We have good, orderly population, composed of the best blood of England, Germany, France, Highland and Lowland Scotch, &c., who have been in the State long enough to become homogeneous. No religious denomination is dominant. All are represented.

8. Our geographical situation is excellent. The most civilized nations with 240,000,000 of people, with ten thousand million dollars of imports and exports per annum are clustered around the North Atlantic. North Carolina is on the water front of this great lake of the nations.

9. As the mountains opposite the southern Chesapeake have been recently pierced by railroads the building of a great city somewhere on its waters is in the near future. But even if the prediction be not verified, New York is now the second commercial city in the world. On Manhattan island alone there were sixty-seven millions of dollars worth of new buildings last year. Counting Brooklyn, Jersey City and other places, there are clustered here already about two and three-quarter millions of people, with wealth beyond conception. Between here and New York are other populous cities, rapidly growing, so that it will not be long before the lands of North Carolina will be adjacent to forty millions of non-producers. Farms in 24 hours of New York should now be worth \$100 per acre. They have not only the advantage of a ready market for their productions but they are in close proximity to the store houses and manufactories whence they get their supplies.

What are the disadvantages of North Carolina?

1. The presence of slavery excluded men unaccustomed or averse to that institution. After the great civil war the uncertainties of Reconstruction and the bitterness of party feeling have retarded the influx of northern men. It will not be long before these disturbing elements will have passed away.

2. Some unaccustomed to colored labor do not like to settle where negroes are a large portion of the population. To this there is a sufficient answer, first, that many counties are largely white and in the eastern counties the negro element is superior to that in the South because for many years it had been the custom to sell to that region the turbulent and vicious slaves. And lastly, the proportion of the colored must rapidly diminish because they have no accessions from immigration.

Want of schools is urged as an objection, but that does not result from hostility on the part of our people but from sparseness of population and poverty. When settlers come schools will spring up.

3. High railroad freight will disappear when our farmers demand it. The railroad companies will lower their rates from policy whenever farm products increase in bulk.

4. All these objections to North Carolina are remediable. We come lastly to the most serious, viz.: That our lands are not naturally fertile. As to this, President Battle contended that if our lands are not naturally rich, they are cheap and easily made rich, so that the total cost will be only half or one-third of the cost of land at the same distance from New York in any other direction. He quoted from a letter of a friend in Kansas City to the effect that the lands in western Missouri and east Kansas bring thirty to sixty bushels of corn to the acre, and cost \$25 to \$50 per acre. He asked if North Carolina's farmer should put on his land the difference between the cost here and there, our lands would not produce as much or more.

An Atlanta merchant has secured a verdict against the Bradstreet Company for \$5,000 for defamation of character.

A railroad collision in Cuba, caused by a mistake of a signal station, resulted in the instant killing of the engineer and fireman of both trains, and the injury of forty passengers, many of whom have since died.

The Great Snow Storm.

PITTSFIELD, MASS., January 27.—Five long passenger trains on the Boston & Albany Railroad are snow-bound here, awaiting news of the opening of the road before proceeding further. The fast St. Louis express spent last night in a snow drift near Washington cut. There were over one hundred passengers on board, but notwithstanding the fact that the thermometer marked ten degrees below zero, they did not suffer from cold. The fast mail, which left Boston last evening for the West, spent the night in a drift one mile from Hinsdale. Passengers suffered from the cold greatly and many ladies were prostrated. A number of children were badly frost-bitten. They could obtain little to eat, but a country drug store supplied the passengers with brandy.

Three engines with a snow plow are stuck in a drift near Richmond Furnace. Freight trains covering over a mile of track are snowed in near Shakers, and much perishable goods will be lost.

In many places the snow has drifted to the depth of forty feet. A passenger train that goes two miles an hour is considered to be making good speed.

Let 100,000 copies be printed and circulated. Yours, TAR-HEEL.

Our Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27th, 1888.

Congress has had before it this week a good deal of miscellaneous matter, such as: the Pacific railroad investigation; the delay over the Congressional Library building; the Jackson, Miss., outrage resolution, and the Thooe-Carlsbad contest, in which the Speaker's title to his seat was secured by a bare quorum.

The most important appointments made by the President during the week were Marshal McDonald for Fish Commissioner; Mr. Hoge, of Virginia, for District Attorney, and Mr. Ross of Washington for our new Postmaster. By these appointments a long agony is over. There were a hundred or more aspirants to the last two offices mentioned, and the selections made seem to be quite satisfactory to the public.

There is enthusiastic interest now among the Prohibition circles of this city as well as throughout the country, and notable concert of action in the effort to drive the liquor traffic from the District of Columbia. Petitions to this effect have poured into Congress from every State and Territory, and the counter petitions circulated by the liquor men of the District are something curious and even ludicrous, I may say, from their lack of sense and logic.

From his pulpit a Washington Minister said, last Sunday, "these men plead for personal liberty in the conduct of their business: they ask for personal liberty that they may enslave your sons and deprive them of their liberty. They also raise the cry that perjury, fraud and social corruption would follow in the track of prohibition. This," he said, "makes us think of the poetical figure of Satan weeping for souls that are lost".

On the same day the liquor traffic was vigorously attacked from several of our city pulpits, notably that of the Vermont Avenue Christian Church, and that of the North Carolina Avenue Church. Mr. Power, the pastor of the former, like most of the Washington pastors, is strongly opposed to high license, classing it as a cowardly compromise with the whiskey party. He selected for his subject, "The Coming Conflict with the Whiskey Power", and he argued that there was no regulating the whiskey traffic, that there is no alternative but total extermination. He urged prohibition in the District as the only hope of the rising generation, and said the cry that prohibition does not prohibit is false, for were prohibition once strongly entrenched on our shores the death of the whiskey traffic would quickly follow.

Speaking of the term fanatic, applied to temperance workers, Mr. Power stated that the dictionary had not yet been compiled that would contain the word "temperance fanatic". "He is not the coming man" he said, "nor the man that is, for we can never have such a creature. Go as far as you will on the track of temperance and you will never approach within sight of fanaticism."

As the subject is one of unusual interest just now I will mention how another minister presented several new points in the matter. He regarded the present time as a crisis. To be defeated now meant eternal defeat for the temperance people of the country. He said the cry of today was for national prohibition. The District of Columbia is a national ground, and here the fight will be made that will influence the entire country. He urged that the example set here would encourage or discourage the efforts of all the temperance people working throughout the country, and that though there were many hidden evils behind this question, when prohibitionists once gain the victory their triumph will be complete. The work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was eulogized in the highest terms, and the ultimate success of the Prohibition measure now before Congress was predicted.

An Atlanta merchant has secured a verdict against the Bradstreet Company for \$5,000 for defamation of character.

A railroad collision in Cuba, caused by a mistake of a signal station, resulted in the instant killing of the engineer and fireman of both trains, and the injury of forty passengers, many of whom have since died.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, Jan. 31.—The latest reports from the mountains indicate that there has been great loss of life on the Canadian Pacific, owing to snow slides. Pass-

sengers coming on the trains from Colgate bring meager particulars of the disaster. Strong Chinook winds have been prevailing for the last week, and along the line from Donald to Glacier snow has been coming down on the track in tremendous quantities. Near Palleson Station, British Columbia, several men were caught in a slide. Only one was dug out alive, and he was so badly bruised and injured that he is not expected to recover.

European War inevitable.

BERLIN, Jan. 28.—Herr Von Tizza's statement in the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet to-day was anxiously awaited here. It has confirmed the conviction that war between Austria and Russia is accepted by both sides as inevitable. The Premier's statement was given in a carefully poised speech, professing peace, but breathing the spirit of war. Operators on the Bourse, who had waited for dispatches from Pesth, offered international stocks for sale freely, but the effect of the Premier's speech will not be fully seen till the opening of business on Monday.

Private advices from Vienna state that diplomatic negotiations recently opened between Prince Labanoff, Russian Ambassador to Austria, and Count Kalnoky, have been abandoned. The condition of affairs now existing between the two governments is simply that each is lying in wait for the first chance to strike.

Reports received at the War Office from agents on the Polish frontier intimate a renewal of activity among Russian troops. Difficulties in the way of transporting troops are removed. The Commissariat has been improved and disease among troops is decreasing. In the Provinces of Volhynia and Podolia, military requisitions for grain and forage are causing a dearth of provisions among the people. At Kremenchuk eight great magazines are being built. They will be surrounded by fortifications. At Dubno, accommodations have been ordered for 30,000 troops. At Luck, between Dubno and Vladimir Warsaw, a new camp is being constructed, which will hold 30,000 troops. These preparations would seem to indicate an intention of invading Galicia.

The Austrian war officials suspect that the real object in view is the invasion of Bulgaria, and that the aim of the Czar's strategy is to entrap Austria into sending the bulk of her forces into Galicia, while the real coup is delivered in the Balkan peninsula. The interviews which Stourz, of the Roumanian Cabinet, had at Vienna and Friedrichsholm, have resulted in an *extente cordiale*. If Russia enters Roumania, Austria will hold the step to be a *casus belli*.

Stourz is understood to have obtained from Bismarck assurance that the Roumanian territory would be enlarged in the event of defeat of Russia. Rumor credits Stourz with suggesting a solution of the Bulgarian problem by the extension of Roumania to the Aegean sea, with Salonica as the capital. This project would receive no countenance from Austria, as she too has designs for the final extension of her territory to Salonica.

The sinews of war have been obtained by the Russian treasury by a loan arranged in Amsterdam, the amount which is said to be 45,000,000 pounds sterling. Herr Von Tizza has concluded negotiations with the Frankfurt Rothschilds for a loan of 39,000,000 florins.

A Romantic Marriage.

from the Newton (N. C.) Enterprise.

Quite a romantic marriage was celebrated in Newton last Friday night. The contracting parties were Mr. A. Hale and Mrs. Elizabeth Ferguson, both of Charlotte. The romantic part about it was that this was the second time this interesting ceremony was performed for this particular pair. They had been married about a year and a half ago, but found out recently that the knot then tied was null and void, and had to be tied over again.

The circumstances leading up to this complication were about as follows: About seventeen years ago Mrs. Ferguson was living in Rowan county with her first husband, Mr. John B. Ferguson. One day Mr. Ferguson, on some pretext or other, went to Georgia. The wife patiently looked for his return for a year or two, and finally heard that he was dead. After many years of supposed widowhood she went to live as housekeeper in the family of Mr. A. Hale, a retired jeweler of Charlotte, who had moved on a farm he owned in her neighborhood, on account of the delicate health of his wife. Mrs. Hale died, and, about eighteen months ago, Mr. Hale married Mrs. Ferguson. They lived happily together until a short time ago, when it was discovered that Ferguson, after going to Georgia, had transferred his affections to another woman, and was still alive. On this development steps were at once taken by Mrs. Ferguson, who had now become accustomed to the name of Mrs. Hale, to obtain a divorce, and as Catawba Court was the first in the district, proceedings were begun here.

The case came up last Friday, and on hearing the facts in the case, the court at once granted to Mrs. Ferguson an absolute divorce.

Friday night at the Hayes House, in the presence of Judge Boykin and several lawyers and friends, Esquire H. A. Forney re-united the pair so firmly, that no future contingencies can separate them, or mar the happiness of their declining years.

They were serenaded by the Newton Corner Band, and quite a large crowd were attracted to the house. And we know there was not one present who did not feel in sympathy with the bride and groom over the happy termination of their trouble.

Several of the nominees of the Republican Convention of Louisiana refuse to run on the State ticket.

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SNUFF,	CRACKERS,	TOBACCO,	MEAT,