The State Chronicle.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS - - Editor

It is the Leading Democratic Newspaper Published at the Capital of the State.

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A SOUTHERN FAMILY NEWSPAPER FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY, DEVOTED TO THE WELFARE OF NORTH CAROLINA, AND THE SOUTH.

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THE EDITOR'S DESK.

COMMENTS ON TOPICS THAT ARE INTERESTING THE PEOPLE.

The Chronicle Expresses its Opinion on Passing Public Events and Questions of Interest Now Before the People.

PARNELL and O'BRIEN have met and had a conversation about Irish affairs. Mrs. O'Shea was not present. No conclusion was reached.

They have an organization of ladies in Washington known as the "Wimodaughsis," the object of which is to afford opportunity to the women, irrespective of pecuniary or other repressive conditions, to meet and enjoy the best and most entertaing feasts of literary and artistic culture and fine arts. The name is an abbreviation of "wives, mothers, daughters, sisters."

North Carolina ought to be represented at the World's Fair not alone because it will pay her to do so, but also because an exhibit of the resources of the country would not be complete without our exhibit. The historic importance of North Carolina as the first to make a Declaration of Independence, is known of all men. For it to fail to make a display of its products would be criminal folly This is a sentimental reason—but is not sentiment as necessary to patriotism as goods and chattels?

A SCHOLARLY NORTH CAROLINIAN.

Dr. Charles Lee Smith, who has been connected with the Charity Organization Work at Baltimore for more than a year, also an instructor at the Johns Hopkins University, has resigned those positions and accepted one in Missouri. He enters upon his duties as Professor of Political Science and History at the William Jewell college, the great Baptist college of the West, at the beginning of the spring term, which is some time about the 15th of January.—Durham Sun.

The CHRONICLE gives this item of news to its readers with regret and pleasure: regret, that a North Carolinian of such talent and real scholarship should not be engaged in work in his native State; pleasure, that his ability has brought to him recognition and honors from abroad.

Dr. SMITH is an enthusiastic young scholar, and the CHRONICLE hopes that some day sufficient inducements can be offered to call him back to North Carolina.

WHY NOT BRING BINGHAM SCHOOL TO RALEIGH?

It is a noticeable thing that there is a strong tendency in schools and colleges of repute to move from the country to towns and cities. If there is no other reason for this, the recent fires at Bingham School tend to show that a good fire department is a very important feature in the property and permanency of a school or college.

Raleigh has the fire department and many other important advantages. Why shall not Raleigh make an effort to bring the Bingham School to the capital of the State? It may be that self-preservation will force the school to move to a city. Why not to Raleigh? Other towns will move in this matter. We hear that Greensboro and Asheville have already done so.

We throw this out to-day merely in the form of a suggestion. There is no need to say that there is not a school in the State of any kind that has a career of such length and that its patrons are gathered from almost every State in the Union. Its name would be worth $25,000 to Raleigh, not to speak of the apparent benefits that would follow its location here.

The CHRONICLE says, by all means, let us offer sufficient inducements to secure the removal of Bingham School to Raleigh.

What says the Chamber of Commerce?

PUBLIC ROADS.

With every recurring Legislature the question comes up: What can be done to improve the public roads of the State?

It is, in truth, a difficult question to answer, but the difficulty makes it all the more important that the thought of the most sensible and practical men among us should be directed towards the ways and means of road improvement. In Pennsylvania a legislative commission has been investigating the subject in all parts of the State, and the members thereof have practically agreed on an act that will be presented at the next session of the legislature. We have not seen the report of the commission, but the Atlanta Constitution gives the following synopsis of it:

This act provides for the appointment of three commissioners in each township, who shall have the power to select and pay road masters. Farmers who choose to work out their road tax will not be permitted to work at their own convenience. They must notify the commission of their intention before the 12th of April of each year, and they will be required to report at such times and places as are designated by the road masters, and, on failure to comply, their road tax will become payable in cash.

The act also provides that, in addition to the yearly mending of the roads, a certain portion of the money collected for this purpose shall be set aside for permanent improvement. Whenever one mile in a township has been thoroughly constructed—that is to say, whenever the road has been built on a stone or gravel foundation, with such covering as is approved by the county engineer, the county will be required to build an additional mile of permanent road in the same township, and the state will be required to construct another mile. Thus the authorities of the township, the county and the state will be placed in competition in the matter of road-building.

HOAR'S RANT AND INVECTIVE.

Some days ago the CHRONICLE took occasion to rebuke in plain terms the sanguinary utterance of a Southern newspaper which threatened blood if an attempt should be made to enforce the Force bill. We do not retract what we there stated, but we do say that such a bloody article is not to be compared for baseness and invective to the speech made by Senator HOAR Tuesday. We have no space for his basely partizan utterance, and give the following synopsis sent out by the United Press merely as a sample of his offensive advocacy of his sectional bill:

Hoar told Southern Senators that they had pledged their official oaths and honor as men that they would give their devotion to the Constitutional amendments if they were only let back into their old condition in the Union, free from the consequences of rebellion. And now they were denouncing those Constitutional amendments as "a stupendous crime and blunder."

He criticised the new constitution of Mississippi, and said the people were not blind to the objects of the Mississippi constitutional convention. If they were their eyes would have been opened by the declaration of Judge Calhoun, the president of the convention, avowing the purpose for which it was gathered, and who said that if he were asked whether it was the purpose to restrict negro suffrage, he would frankly answer, "Yes, that is what we are here for."

Mr. Hoar recalled the Copiah massacre in Mississippi, the murder of Fred Matthews and the burning of his widow's house, and said that within the present Christmas season that a widow's son, the Republican postmaster, a young man of 21, had been shot down in the streets of Carrollton, the home of Senator George.

"How long," Mr. Hoar exclaimed, "how long, oh, God! shall the blood of these martyrs cry for vengeance from the ground? How long shall the murder of men because they are Republicans be the only crime to which Republicans are indifferent?"

The Senator (referring to Mr. Walthall) thinks the era of these things is passing by in Mississippi. Let us hope so; and that when its dark and bloody history is written, it will be recorded that there was at least one manly voice in all her chivalry that uttered the indignation of an American freedman at the outrage on Americanism and on freedom.

In conclusion Mr. Hoar addressed himself directly to the Southern Senators and said:

"You have tried everything else, now try justice. You have exhausted every policy and failed. This terrible question will not down. Your people have listened too long to the evil counsellors who led them into rebellion, into war, into poverty, into crime. Let them listen now to the counsels of the greatest orator of antiquity: "Justice is, itself, the great standing policy of civil society, and any eminent departure from it, under any circumstances, is under the suspicion of being no policy at all."

CHRISTMAS DIXIE.

The Christmas number of Dixie is a very handsome publication and is chock full of interesting Christmas matter. Typographically, it is a beautiful issue and is as bright and a tractive in appearance as in its contents. There is a growing demand for a Southern literary magazine which shall be an inspiration to the brilliant young authors of the South, furnish to the growing army of Southern readers a distinctive Southern literature, which shall go far to "create and foster public opinion, and made it racy of the soil." Properly encouraged and supported, with a large capital and ability to employ the best talent and artists, Dixie can well fill that field. It already has the foundation and we hope it will begin the new year with the resolve and a large enough stock company to make Dixie to the South what the New England Magazine is to New England.

The contents for Christmas Dixie include one of JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS' best tales for children, "Two Little Tale as Told by Uncle Remus;" Mrs. JAS. W. ROGERS writes on "Daddy Zeke's Search for Lil' Marse;" WALLACE P. REED gives a story of an "Old Debt;" "The Race Question" is discussed by ALEX P. HULL; there are Christmas stories and poems; and Mr. WM B. PHILLIPS, PH. D., formerly Professor in the University of North Carolina and now of Alabama, contributes a valuable article on "Evolution of the Modern Blast Furnace." This issue contains "Some Bright Young Men of the Southern Press," with portraits of F. H. RICHARDSON, the bright, versatile and growing Washington correspondent of the Atlanta Constitution; CLARK HOWELL, managing editor of the Atlanta Constitution who is the youngest Speaker of the House Georgia ever had; JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES of the Rome Tribune, whose reputation as an orator has caused many to say that the mantle of HENRY GRADY has fallen on his shoulders; and JOSEPHUS DANIELS, editor of the STATE CHRONICLE. The sketch is from the pen of MRS. MEL R. COLQUITT, and is in her best vein.

THE ROANOKE LANDS.

(Scotland Neck Democrat.)

A gentleman who owns land on the river remarked to us a few days ago that he has had many more inquiries this year concerning these lands than before. He says that a Philadelphia company has made inquiries for as much as thirty five thousand acres from the Graffin farm map. It is contemplated by the company to make a large stock farm.

We do not know what is going to be done with these lands; but we know they are valuable, and we intend that this paper shall carry the news about them until other people learn of them too. And we are quite sure that our persistence in this direction has already directed attention to them, and we shall continue it, whether any appreciation is shown or not, and notwithstanding some may treat the matter lightly.

W. N. C. INSANE ASYLUM.

A SUMMARY OF THE BI-ENNIAL REPORT.

It is a Noble Public Institution and Deserves Well of The State--Facts and Figures Given by a Director.

We present to-day the following article from the pen of MR. JOSEPH CALDWELL, editor of the Statesville Landmark. He has been a Director in the Western North Carolina Insane Asylum for several years, and writes with a full and accurate knowledge of the work and needs of the institution. What he writes is, therefore, entitled to great weight and consideration; and we are glad to lay before our readers a full exposition of the workings of this model public institution from the pen of a thoughtful and efficient director. So far as we know, there is no public institution in the country which in every way is nearer perfect in equipment and management than the Western N. C. Asylum. It gives us pleasure to bear personal testimony to its efficiency and growing usefulness. We have visited it several times, and upon each recurring visit we have been all the more impressed with its excellent management. Its officers, directors and employees are worthy of all praise and commendation.

Mr. Caldwell writes:

The board of directors of the Western North Carolina Insane Asylum at Morganton held its last meeting for the year at the institution last week. The superintendent and subordinate officers submitted their reports to the board and the board prepared its report to the Governor, to be by him transmitted to the General Assembly. All of these reports are for two years' operations of the asylum, and it is hoped that every member of the Legislature now soon to assemble will read them carefully.

The General Assemby at its last session appropriated for the support of the institution for two years, $175,000. It was allowed to retain for betterments a small surplus which it had been enabled to carry over from the biennial period 1886 to 1888, and the total expenses from December 1, 1888, to November 30, 1890, were $178,885 96. The difference between this amount and the amount appropriated for the period, viz.: $175,000, came out of the surplus just referred to, and a trifling surplus is again carried over after all expenses are paid. The reason for this surplus is that the appropriation was based upon an estimated average population of 450 for 1889 and of 500 for 1890 and the average was not so high as had been calculated. The number of patients remaining November 30, 1889, was 465, and the number remaining November 30, 1890, 490.

The results of the two years' operations have been most gratifying in every particular. The recoveries on admission of patients have been 46.7 per cent. and the death rate 4.07 per cent.—the one number above and the other much below the average of similar institutions. The superintendence and medical work have been of first-class character, while the subordinate officers and employes have discharged their duties with fidelity and intelligence. This institution is one in which mechanical restraint is not employed. Up to about three years ago a light form of restraint was, in a few very violent cases, resorted to, but even this has been abandoned, and the raving has as free use of body and limbs as the quiet and harmless incurable. The patients are treated with the utmost kindness and consideration. Gentleness and persuasion are more effective agents for the government and cure of the insane than the boot or the straight-jacket; and those who doubt this should visit the Western North Carolina Insane Asylum. The patients are kept in the best possible physical condition. The building is in perfect repair and the grounds have been brought into a high state of improvement. The whole institution is a model of cleanliness and order—few gentlemen's parlors are cleaner or in more orderly state than the wards occupied by most violent patients in this asylum.

The improvements during the period have been numerous and important. What is probably the best macadamized and graded road in the State has been made between the asylum and the railroad station, a distance of one mile through the asylum grounds and over a right of way generously donated by Maj J. W. Wilson, the enlightened and large-hearted president of the board of directors. The water supply is brought through pipes from the mountains five miles from the asylum, and has been found insufficient for the needs of the increasing population of the institution. An immense reservoir has therefore been built on the grounds to take the water which would otherwise be wasted during the night. This involved large expense but will insure an ample supply of water. Efficient fire apparatus has been purchased and the danger of loss of lives or property from fire has been reduced to a minimum; this precaution effects a saving in another direction, as it is not thought necessary to carry more than a nominal insurance upon the property. During the year a considerable body of real estate—farming, meadow and wood lands—contiguous to the asylum grounds has been purchased. This was felt to be justified by the excellent results which have attended the farming and gardening operations of the institution. During the past two years the farm and garden yielded products of the value of $12,276 47.

The items mentioned cover the extraordinary expenses of the biennial period.

The asylum is now about full. Great care has been exercised to properly regulate admissions. Had all applicants been received without discrimination, the institution would have been filled to its capacity two years ago. The jails have been relieved and all acute or supposed curable cases have been received, but during the ensuing year some applicants even of these classes it is feared will have to be turned away. Other State charities are, however, in more need of legislative help than the Western Insane Asylum—the North Carolina Insane Asylum, the Eastern Asylum and the Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institution, for instance. The Western Asylum, always modest in its requests, will therefore ask the Legislature for nothing in the way of money excepting for the support of its inmates and to keep up necessary repairs. Two years ago it received an appropriation equal to $187.50 per capita of its inmates. As its equitment has been improved and its population increased, its superintendent and directors feel that during the next two years they will be able to do even better than this, and the Legislature will be asked to merely continue the present appropriation of $90,000 per year. This is $180.00 per year per capita for 500 inmates, and it should be understood that this amount not only feeds and clothes the patients, but provides skilled treatment, pays all salaries, pays for drugs, fuel, lights, repairs, and meets all expenses of every sort whatsoever. The jailer of Iredell county charges 25 cents per day for boarding the prisoners in the county jail and all concede that the figure is very low. Some counties pay 40 cents and others as high as 50 cents. This 25 cents per day makes the board of a prisoner cost $91.25 cents in a year. But bed clothing must be bought to cover him, he needs naked clothing must be bought for him, if he gets sick a physician must be paid and so must the drug bill, and all these is extra. When the State can provide everything in the way of comfort, care and skillful treatment for its unfortunate insane at less than double what it costs to feed a prisoner in a common jail, it will be admitted that it is doing its humane work at very small cost. One hundred and eighty dollars per capita is indeed much below the average of the running expense of the asylums of the United States, but the management of the Western North Carolina Insane Asylum will undertake to provide for its inmates for the next two years at this figure, and, moreover, will, if allowed to retain its savings, undertake, by economical management, thus adding to these savings, to construct, during the next two years, apart from the main building, a congregate dining room which will enable them to convert the present dining rooms in the building into bed rooms, thus making room for sixty more patients.

The General Assembly will be asked for some legislation regarding the institution which will involve no expense, but which will increase its usefulness, and this legislation it is supposed there will be no objection from any quarter:

(1.) It will be asked that the name, "The Western North Carolina Insane Asylum," be changed to "The State Hospital at Morganton." The words "insane asylum" have a terror for the people, and many patients feel that a stigma attaches to them as inmates of an institution so called. "Hospital" is pleasanter to the ear and is of less terrible significance to the mind. It is believed that this change of name will have a good effect upon the patients; already there is rejoicing in the wards in prospect of it.

(2.) Certain rooms of the institution—twelve on the male and an equal number on the female wing—were constructed as private sections where patients who might pay their own expenses and have their own attendants could be cared for. The institution, however, having been built and being supported by the money of all the people, it is not the policy of the directory to charge some patients and treat and care for others without charge. Hence these private sections are unavailable for the general purposes of the institution and it is proposed to open them to inebriates and victims of the opium habit to the number of twelve of each sex. It is proposed to charge the patients of these classes an amount for board equal to the expense of caring for and treating them, and it is felt that in this way a good work may be done in reclaiming men and women who have become disqualified for usefulness through the drink and opium habits, and this without expense to the State and without excluding insane persons who might otherwise be admitted.

This, then, is the statement of the case to the Legislature for the West North Carolina Insane Asylum, an institution which is doing a glorious work in ameliorating the unhappy condition of a great many of our fellow-citizens. It is an honor to North Carolina and to North Carolinian can regard it otherwise than with pride. Dr. P. L. Murphy, its able superintendent is eminently fitted in every particular for the important trust which he exercises with such wisdom and conscientiousness; Drs. Ivey and Taylor, the assistant physicians, are accomplished medical men, fond of their specialty and ambitious in it; the positions of steward and matron could not be more acceptably or more worthily filled than they are by Mr. F. M. Scroggs and Mrs. C. A. Marsh, and all the subordinates are chosen with reference to their fitness and take a just pride in their work. The institution is controlled by a board of eight directors, whose traveling expenses to and from the meetings are paid and who serve without compensation. As citizens and taxpayers they have just the same interest in the institution that other patriotic and enlightened citizens should have. They desire to see it reach the highest measure of usefulness and at the same time have the same interest that all other tax-payers have that it should be conducted with the utmost economy consistent with good service. Neither upon this nor upon any other point of management do they fear to meet the Legislature, and the most they have to ask of this honorable body is a rigid investigation of their management in the past, feeling confident that the closer the inquiry the more ready the General Assembly will be to accept what they now have to say as to what is necessary to conduct the Western Insane Asylum in the future with the same measure of efficiency that has marked its operations in the past.

Remarkable Rescue,

Mrs. Michael Curtain, Plainfield, Ill., makes the statement that she caught cold, which settled on her lungs; she was treated for a month by her family physician, but grew worse. He told her that she was a HOPELESS VICTIM OF CONSUMPTION and that no medicine could cure her. Her druggist suggested Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption; she bought a bottle and to her delight found herself benefited from the first dose. She continued its use and after taking ten bottles, found herself sound and well, now does her own housework and is as well as she ever was. Free trial bottles of this Great Discovery at John Y. McRae's drugstore. Large bottles 50c. and $1.

Rev. C. W. Byrd, new Methodist preacher at Asheville, was warmly received. A reception was given him at Asheville Female College, and afterwards words of welcome were delivered by the pastors of the Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian and other Methodist churches. Mr. Byrd responded appropriately. He is a strong man.

THE DOOM OF INGALLS.

HIS HOPE OF RE-ELECTION ONLY "AN IRIDESCENT DREAM."

Eighteen Short of a Majority in the Kansas Legislature---Besides This, Five Republican Senators Have Declared Against Him--John F. Willits Is the Strongest Alliance Candidate for His Place, With P. P. Elder a Good Second.

(Special to New York World.)

TOPEKA, KAN., Dec. 29.—Senator Ingalls came from Atchison to this city this morning and has been busily engaged in a conference with his political advisers all day. He is fifty seven years old to-day, and when asked for an interview vouchsafed that information and no more.

Instead of remaining in Kansas for two weeks, Mr. Ingalls will stay until after a United States Senator has been elected. He engaged a suite of rooms at the Copeland this morning until after the Legislature adjourns. The hotel is directly opposite the Republican headquarters. Nearly all the Senator's friends will be congregated there. Senator Buchanan, who is managing Senator Ingalls' campaign, declined to be interviewed to-day further than to declare that there was now no doubt that Mr. Ingalls would be his own successor. As a matter of fact, however, the report which the Kansas delegation brought from the farmers' convention at Ocala has intensified the opposition to Senator Ingalls and his defeat now seems absolutely certain. The election of Irby in South Carolina has furnished the people's party with an argument to prove that the Alliance is not a Democratic scheme and it is being used effectively. With the full Republican vote Senator Ingalls will be eighteen short of a majority on joint ballot, and to be elected he must by some means get that number of Democrats and Alliance men to come to his support.

But he will not have the entire Republican strength to help him. There are at least five Republican Senators who have announced themselves opposed to him, and one of that number has come out flat-footed for the Alliance. One Republican member-elect of the House has a grievance against Ingalls, because the influence of one or two Government officers, who secured their positions through Ingalls, worked against him at the polls and he holds Ingalls personally responsible for it and will vote against him. This reduces Senator Ingalls's Republican strength to 50, when 83 are necessary to his election.

With all these overwhelming odds confronting them, the Ingalls men claim to be confident of success. They say there is no reason why Alliance Republicans should not support their candidate. There are over thirty of them who have been life long Republicans and who were not instructed by the conventions which nominated them to oppose or support any particular candidate for the Senate. It is from this portion of the opposition that Ingalls expects to gain the recruits necessary to him.

There is but little doubt that John F. Willits, late candidate for Governor, is the strongest Alliance Senatorial possibility and his friends claim that his following is sufficient to give him a clear majority against all opponents in a party caucus. He is now in the city and will remain here until the close of the campaign, when he will begin active work as National Lecturer of the Farmers' Alliance, to which position he was elected by the Ocala Convention. Should he realize his Senatorial aspirations he will continue to act as lecturer until his term expires, which will be next December.

P. P. Elder, who is the only Alliance member of the Legislature whose legislative experience fits him for the position of Speaker, and who has no opponent, is developing considerable strength for United States Senator. Next to Mr. Willits and Judge W. A. Peffer he is the most formidable People's party candidate. He would be more acceptable to the Republicans than any other candidate mentioned, and he counts on Republican aid when it becomes apparent that Senator Ingalls has no chance of success.

Judge Peffer has in the last few weeks been losing ground. His financial ideas, expressed in his book entitled "The Way Out," have been the subject of a great deal of criticism by Alliance papers, and have brought about much opposition to him. Besides this the business manager of his paper holds a Government position given him by a Republican Administration, and his partner, ex Gov. S. J. Crawford, is the agent of the State engaged in looking after the claims of Kansas in Washington, for which he is also under obligations to the Republican party. These facts have a tendency to weaken the Judge with the Alliance.

Within the last ten days a Senatorial boom has been started for Jerry Simpson, Congressman elect from the Seventh District, which threatens to grow to formidable proportions. The branch Alliances in his district have taken him up as their candidate and with great unanimity are adopting resolutions demanding his election. In the meantime Jerry is not bothering about politics, but is enjoying himself in the South, where he is taking a rest after his recent arduous campaign. Should his candidacy be pushed his great personal popularity in the Third and Sixth Districts will materially aid him

OPPOSED TO CLOTURE.

Senator Teller Denounces it.--Other Republican Opposition.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Dec. 29.—Senator Teller, of Colorado, is opposed to the new rule, and with blunt Western directness he doesn't hesitate to say so. "I intend," he said, "to make a speech against it when the resolution comes before the Senate. We do not need such a rule. The Senate has managed its business for eighty-four years under its present code, and this includes the period covering the heated debates in the ante-bellum times and the stormy scenes of the reconstruction days since."

"Whether the cloture resolution is adopted or not, it is my opinion the Election bill will never become a law," said Senator Wolcott, of Colorado. Senator Wolcott is one of a group of Western Republican Senators who are said to entertain a kindred antipathy to the Force bill, the others being his colleague, Senator Teller; Senator Stewart, of Nevada; Senator Plumb, of Kansas; Senator James of Nevada; Senator Washburn, of Minnesota, and possibly Senator Stanford of California.

TALKING AGAINST TIME.

How the Democratic Senators Feel About Their Performance on the Force Bill.

(Special Correspondence of the Globe-Democrat, Rep.)

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 24.—"Coke," said Senator George to the big Texan in the seclusion of the cloak room, "didn't you promise to sit out my speech on the Force bill?"

"Yeth, George, I did," replied Senator Coke, with his usual lisp.

"Well, sir, what did you mean by getting up and going out before I was half through?" asked the Mississippian.

"George," said Senator Coke, with a desperate effort to be candid, "I intended to stay it out, but I couldn't. Did you thee that poor man up yonder? (The Senator jerked his thumb in the direction of the Vice President's chair.) I tell you I pitied him. He wath actually limp, thir, when you got through your thpeech."

The time killing talk on the elections bill has been the worst that this generation of Senators has fled from. Blair didn't exaggerate when he said he had actually seen a Senator solemnly discoursing to an audience of two. It got so bad that people in the galleries would go there just for the amusement of seeing a dignified Senator talk by the hour to an empty chamber. The only element of sincerity which entered into the performance was the desire to spread over as much time as possible.

A Texas member saw Coke down in the restaurant passively lunching one day. "Coke," he asked, "why ain't you upstairs listening to Reagan? He hasn't got half a dozen people for an audience. You ought to be up there helping him out."

"Reagan," replied Coke, doethin't care. He ithn't talking for anybody up there. He ith making that thpeech for people down in Teckthath."

The terribly uninteresting and wearying character of their performance is treated as a pretty good joke by even the Democrats. Somebody went to Gorman the other day and asked: "Why don't you have a call of the Senate every half hour if necessary and make the Republicans come in and listen—make the Republicans come into the chamber and then start Reagan or Call or Morgan on a speech?"

"That would be a pretty good idea," said Vest, with a chuckle.

"Yes," said Gorman, "we ought to do that. But there is an objection to it I am afraid we couldn't get over."

"What's that?" asked Vest.

"I'm afraid it wouldn't be constitutional," replied Gorman, in a deliberate manner.

"What is there unconstitutional about it?" demanded Vest.

"It might be considered cruel and unusual punishment," replied Mr. Gorman. And then everybody smiled.

There hasn't been much brain tissue wasted in this series of speeches on the election bill, but the nerves of listeners have suffered.

A TERRIBLE SNOW DRIFT.

No Mails to Sparta in Ten Days--Travel Cut Off.

Mr. R. L. Doughton, of Alleghany, who is in the city, tells us that the recent snow in that county, is the biggest and most ruinous to travel than in ten years. It was 14 inches deep at first, and on Christmas day 6 inches more fell. The drift of snow was very great and in some places it was over ten feet deep.

About all the mails have been blocked up, and for ten days it was impossible for the daily mail to get through to Sparta, the county seat. All travel, except by horse-back, has been totally suspended, and the inconvenience and delay to business has been very great. The snow is still on the ground. It drifted as it fell, and the falling snow was so thick that a traveller could not see his way is fore him. If the weather had been very cold, the stock would certainly have frozen. Alleghany is a great stockraising county, and if the weather had been severely cold, the loss would have been very heavy.

Some of the oldest inhabitants say that there never was such a drift of snow seen in the county.

COLLISION ON R. & A. A. L. R. R.

A Through Freight Train Rushes Madly Into the Local Freight and Passenger Train at Merry Oaks--No One Hurt--A Coach and Engine and Two Freight Cars Demolished.

[Special to STATE CHRONICLE.]

HAMLET, N. C., Dec. 31.—This afternoon, while the local freight and passenger train, bound for Raleigh, was standing at Merry Oaks, the through freight came thundering along down grade at a rapid rate. Engineer Wm. Boyd was holding the throttle, and seeing that a collision was inevitable he reversed his engine and jumped. The fireman jumped also. Conductor Peter Pleasants, of Aberdeen, was going to see his sister married to-night and was in the cab, but did not jump. Soon after the engine was reversed a cylinder burst with terrific explosion. A colored train hand rushed into the coach and warned the passengers to flee for their lives, which they did. A coach, the engine and two freight cars were badly demolished, but nobody was hurt. C. F. KING.

FIRE IN TARBORO.

The Oldest Academy--An Old Historic Mark--In Tarboro Burned.

[Special to STATE CHRONICLE.]

TARBORO, N. C., Dec. 30.—The Female Academy of this place, Prof. D. G. Gillespie principal, was destroyed by fire about half past one o'clock this morning.

All efforts to save the building were ineffectual and it was soon consumed by the flames. Quite a number of the citizens reached the building in time to rescue and save many of the furniture.

The building was burning rapidly when the inmates were awakened and notified of their imminent peril.

The school had not resumed its session since the holidays and none of the scholars had returned. Tis well that this fire happened when it did, for their's might have been a sad fate had they been in the Academy.

The origin of the fire is unknown, but there is every reason to believe that it was the work of an incendiary. The building was insured for $2,000 and the furniture for $500. J. B. S.

SHALL THE STATE HELP?

A LEAF FROM NORTH CAROLINA HISTORY.

Accompanied by a Suggestion to the Legislature That Loans be Made by the State on Land.

(Special Cor. STATE CHRONICLE.)

HENDERSON, N. C., Dec. 29, 1890.—Now that the Republican Senatorial caucus has decided upon their bill for financial relief, it is apparent the scheme is devised chiefly to help the national banks in the financial centres of the country, and only those who have United States bonds or gold or silver bullion can avail themselves of the privileges contained in the bill.

Until there is elected a Democratic Congress and President, we cannot hope for any financial legislation that will help the agricultural portions of the country. The present Congress will not pass Senator Stanford's bill to issue greenbacks to be loaned to the farmers, nor will it make the coinage of silver free.

The enquiry here arises can the several States afford the necessary relief by their individual action. For instance, would it be constitutional for the incoming Legislature of North Carolina to pass an act to issue, say, five or ten million of 4 per cent. bonds, the proceeds of which, to be loaned to the people of the several counties on unincumbered real estate at 4½ per cent. interest, for a period of fifteen years. Not more than $1,000 to be loaned to any one person. Conceding the Legislature has such power, would it be a good thing to do? We may form some idea as to this, from a study of the results of just such legislation upon the people of this State when a colony of Great Britain. It may surprise some to be told that in 1727, the General Assembly of North Carolina, as a relief to the people suffering from a scarcity of money, passed an act providing for the issue of $200,000.00 in bills which were to be legal tender for debt, and were to be loaned to the farmers of the several counties (precincts) for a period of 15 years, at 6 1-4 per cent. interest. This interest and one-fifteenth of the principal was payable each year. The county treasurer was authorized to lend on unincumbered farms to one-half their value. If the interest was not promptly paid, he had the right to distrain upon any personal property of the debtor he could find. If the interest was not paid for three consecutive years, the county treasurer was then to re-enter and take possession and sell the land on thirty days notice.

It will still more surprise some to be told, that the above scheme, open to so many objections, and presenting so many difficulties; in other words, apparently so visionary, met with complete success. It was so beneficial to the people of North Carolina, that it was substantially adopted in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and South Carolina; and the plan was recommended to the Governor of Massachusetts, to the mother country for introduction in all the colonies. It would seem but simple justice, that, as the National Banking law denies to the farmer the privilege of borrowing money from a national bank on his farm as a security, and as Congress has gone still further and legislated out of existence our State banks that formerly afforded this aid to the farmer, some plan should be devised by which the owners of land, a species of property of all the most stable in value, indestructable in its nature, immovable; the very mud sill of all other properties, could make use of his property as a basis of credit.

Such a scheme must look to government aid, either National or State, rather than to the banks.

It is not a proper function of a bank to lend money on land. Such loans of necessity must be for a long time. Banks cannot make loans on such security or for such lengths of time. They must have their loans in such shape as to be readily convertible into money as necessity demands. The function of a bank is to act as the custodian of moneys; to provide a circulating medium (money); to facilitate exchange and to aid business by granting loans on short time on commercial paper; but not to lend money on long time, or on real estate. Hence the relief of that class of our population who possess only land, must come direct from the Government either National or State.

As some deny the power of the General Government to lend money to the people—though it is done by every Congress that grants a subsidy to a steamship line or a bounty to a sugar planter—there can be no such objection to the States doing such a thing, provided its own constitution does not prohibit this.

If such be the case, it is a matter entirely with the people of the State whether they will not change their State Constitution to enable them to do it. It will, I think, be conceded that the values of our farming lands are below par. I can think of no plan that will tend more to bring them up to their normal value, than some such scheme as is outlined above; and is it not time, that a species of property, which for twenty eight years has been discredited in the eyes of the commercial world by the direct act of the General Government, should be rehabilitated by some Governmental action either National or State? I, for one, think it is.

WM. H. S. BURGWYN.

Is The Wife or the Judge Appointed?

(New York World.)

The wife of Judge H. B. Brown, recently appointed from Michigan to a seat on the Bench of the Supreme Court, is said to be a most beautiful woman of many accomplishments.

There is more catarrh in the section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address,

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

THE STATE MUSEUM.

Improvement and Classification---5,886 Visitors During 1890.

Calling at the State Museum yesterday, we found that institution much improved. The new rooms recently added were well filled with an interesting exhibit of natural resources of the State. One of the rooms contains a complete collection of the native woods, 112 varieties, and next to it a room devoted to building stones. Fine polished blocks of granite, marbles of every shade with splendid specimens of the best brown stone in the Union. Of the latter there are fine blocks from Egypt and from Sanford where a new quarry has lately been opened and 40 stone cutters busy in filling orders for dimension stone. The Sanford company is under the direction of Mr. W. H. Smith, President, who says he has as much as he can do to fill orders.

The mineral cases have all been repainted and the specimens arranged in a better and more orderly system. Each specimen bears a number and a discriptive label, showing the scientific and common name, variety, composition crystal system, county and locality. Further details in regard to each specimen is to be found in the catalogue, of which there are two volumes—one for mineral specimens and one for geological specimens. New specimens are constantly being received and the collection is steadily growing in interest and importance. The eastern section of the state is well represented in the fine collection of good fishes—all finely preserved stuffed specimens from the smallest herring to the sturgeon and tarpon, weighing 150 pounds.

Our 314 miles of coast line, with two large sounds, give North Carolina remarkable advantages in the fishing industry. The oyster culture lately started in Pamlico Sound, which is quite an inland sea, promises to develop into great things in the near future.

Mr. Thos. C. Harris, the curator, is the right man in the right place. He was for years assistant to Prof. Kerr, State Geologist, and has had charge of the Museum some ten years. In a practical way he probably knows as much of the geology and mineral resources of North Carolina as any man living and is constantly called on by prospective buyers for information about mines, etc. It is his duty and pleasure to show up our wonderful resources in the best way and never tires of the work.

Every week he receives letters asking for information in regard to something wanted and persons having useful minerals not already on exhibition will do well to place their specimens there. It will be the best possible advertisement to owners of mineral property, and will cost them nothing.

In the museum a register of visitors is kept. Looking over its pages for the year 1890 we find that 5,886 visitors have been there. Thirty-one States are represented besides North Carolina, and six foreign countries. Even far off Congo, in Africa, is represented.

A careful examination of the exhibit there will not fail to impress every one of the extent and importance of our natural resources.

A STRANGE SUICIDE.

A Daughter Poisoned Her Father's Mind--He Found Out the Deception and Shot Himself.

(Tarboro Southerner.)

George Washington Wynn, near Robersonville, about ten days or two weeks ago killed himself with a shot gun. He was insane. His mental troubles grew out of his anxiety about his property.

A few years ago he married a pretty woman and for a time all went well.

The "wolf in the fold" entered later to it is said in the shape of an illegitimate daughter who poisoned her father's mind against her step-mother and persuaded the old man that money which he hid and disappeared was stolen by the wife. Mr. Wynn made a deed conveying all his property to this daughter and forced his wife to leave. Some time thereafter the old man became suspicious of his daughter and watched her till he became satisfied that his wife was innocent.

Man and wife became reconciled and Mr. Wynn sought to have the deed set aside. Worry and anxiety on this account affected his mind and he ended his troubles in the manner above stated.

He was worth $20,000 or $25,000.

THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK

Of Fayetteville Closes Its Doors---Three Assignments.

(Special to STATE CHRONICLE.)

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 31.—The People's National Bank of this place closed its doors at 11 o'clock to-day, on account of inability of the heavy demands upon its funds. The suspension caused quite a ripple in business circles and is due to a run made on the bank by the depositors, the result of the currency given to the report that the bank had lost heavily by the recent failure of its former President, Mr. E. E. Moore. From the best information it is learned that the assets to night aggregate about $220,000 gross, consisting largely of discounted paper, while the liabilities foot up about $80,000, $65,000 of which is due depositors and time certificates. At present there is little doubt but what the depositors will be paid dollar for dollar. Information is meagre.

The following failures have occured to-day and yesterday: J. H. Ingram, J. I. Tatum, and Geo. Rosenthal mortgaged equal to an assignment.

Happy Hoosiers.

Wm. Timmons, Postmaster of Maville, Ind., writes: "Electric Bitters has done more for me than all other medicines combined, for that bad feeling arising from Kidney and Liver trouble." John Leslie, farmer and stockman, of some place, says: "Find Electric Bitters to be the best Kidney and Liver medicine; made me feel like a new man." J. W. Gardner, hardware merchant, same town, says: Electric Bitters is just the thing for a man who is all run down and don't care whether he lives or does; he found new strength, good appetite, and felt just like he had a new lease on life. Only 50c. a bottle, at John Y. MacRae's Drug Store.

Mr. Bartlett, son of the late Judge Shipp, will locate in Lincolnton, it being understood that he succeeds to the practice of Judge Hoke. Mr. Shipp is a young man of very decided talents. He has practiced law in Charlotte, but had been located in Greensboro for several years past.—Charlotte News.