# Natauga Democrat. 

VOI. 5
BOONE, WATAUGA COUVTY

WASHINGTON LETTER Prom our Regular

## Judge Lochren, the deme-

 ratic Commisnioner of Pe wims. takes charge with the full knowledge thint he has andertaken the task of his life, and by far the harlest job that will fall to any Burenn Chief under the pres. ont adminixtration. He fully iilea that the U. S. Penxion ilea that the U. N. Pensionlist shoalt the a role of homo nd from the start it will and from the start it will be
his earnext enulea yor to make it so. No soldier legally ent Iled to a pension thas anything to fear from Judge Lenchren; it is those whon an trawing pensions withoL any lozgal right to them that are in danger from the new
administration of the Pension Buman. The roll is to fly $n \mathrm{n}$ mossible without ne leeting the carrent busineas o hie onfice, and the rakpals be dropped, but where eve it can he done they are to b. ey they have illegally drawn roms the घow miment In ren will be glad of the co-copIf any citizen in any part of hee molutry ktows of an vithome l, eing entitled to If shomld at oure commun ate with Judge Laehren, giv
ing the facts as far as he nowe thom, in order that nn official examination may he old soldiers themselve will aid in this work ar soon as they heromeronvinced, as they koon must be, hat on losing their pensions.
Secretary Herthert hus hep so busy wince he tomk charge of the Navy Department, ma king preparations for the ma val revierf. to say nothing ' attack from the grip. that he has had no time to inquire es known to exist jun his department, but he gill do
now. Prominent in 太ুis list of abuses is the practice of granting long leaves of ab-
rence to naval offlerss with woothirds pay, in order tha they may enter the employ of private parties orcorpora tions, thes drawing two sal ries. The very nature of the as will bent on these ofrers, most prominent of them her to appended, is in itself scan datons, and would uot be col erated by any other govern ment, aad probably will not be much longer by the United States: Commander Fol ger, who was for some year ger, who was sor some yearm
Chief of the Bureau of Orainance of the Navy Depart ment. was last January gra ted leave of absence for $t w o$ years on the ground of il
health. He inmediately en tered the employ of the com
pany which contremled th pany which contremped the
Harvey process for impro ving steel armor platen, and
which has large contracts with the government, con tracte, ton, which ha as Chief
of the oröinance bureau, had
been instrumental in getting awarded to that company
Thistransan-tionidown'tlook altogether straight, does it? Lient Ser straight, doess it: nee Ang. 1st. 1800, and du ring all this time he hns heen Co. of Philadelphias whi have sold the Navy Depart ment hig bills of tools, etc. manv of which were deaigned ontiated their sale to the department. Lieut. Commanfer Kymonds, and Chief Engineer Robinson got 1 year's leave of absence each.
der to accept positions with mivate parties at the Wortide Fair. Lieut. commanderCor nene for tivo seares and under salary to the Thomas Houston Copper Co., to look
after ita contracts with the Navy Department. Lienten. ant Stone has a three year 1891, and draws 85.1000 ear from Charnegie and Co look after their stem con racts with the Nary Depar ment. Lieut. Drigras. join used in the Navy, is on leav and in the employ of the Co.
 leare, and in the employ the Co. that manufaclures orlnave for the army. Thie Euginem Towse after long service in preparing for the
department, designs for mahinery for nasul veescels wa granted leave for two year
in order that he might draw 6.000 a year from Cram and Sons for superintendin. the construction of the ma hinery he had designed in he course of his regular di-- lient. Woca has bee and is vice-president and man ager of the American Projec ment contracts. Naval Con rnctor Armistead was on mepection duty at the ship aran of taning and $\mathbf{v o}$, u date has been on a leave and in the emplos of that firm haplain Holt is on leave en Engineer Monocul, is u leave, and is chtef engineer of
the Nicaranga Canal Compa

This is only a partia hist, but it shows a bad sys em. These men should re sign their commissions if they desire to enter private busihess, but if they hadn't the ould probably nut be want oy their present employ eds.
have ouly once to live herefore let us live to some purpose. The day that dawn diaw morning will bever lawn ngail. The oppostu it will never come agnin; and fre fail to fill it with the ser vice it requires of us, there will be no possibility of re urning into it to repair the hariot hare rat to the forward IV. M. Taylor, D. D.

If you are tired and never
N. C., thutsiday,

Where Wome

## harlotte News. Rearders of t

Readers of the News h
evary once in a while seentef rences to Belmont and St Ww of them know that these tems liave referred to one of the largest und most prospetous Catholic settlementa in the South. And the settle of Charlotte. just acroses the Catawba river, in Gaston Co About 18 years ago, a little rame sichool honse was buil was started. The original rame house is kept there proba ${ }^{1} l y$ by way of contras Towering brick buildings of vershaduw it on all sides. The growth of Catholicisin rom that modest beginnin: Thersising.
The property of the Catho pretikst land inGaston conn

Dr OComnell, who deer ed the Catholics 500 acres of
ground still lives in a modest ground still lives in a modes
little frouse on the grounds and is always sought out by visitors. The Catholiesstarred with a littleschool house. They now have a village of

## hurches.

By invitation, a party of Vews reporter, last Weduen lay vinited tie place. The pary left the air Line trai at Berimont, and a drive o he door of the monastery Bishop Haid, the abbott, " Rome. but in his absence Father Felix, vicar genoral
is in charge of themonastery and by hun the visitors wet most cordially received an entertamed: They were firm shown over the college build ing. It is a four-story brich ity block, and an add tion of 75 foet is now being build triking Next to this, the most church, now nearing comple tion. It is larger thais any hurch in Charlotte, hasstain d glass windows, slate roof it cost $\$ 60,000$. Mr. J. H Tho:ne, the builder, is now putting the finishing touches to thr-buidding. Flanking the colloge and church, are
the work shops, laundry, bnkery ami st -blos, Half a mile distant are large huilding grouped, the convent an n d orphanage for girls, Bet ween Catholice, and near by th foundation has been laid for an orphanage for boys. The settlement is located on high the minarets, steeples, crosses and slate roofs appearine above and among the trees s one appraaches, with Spen cer and other nountrin peak in the background, is one to be remembered. Lt looks odd
to find a settlement of such n extensive and imposing character planted in $t h$ woods. The buildings and

## ly $\$ 176,000$.

The Charlot te people spen five hours with the Cathol priests and were shown ove

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no.
ing conld scarcely bave been that there was a place of as more conveniently arranged. much interest as this so $n$ sa One hundred and fifteen boys home.
are now at school there, and All the supplies of the monneally every southern state axtery are bonght in Char is represented; The building lotte, and is quite an impor from basement to attic is tant item in the trade of the man as a pin: the floors are city. The kitchen supplies oiled, but the reception room for March, bonght here, a parlor acd guests' roomsare mounted to $\$ 1.019$
elegantly carpeted. You could arcely son a handkerchief in the kitchen. The dining room is almost as large as that in the Central Hotel, while the bed room oreapies one entire floor, where there in row after row ofsingle beds. Adjoining is a dramatic hall fitted with stogeand scenery The class rooms are lary and well jlighted, and ther are departments of telegt phy, mechanirs, scrence, art e. The cabinet room stocked with minerals and Is astronomical instrument botanical specimens and cu. rios of all kinds, and is one the most mely equipped State. In this room alone one could spend a day pleasantly and profitably. Out hings to interest are man The grotto, perhops, is most striking. It is construe teil on a hillside, and the ar iffeial stonework is so faith ful as to make it look almost like work of nature. The ath uonds for baseball monds for haseball and an d with swings, and tasteful painted. On these ground hich ame three games of base ball ca be played at one time, whise he lawn tennis and haud ball hoys can be amusing
themselves, too. Near the ery. It is marked by a larg wooden cross, set in the cenfigure of Christ is nailed. The nage con be seen for some distaner from the cemetery Not the least place of inter號 the stables, Iwhere 4 head of ane cattle are kept They ars in charge of a broth er from the interior of Ger
nany, who can ret searcely pask Eugitish, but who is in elligent. His pet cow gives $x$ gallons of milk per day The monsutery consumes all the milk :13: l butter product of the thatry. There is not the xowing, lane place. Al king, gardening, carpeting pamting, neouring, scrubIll work of all characters, done by men. There are about 22 brathers engreged in the different occupations about he monavtery and there ant 12 professors in the college 2 professors in the college They have a fme vingard one of the best farms in Gas on county. While the lifeo tie priests is one of seclusion dally-received, and are never more handsomely enter tained than at st. Mary Monastery. Mr. B. C. Eeclos, who was one of the party travels throug' Europe, Mex ico and this country, it still
remained for him to learn

## When Edison Was Young,

Iwas an oper
I was an operator in the Mamphis office when Thoma A. Edison applied to the man quer for a position," said $A$.
(i. Rockfeller, a member of the Reminiseence Club, St. Louis. "He came walking in o the office one morning look ug like a veritable hay seed He wore a hickory shirt, pair of butternut pants tyeked into the tops of boots size too large and guiltless of blacking. 'Where's the boss' was his query as he glance. plied at once and he repeat ed the queation. The mana ger naked him what he could do for him, and the future reat man proceeded tostrike him for a job. Business was rushing and the office was wo men short: so almos any kind of a lightning sling r was welcome. He was as signed to a desk and a fusion of winks went the rounds of the office, for the 'jay' was the hardest in the office

At the end of the line wa an sperytor who was chain ightning and be knew it. Ed ison hardly got seated befor St. Louis ealled. The new comer responded and St Lonim started in on a long re port, and he bumped it in threw his leg over the arm of his chair, leisurely trausierr d a wad of spruce chewin: gum from bis pocket to hi nouth, picked up a pen, ex mined it eritically, andstar red in about 200 words be hind. He didn't stay there long, though. St. Louis le out another link of speed and still another, and the in strument on Edison's table

