

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1879.

ANOTHER WITNESS FOR THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION.

In last Tuesday's OBSERVER we made a reference to some extracts from a forth: book written by a South Carolinian, bearing upon the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, which extracts were published in the Wilmington Star of the 20th. Having mentioned that we had misplaced the Star of the date given, its editor kindly sends us a copy, and it will interest our readers if we dwell for a time upon the facts which we find re-produced by our contemporary. We have never seen a copy of the volume which is quoted. It was the production of Dr. Joseph Johnson, of Charleston, S. C. It was published in 1851, when its author was a very old man, and is entitled "Traditions and Reminiscences Chiefly of the American Revolution in the South." This interesting work, says our Wilmington contemporary, has some references to the Mecklenburg Declaration that are not without value. The author was old enough in 1782 to remember a visit of some two or three months to Charlotte in that year. He gives a reminiscence of Col. Thomas Polk, who read the famous Declaration on the 20th of May, 1775. He was old enough in 1782 to understand the conversations and to reproduce some of them many years afterwards.

We cannot improve upon the Star's comments and deductions, and therefore what follows is copied from it:

The author of the book referred to says therein that the notice of the battle of Lexington reached Charlotte on the 19th of May, 1775. He says:

The inhabitants assembled on the 19th of May, appointed a committee to consider and report on the circumstances (the battle); and on the 20th the fol-Declaration of Independence.

He then gives a copy in hand-bill shape of the Declaration. He distinctly states, however, that "the original publication of the Mecklenburg Declaration has not yet been discovered. It ments taken from its own files. This is not, however, considered lost." This

has doubts as to the ipsissima verbathe precise words-of that declaration. It says that as to the authenticity and genuineness of the resolutions of the Sist of May, there has never been any controversy, and we add that the exact language employed in the 20th of May declaration is of very little importance, the fact of a declaration being the matter of real consequence.

We cannot better close this article than by quoting a part of what the Star says in introducing the facts above set

We would be glad if May 20th were made a general holiday, and that all business should be suspended on that day. It would be a fitting and praiseworthy custom for our people to gather throughout the State in memory of the patriots of Mecklenburg who met on the 19th, who proclaimed their independence on the 20th, and who set up a new government on the 31st of May, 1775. * * * * Every heroic people should glory in the achievements of their ancestors. Next to love of God there should be love of country. If, as Virgil has somewhere said, "the noblest motive is the public good," how much we should revere the memories of those braye and consecrated men who gath-ered at Charlotte and periled all-"their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

> ----TILDEN AS "CROW."

The Charleston News and Courier is one of those papers which dislike Mr. Tilden very much. It has said many severe things of him, and being reminded by one of the country newspapers of South Carolina that if that gentleman is nominated for the presidency in 1880 "the abusive papers will have to eat their words," it says:

We dont know what other newspapers are going to do about it, but the News and Courier will not, under any possible circumstances, recall a single word it has said concerning Mr. Tilden, and

in opposition to his nomination. Sceptical newspapers can take a note of this and put the News and Courier on the record.

This is dangerous talk. Its direct tendency is to foster that spirit of so-called "independence" in politics, from which

the South has everything to fear. Should the News and Courier continue its attacks upon Mr. Tilden up to the lowing declaration was reported, adopt-ed, and published, as the Mecklenburg time of the next Democratic national convention, and he should then be nom-

inated, its subsequent support of him would not be worth a snap, for all of its arguments in his behalf could be knocked in the head by counter-argu-

people, should be able to take for their

motto, "Measures, not men." South

union in the ranks. Mr. Tilden is now

ACQUITTAL OF CONGRESSMAN HULL.

ville, has brought in a verdict of not

publicans, and the fact that under these

BRIEF NEWS ITEMS.

for the appointment of a receiver, hav-

session.

STATE NEWS. Salem has a colored book agent. There are now 24 prisoners in Guil-ford jail.

Caldwell court, Judge Graves, is session this week. The masonic lodge of Greensboro ha

been re-organized. The Wilmington burglars will have a preliminary examination to-day. Judge Faircloth has been appointed receiver of the Goldsboro building and

oan association. Rev. Mr. Craig will be installed to-

morrow as pastor of the Presbyterian church of Reidsville. A lady of the Yadkin Valley has a present over 300 chickens, and expects

75 or 80 more shortly. Goldsboro has a heifer with ram's horns, a sheep's tail and woolly hair; and yet they call it a heifer.

Dr. Bagby, the Virginia humorist, lectured Thursday night at Reidsville on "The Disease Called Love."

Wilmington had her first regatta Thursday. The "Rosa," sailed by Capt. John L. Cazaux, was the winner.

The eastern papers have very many pleasant things to say of Judge Avery, who is presiding in the first district. Wilmington Star: North Carolina in

1830 had 738,470 inhabitants. The next. census (1880) will probably show 1,200,-000. which to him

Since the 1st. of May Messrs. Bailey Bros, of Statesville, have shipped up-wards of 700 boxes of manufactured to-

Wayne, Greene and Pitt counties will be asked to subscribe \$150,000 to the Goldsboro, Snow Hill & Greenville Railway.

Rev. Henry II. Prout, a former resident of Lengir, but more recently of Salt Lake City, Utah, died about two weeks since.

Raleigh Observer : The public laws of 1879 have been printed, and are being bound and delivered by the public printer as rapidly as possible.

Mr. A. Landis, Sr., an honored citizen of Oxford, died on the 25th, in his 74th year. Also, Mr. Ambrose Phillips, of Greenville, in his 75th year.

A little son of Mr. John J. Edwards, of Hookerton, fell into a well thirty feet deep, was rescued, and is still live ing, though in a critical condition.

The case of the negro Alex. Howard, charged with the murder of old man Babel Autrey, has been removed from Sampson to Cumberland county for trial

The Asheville Citizen says Mr. Burwell Shroat, of Buncombe, has a very pleasant and comfortable appointment in the Treasury Department at Washington. sweet liberty in politics will not do. The Salem Press says the Clemmons We have to give and take. Such utterproperty in that place has been purances as the above are not creditable to chased by a Northern company, who a veteran like the News and Courier. contemplate using it for manufactur-It might well advance the claims of its ing purposes. candidate without carrying into Africa

Sensible to the Last. Salem Press. Our representative, Col. Armfield, in not an idle looker on in the discussion of the House, as the following will show: Garfield introduced a bill appro-

priating \$75,000 of the public money to alleviate the suffering of the negro emigrants to Kentucky. Mr. Armfield brought the House to their senses by offering an amendment, adding \$500,000 to help the poor unemployed whites to emigrate South or elsewhere, where they can get work. Mr. Armfield thinks that what is fair for one suffering class

is fair for the other and his amendment has really more merit than the original bill, as there are thousands of honest whites North who cannot get employment, while the negro can always find work at home if he will do it.

A Fratracidal War Among the Zulus.

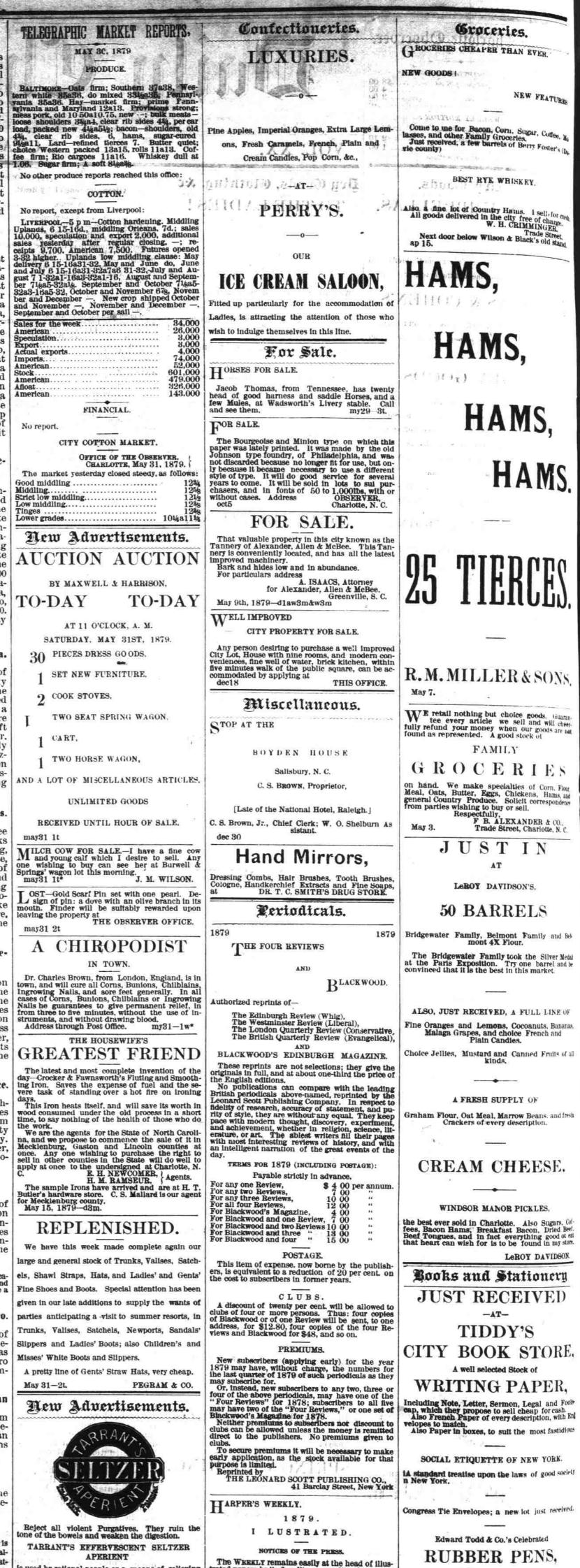
LONDON, May 30.-A telegram just received from South Africa, dated Maritzburg, May 14th, says a civil war has broken out among the Zulus and a great battle was fought on the 11th, near Springpost, between the people of a powerful Zulu chief named Matcona, and the forces of Cetawayo. The former had resolved to surrender and were on their way to the British outposts when they were attacked by Cetawayo, defeated and driven back with great slaughter. Mateona escaped, but a brother of Cetawayo, who had joined him, is reported killed. Cetawayo then collected all his forces and took up a strong position at the fork of the White Umvelosi River, where he has a swamp in front and the highest mountains of Zululand behind. Here he will await the British advance.

Incorporation of an Underground Telegraph Company.

NEW YORK, May 30 .- Articles of incorporation of the Brooks Underground Telegraph Company were filed in the county clerk's office to-day. The route is from Dey street and Broadway, under the river to Jersey City and Philadelphia, and from the same starting point to various places in this State and all over the United States. The capital stock is fixed at \$2,000,000-2,000 shares of \$1,000 each. The; incorporators are David Brooks, of Philadelphia, 500 shares; Anson Stager, of Chicago, 750; Norvin Green, of New York, 750. The association is to continue fifty years.

Further About the Eruption of Etna.

LONDON, May 30.-The eruption of Ætna increases in force. The quantity of ashes thrown out is less but the volume of vapor has greatly increased in density. On Wednesday night a number of brilliant balls of fire were thrown to a great height and burst aloft like rockets, emitting a fiery shower. A stream of lava is flowing apparently the direction of the town zo, but the exact line has not yet been verified. During the whole of Wednesday night loud reports like the rolling of artillery were heard.



was written between 1840 and 1850. He says the copy he gives "can only be a reprint of the original, &c." His testimony is, therefore, worth nothing in so far as the question is concerned of the genuineness of the present copy of the Declaration. What he says in other respects is of value, for he must have heard from those who knew what he relates as true. His visit to Charlotte as early as 1782 brought him in contact, child as he was, with some of the leaders of those stirring times. Doubtless in the first years succeeding the Revolution he must have heard much said about the Declaration. It was but seven years after the event. But be this as it may, he gives us some explicit testimony concerning the 20th of May Declaration. He says:

Col. Thomas Polk was the one who cap ourselves in advance. The News convened the meeting of delegates, from the different companies of his regiment, and Courier has cut a stick which may and he read the Declaration from the break it; own head a year from now. steps of the court house to the people; We warn the brethren against its perbut it was written by Doctor Ephraim Brevard, one of the secretaries to the convention of delegates.

He says the Declaration contained cock can do no good now, and may do originally six resolutions, the first three of which were read by Col. Polk-the three "that declared the total separation from Great Britain." The other three needlessiv throw away our influence in resolutions-those that "contain tem- advance.

porary provisions for self-government and for preserving order in their little community"-"were read by J. McKnitt The jury in the case of Congressman Alexander, the other secretary." Dr. Hull, of Florida, which has been on Johnson gives the six resolutions entire. trial for several days past at Jackson-He adds:

With a foresight highly honorable to guilty. The case was tried before Judge the leaders in this revolutionary move- Settle, a Republican of the most straight- that has been held there since the war. this convention adjourned to ment. est sect, and doubtless by a jury of Reagain in ten days, that meet they might be able to reflect coolly on the measures adopted in circumstances he was acquitted would trial Monday of this week, at Rowan the warmth of their patriotic feelings, seem to give Mr. Hull a right to expect and amend them where apparently dethat the charge that he obtained his fective. They met accordingly and seat by fraud should now be hushed. adopted the last series of these resolutions, and ordered them to be published | but the Republicans in Congress will in the newspapers for information to continue to throw the charge at him, their constituents and fellow patriots; and the Republican newspapers will to be to themselves, also, the source of authority and rule of conduct in the administration of civil concerns, and adjustment of personal difficulties, in their respective jurisdictions.

Dr. Johnson gives the interesting personal reference:

Another (copy of it (those resolutions) telegraph operators, printers and night library by myself, much about the same time but a little before Bancroft, print-ed in *Timothy's Carolina Gazette*, of the 13th of June, 1775. A copy of this was taken and sent to Governor D. L. Swain. the president of that society (Historical.

He then gives an exact copy of the resclutions, as they appear in the Carolina Hazette, the very heading of which furr.ishes conclusive evidence that the meeting on the 31st of May, 1775, was an adjourned meeting, and the work to be done was supplementary to that done on the 20th of May preceding. We copy it exactly, as it is found, in Johnson's

The remains of the late Judge Heath its war on any other candidate. We lie buried in the graveyard at Jefferson, Ashe county, according to the Lenoir Topic, without so much as a stone to repeat, that if Mr. Tilden is nominated next year, its embarrassment will be mark their final resting place. complete. South Carolinians, of all

Granville county has experienced the most destructive rain storm it has ever known. Bridges and mills were wash-Carolinians, of all people, should frown ed away and many farms on the creeks down anything which looks like disare completely deluged and ruined. No estimate of the damage can be made.

The Lenoir Topic says that all save in the front rank of candidates for the twenty-one of the convicts at work on presidential nomination next year. Evthe Chester & Lenoir Narrow Guage ery evil word spoken of him now is an Railroad have been turned over to Maj. argument which will be re-produced Wilson, of the Western North Carolina next year, and used to the advantage of Railroad. The number retained will work on the bridge over the Catawba. the common enemy. Let us not handi-

Asheville Citizen : The furniture and scenery for the opera house, on the third floor of the court house, have been completed, there having been placed on the floor :360 good chairs, and five scenes and two drop curtains having been nicious example. Abuse of Tilder, painted by the members of the Thorne Thurman, Henricks, Bayard or Han-Comedy Company.

Lenoir Topic; A railroad meeting great harm hereafter. We all want to was held in Boone Saturday evening, do the Democratic party some service A joint stock company was formed. T. in 1880. Let us see to it that we do not J. Coffey was elected president. A resolution was adopted that ten per cent. of the subscription should be paid. T. J. Coffey was authorized to go and re-

ceive the convicts at once.

The Salisbury Watchman pays a high compliment to Judge Schenck, who has been holding Rowan court for nearly two weeks. It says he has given universal satisfaction, and that owing to his method of doing business the court will cost that county less than any Statesville American : In the matter of Hauser vs. Tate, which was set for

Superior Court, the case was continued upon affidavit of defendant on account of the absence of material witnesses. The plaintiff deposited several thousand dollars in the late Bank of Statesville. Tate being the nominal president, and this suit is brought against him individally, ignoring the bank as a chartered

continue to harp upon it, and to this corporation. extent Mr. Hull will find himself no Salisbury Watchman : Jesse L. Trex-

better off than if he had been convicted. ler, aged about 40 years, left the house of Geo. Miller, a brother-in-law, Wed-A treaty of peace has been formed nesday, May 14th, taking with him a bundle of clothes and an axe, and was between England and Afghanistan, and not heard of again till his dead body was also discovered in the Charleston. editors are much to be congratulated miles from his starting point. His was found in a piece of woods, two that they will no longer have to wres-tle with those jaw-breaking names. Yesterday being national decoration Yesterday being national decoration lay, neither house of Congress was in ed the case, and returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

Reception of a Greensboro serenading party, as told by a correspondent of the Reidsville Times : After playing the most elegant and tasteful airs at the dif-The directors of the Globe Life Insurferent private residences, they repaired ance Company, New York, have applied to the college. They had played two of for the appointment of a receiver, hav-ing discovered a deficit of \$600,000 the president, awaking from his slumwhere the State examiner found \$300,- ber, quietly walked to the door in his night dress and requested them to leave.

Result of the Race for the Oaks Stakes.

LONDON, May 30.-The great three years old filly race, run for the Oaks stakes at the Epsom summer meeting, resulted in victory for the favorite, Lord Falmouth's bay filly, Wheel of Fortune, the winner of the thousand guineas at the New Market first spring meeting. W. I. Anson's bay filly Coro-mandel II, got the second place, Duke Westminster's brown filly, Adventure, third. There were eight runners. The distance was a mile and a half.

Decoration Day at Arlington and Elsewhere.

WASHINGTON, May 30.-Decoration day was observed at Arlington and the surrounding soldiers' cemeteries. The President inaugurated the ceremonies at Arlington by placing a wreath on the tomb of the unknown. The address was delivered by Congressman Keifer, of Ohio. Dispatches from other points mention appropriate observances of the day.



PARIS, May 30 .- St. Lacoste, a Frenchman naturalized in the United States some years ago, has been expelled from France for renouncing his nationality without performing his military duty.

Mr. Noyes, United States minister. fruitlessly endeavored to secure a revocation of the order.

Bail Refused to a Murderer.

BALTIMORE, May 30,-The judge of the criminal court denies an application to release on bail Denwood Hinds, indicted for the murder of Isaac James in April last. Harry Hinds, also indicted, is released. A change of venue was granted to Baltimore county.

To have good health medicine is necessary occasionally. As a family medicine we can recommend Dr. Buli's Baltimore Pills, and advise all to have a box constantly on hand for cases of necessity.

A Cincinnati Merchant Shot by a Negro

CINCINNATI, May 30 .- Villie Black. of the firm of Villie Black & Co., wholesale tobacco dealers of this city, was fatally shot this morning by a negro whom he had discharged from his employ.

Peace Between England and Afghanistan

LONDON, May 30.—A dispatch from Simla says: "The treaty of peace between Great Britain and Afghanistan was ratified to-day. A salute of 31 guns was fired in honor of the event.'

Another Victory for Parole.

LONDON, May 30 .- Parole won the race for the Epsom Gold Cup; Alchemist second and Primrose third.

Complexional Indications.

The complexion of persons whose digestion is out of order, who are bilious, or who lack vigor, always exhibits an unhealthy tint. It is by regulat-How sad. The sequel remains to be told. Dr. Jones had been annoyed oc-casionally by a kind of calathumpians,

A Pen by some considered superior to a Gold Pen

