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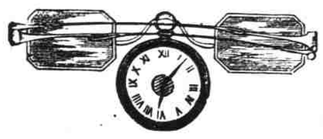

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Carolina Jewelry Store, Charlotte. mar12

The Charlotte Observer.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1880.

STATE NEWS.

Cucumbers and snap beans have appeared in the Wilmington market.

Judge Cantwell, of Wilmington, will lecture in Lumberton on the 10th of May, says the *Review*, and also in Fayetteville at an early day.

The Salisbury *Democrat* says it has heard that Judge Schenck was appointed receiver for the Western Division of the Western North Carolina Railroad.

At a meeting of citizens of Wilmington Tuesday, to discuss the project of building a railroad to the sound, it was decided to construct a tramway instead. This, it is claimed, will last three years and will bear a rate of speed not exceeding fifteen miles per hour.

The officers of the Third Regiment, North Carolina State Guard, met in Durham last Thursday for the election of field officers. A. B. Gorrel, of Winston, was elected colonel, Major W. T. Blackwell, of Gen. Manly's staff, was elected lieutenant-colonel, and Major L. M. Long, of Weldon, was re-elected.

The Greensboro correspondent of the Raleigh *News* writes: Col. J. J. Scales leaves in a day or two, to place himself under some of the noted physicians of New York. His many friends in the State will regret to hear of the necessity of this step, and will but wish that he may find the much needed relief.

Wilmington *Review:* A Republican in this city who is not an office holder, nor yet a politician, has offered, we understand, to bet a Republican official, a Sherman boomer, the sum of $100 that a poll of the town will show that the colored voters of Wilmington is two to one for Grant. He thinks that it will be four or five to one, although the proposition is to bet on two to one.

The Wilmington *Review*, of Tuesday, says: There has been no decided improvement, we regret to say, in Dr. Flanner's condition as yet, the only indications, slight though they were, having been as stated by us yesterday, in a very slight increase of consciousness. This, the physicians say, was not decided enough to justify them in stating that there has been anything like a marked or decided improvement noticeable.

Railroad Inspection.

On Friday last Mr. John S. Barbour, receiver, and other officials of the Virginia Midland Railroad, accompanied by Mr. S. M. Felton, president of the Pennsylvania Steel Works Company, and Major Bent, superintendent of the same company, made an official tour of inspection of the Franklin and Pittsylvania Narrow Gauge Railroad, preparatory to its reception by the Midland road under the contract of lease which has been executed for a year or more. At every station between the Midland Junction and the Rocky Mount, the terminus of the new road, large crowds of people assembled to welcome the first passenger train that had appeared on the road. At Rocky Mount the railroad officials and visitors were hospitably entertained by the enthusiastic citizens. At night a conference was held, at which it was agreed that Mr. Barbour will accept the road on the 1st of May, if the contractors and the Narrow Gauge Company can adjust any questions which may arise between them, so that the contractors will deliver up the road, which doubtless will be done. The Pennsylvanians express themselves as greatly pleased in regard to the valuable mineral resources of the country opened up by the new road.

The Whitaker Case.

New York Herald.

There seems now some probability that the mystery surrounding the Whitaker outrage at the West Point Academy will be dispelled. The fact that United States District Attorney Woodford has caused the arrest of Phil Ryan, the Highland Falls tavern keeper, on a charge of perjury, committed before the Court of Inquiry, shows that his detectives are in possession of evidence not yet made public. When Ryan comes to be tried in a criminal court there will be a searching investigation and a thorough sifting of the facts in the case. It is unfortunate that the investigation by the officers of the Academy should have proved so abortive, for the public expected that they would search to the bottom of the affair without fear or favor. Should Ryan's trial result in the discovery of the perpetrators the fair fame of the Academy Court of Inquiry may suffer in the estimation of the general public. This will be a source of regret, but the public demands that the mystery be solved, no matter who suffers.

A Contest by Noted Pedestrians.

Daniel O'Leary, the pedestrian, recently placed in the hands of a New Yorker a forfeit of $500 for a match, long-distance walk, with Francis Hart and John Dobler, against any two men in England, for any sum from $10,000 to $20,000, the walk to take place in New York city. It is expected that Rowell, Brown and Hazael will accept the challenge. Thomas Davis, lately the backer of Peter J. Panchot, with two other men in New York city, has decided to accept the challenge. They have communicated with Rowell and Brown, who have authorized them to arrange the match for $10,000 a side, Rowell to back himself for one-third the amount. Rowell and Brown are to draw up articles, which are to be forwarded to O'Leary for his appoval.

The Only Present Grant Ever Returned.

From the Hour.

The Mexicans are telling all sorts of stories about the meanness of General Grant. When the party arrived at the charming mountain town of Orizaba, a coleadero, or twisting of bulls' tails, was given in honor of the ex-President. Among the performers was a woman, who, mounted upon a fine mustang, performed many surprising feats of horsemanship. General Grant expressed his admiration of her prowess and praised the horse. In the usual Spanish style, the latter was at once offered to the General, who accepted it. It was, however, pointed out to him that he must make some present in return, and rather than do so he sent the horse back.

A Growing Industry.

One of the industries that has grown up within the last few years is the exportation of oysters to Europe. According to figures published in the New York *Herald* yesterday, for the four years ended in 1879 there were sent to Europe 264,238 barrels of oysters, at a value of $1,321,183. For the six months ended in March, this year, there have been sent 59,642 barrels, at a value of $298,318, and although this is unaccountably less than last year, yet the figures are large enough to show how important an industry this has become.

How History Recalls the Past.

Some twenty-five years ago all England was convulsed by the discovery made that Sir James Graham, the then Postmaster-General, had taken the liberty of opening mails addressed to private citizens. It resulted in his removal in disgrace. This recalls the wise decision recently made by Hon. D. M. Key, the Postmaster-General, who has ordered that letters to M. A. Dauphin, New Orleans, La., or at No. 319 Broadway, New York City, relative to The Louisiana State Lottery Company, be forwarded without interference, *being convinced of it being honestly conducted.*

A MYSTERY IN PARIS.

A STARTLING EPISODE IN CRIMINAL LIFE.

A Story of the Ancient Regime Which is Said to be True, and Which Discounts in Horror the Imaginings of the Novelist.

The following story of Monsieur Lecoq, the Parisian detective whom Gaborian has made famous, is vouched for as having really a basis in truth: When M. La Reynie was Lieutenant-General of Police a terror, produced by a mysterous disappearance of several persons, spread through various districts of Paris. Within four months twenty-six young gentlemen, varying in ages from sixteen to twenty-five years, were missing from their inconsolable families. Mysterious and contradictory rumors spread in the Faubourg St. Antoine, which had been robbed of five promising tradesmen's sons. The gossips declared that a princess who was suffering from a liver complaint, contended against the malady by taking baths of human blood. Others affirmed that the Jews, at intervals, crucified Christians in hatred of the Savior, but luckily this mad opinion did not prevail.

The Duc de Gesvres spoke on the subject to the King, and the latter complained to the Lieutenant-General of the Police for allowing such a thing to go on. La Reynie, in despair at the King's dissatisfaction, returned very sadly to Paris. On arriving there he sent for a very smart agent,

ONE LECOQ,

whom he had previously employed with success in extricating tangled legal skeins. On hearing the report Lecoq, carried away by his activity, exclaimed:

"Well, Monseigneur, I see that, in order to relieve you from embarrassment I must renew Abraham's sacrifice. I ask for a week, and at the end of that time I hope to have good news for you."

Lecoq gave no further explanation, and De la Reynie, who regarded him as one of his most trustworthy agents, dismissed him with a sign that granted him most extensive powers. Lecoq had a son, to whom he was sincerely attached, and whose education he undertook himself. This lad, called "Wide-awake" by his comrades, owing to his ready wit, really possessed an uncommon intellect. He was sixteen years of age, and nature, while developing his mind, had not forgotten his external appearance.

Wide-awake, whose real name was Exupere, obtained from Lecoq everything that can flatter a young man's vanity. His handsome clothes heightened the effect of his personal appearance, but he rarely went out, for Lecoq was aware to what young men are exposed in the streets of Paris; he was escorted by spies in whom his father could confide.

ON THE DAY

when Lecoq had his conference with De la Reynie, on his return home, he shut himself up with Wide-awake, with whom he had a lengthened conversation; and an hour after the female neighbors noticed the boy go out in the most brilliant toilet, and this time alone. He wore round his neck and hat gold chains and medallions; there were two watches in his fobs, and he frequently clinked the louis with which his pocket was lined. Lecoq felt that the young men had necessarily fallen into some gallant snare, and that the lure offered them must be a pretty girl. Hence he foresaw that in exposing his son to a meeting with this creature she would not fail to try and ruin Wide-awake also; but the latter, being well warned, would not be caught in the trap by which so many others had perished.

At about 3 p. m. on the fifth day young Lecoq, in all his glory, was walking on the river terrace in the garden of the Tuilleries, when

A REMARKABLY BEAUTIFUL LADY

passed close to him. She was alone, but followed at a short distance by a species of duenna. The young lady's age might be from twenty-two to twenty-five, and her face and figure were models of beauty. Wike-awake examined her with interest; his glances were not lost, for pleasant ones directly responded to his. He foreboded that he was in for an adventure; could this be the girl he was looking for? In order to make certain he checked his pace and eventually sat down on a bench facing the Champs Elysees.

He had not been there more than ten minutes ere he saw the couple prowling around him, and ended by seating themselves on the same bench. They bowed in the usual fashion of the age and entered into conversation. The artful youth, who thus found his affair ready made, asked the duenna who her companion might be.

"Oh, sir," was the reply, "my mistress' history is

ALMOST A ROMANCE."

The duenna hereupon proceeded to inform Wide-awake that her mistress was the daughter of a great Polish prince, and sole heiress to his estate. Wide-awake, on his side, told the governante, with all the ingeniousness possible, that he was the son of a doctor at Nantes, and was sent to Paris to attend the university lectures. After some minutes' talk the old woman took Wide-awake's hand.

"You have gained my heart, and I really feel an affection for you. Here is a proof. Listen to me. My mistress has just seen you, you please, and she instructed me to find out who you are. Come this evening to the great gate of St Germain l'Auxerrots, where I will meet you, and in all probability bring you good news. Do not fail to adorn yourself at your best, for you would be ruined if you appeared before my mistress like a needy student."

After this they parted, and Wide-awake was mad with delight, as he felt certain he had found the girl to whom the disappearance of the young fellows was due. He hurried to his father and told him all that was going on. Lecoq shared

HIS SON'S SUSPICION

and hope; but, in the hour of success, paternal tenderness was aroused, and he trembled at the peril the young man must incur. In order to diminish its extent, he assembled his most trusty myrmidons, and ordered them to keep close to his son, though without compromising the success of the plan, and placed himself at the head of the squad

At nightfall Wide-awake, more handsomely attired than before, presented himself at the indicated spot. As the church doors were being closed, a poorly-clad woman emerged from the sacred edifice. Looking around her furtively, and, recognizing Wide-awake, made him a sign to follow. They passed through several streets, closely followed by the spies, and at length stopped in that of des Orfevres, in front of

A RATHER FINE HOUSE.

"My pretty boy," the old woman said to Wide-awake, "the lady does not live at this paltry spot, but as the house is her property, she wishes to receive you in it. I will go in and inform her of your arrival."

After a short absence the wicked old crone returned. She asked the young man to allow his eyes to be bandaged, but on his refusal introduced him without further opposition into the fatal house. Wide-awake, who was alarmed, advanced in the darkness, apprehending some sudden attack; but no enemy presented himself. Ere long he found himself in a room of average size, splendidly furnished and lit with wax tapers. A sofa covered with crimson satin and ornamented with gilt nails occupied one of the sides of the room. On the sofa reclined, in dishabille, the Princess Jabirouska. At the sight of the stranger she greeted the young man, and with a word dismissed the duenna. Wide-awake, in spite of his sharpness, lost his presence of mind. The sight of this lovely person fascinated him; he could not move; the young spy in an instant

FORGOT HIS ROLE.

The goddess descended from her throne and offered her hand to Wide-awake, who kissed it. This kiss heated his blood and restored his boldness. Most certainly he was in a bad place; but he was close to a charming woman. He became pressing, lost his head, felt a hand abstracting his purse, but said nothing.

His father was in the street with his agents, impatiently awaiting the signal for them to enter the house. But the signal was not given, and so Lecoq here whistled; even in the arms of the Princess his son started at it, and this recalled himself. Two minutes after the Princess retired to her cabinet. Wide-awake took advantage of her absence to examine the room; he tried to unfold a screen, but could not succeed, for the leaves seemed nailed to each other. Wide-awake shook them smartly; one of them fell and disclosed a cupboard, in which twenty-six men's heads, admirably preserved, were displayed

ON SILVER DISHES.

Such a scene was certainly a strange awakening from pleasure, and young Lecoq, whose lips were still warm with the stranger's kisses, opened them to utter a cry of horror. But worse remained behind; on approaching the window he fancied he could see through the panes other heads fixing their flashing eyes upon him. Paler than the death's heads, unable to speak, he fell on his knees and clasped his hands.

At this moment the window was burst in, and his father, followed by the whole squad, entered the apartment. Startled by his son's silence, and fancying him probably assassinated, Lecoq had bravely taken the accursed house by storm. This action saved Wide-awake's life, for at the noise made by Lecoq and his men in entering the room, the Princess, accompanied by four bandits, armed to the teeth, emerged from the cabinet. The King's men were in force, resistance was useless, and the four ruffians, with the girl, their accomplice, were led away in irons. A strict examination of the house led to no further discovery.

It was found afterwards that the girl was English, and employed to entrap young men, who were killed and their heads cut off. The bodies were sold to students of anatomy, while the heads, splendidly prepared, were sent in batches to Germany for phrenological purposes. The government, afraid of such a series of crime becoming known, punished the culprits secretly. They were all executed.

A New Puzzle with Words.

Boston Traveler, April 21.

Students at the Institute of Technology have designed a rival to the Gem puzzle, which is beginning to excite considerable interest about town. Given two words of an even number of letters the problem is to change one to the other by altering one letter at a time of the first so as to make a legitimate English word, continuing the alterations until the desired result is attained. The conditions are that only one letter shall be altered to form each new word, and that none but words which can be found in English dictionaries shall be used. Here are some examples of the changes:

East to *West*—East, vast, vest, West.
Boot to *Shoe*—Boot, soot, shot, Shoe.
Dog to *Cat*—Dog, dig, fig, fit, fat, Cat,
Milk to *Hash*—Milk, mile, male, mate, hath, Hash.
Road to *Rail*—Road, rood, root, coot, coat, coal, coil, toil, tail, Rail.
Soap to *Fish*—Soup, soul, soil, foil, fowl, fool, foot, coot, cost, cast, fast, fist, Fish.

The game is becoming quite popular in railroad offices, as well as in family circles and at firesides, and seems to furnish instruction with amusement.

The Western North Carolina Railroad.

Raleigh Observer, 27th.

The associates of Mr. W. J. Best reached the city yesterday, having come here to sign the papers in the purchase of the Western North Carolina Railroad. Mr. Best himself has been in the city for some days. The contracts and all the other papers in the matter were examined and prepared for signature, some of them being re-written. Messrs. George Davis and Thomas Ruffin were present on the part of the State, and Mr. W. A. Boyd, of New York, on that of Mr. Best and his associates The reading over and preparation of the papers occupied them until 2:30 this morning, when that portion of the work was finished. This morning the necessary copies will be made and the signatures affixed.

Thirty Years' Experience of an Old Nurse.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is the prescription of one of the best Female Physicians and Nurses in the United States, and has been used for thirty years with never-failing safety and success, by millions of mothers and children from the feeble infant of one week old to the adult. It corrects acidity of the stomach, relieves wind colic, regulates the bowels, and gives rest, health and comfort to mother and child. We believe it the best and surest remedy in the world, in all cases of Dysentery and Diarrhœa in children whether it arises from teething or from any other cause. Full directions for using will accompany each bottle. None genuine unless the fac-simile of Curtis & Perkins, is on the outside wrapper.

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THE best preparation ever offered for the cure of Chapped Skin, Pimples, Tan, Eruptions, Sunburns, etc. Sold only by L. R. WRISTON & CO.

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Highest Medal awarded at Centennial Exposition Crystal Oil Works, Canton. Warranted to stand a fire test of 110 degrees Fahrenheit before it will burn. C. West & Sons, Baltimore.

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FOR Catarrh. Follow directions, and money will be refunded if you are not relieved. One dollar per box. Send for circular to DR. T. C. SMITH, Drugist

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IN Charlotte at $1.50, $1.75, $2.00, $2.50, $3.00, $3.50, $5.00, $6.00 and $7.00 per hundred. Goods taken back if not satisfactory. apr15 DR. T. C. SMITH, Druggist.

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THANKING OUR FRIENDS FOR THE LIBERAL patronage bestowed on us in the past, we beg to inform them that our stock of

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is now complete, and we are prepared to offer special inducements to close buyers, and think we can make it to their interest to see us before purchasing elsewhere.

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WILL HAVE OUR BEST ATTENTION AT LOWEST MARKET PRICES.

We are agents for the well-known brands of Rockingham 4 4 Sheeting and Pee Dee Plaids. Give us a call. SPENCER & ALLEN, Wholesale Grocers & Commission Merchants. Corner Trade and College Streets, Charlotte, N. C. jan. 6.

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150 BBLS. APPLES.

CHOICE RUSSET APPLES.

100 BOXES MASINA LEMONS.

75 BOXES OF ORANGES.

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Pierc's Celebrated Soda Crackers, reduced to 16⅔ cents; in Cans from 7 to 10 pounds. apr20.

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THE BEST 5CENT CIGARS

Ever sold in this market; the rich man's luxury the poor man's solace; the traveler's favorite. apr21.

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OFFICE ASST. GEN. PASSENGER AGENT. COLUMBIA, S. C., April 7th, 1880.

ON and after April 18th, in addition to the Saturday excursion cards, this company will put on sale at all stations, good on any day or train, local excursion tickets as follows:

Round trip tickets, from and to all stations, good for three days at 3 cents per mile, each way.

Round trip tickets, good for ten days, at 4 cents per mile, each way.

Have on sale, also, at coupon stations, tickets to New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, with excursion coupons to Asheville, N. C., and return, and then continuing journey to destination, thus enabling passengers, at a small cost, to see the magnificent scenery in the famous "Land of the Sky." For any of above tickets, apply to station agent. For information, address D. CARDWELL, Asst. Pass. Agt., apr10-1m Columbia, S. C.

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THE GREAT SOUTHERN REMEDY for the cure of Scrofula, Syphilis, Scrofulous Taint, Rheumatism, White Swelling, Gout, Goitre, Consumption, Bronchitis, Nervous Debility, Malaria, and all diseases arising from an impure condition of the blood, skin or scalp.

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ROSADALIS has its ingredients published on every package. Show it to your Physician, and he will tell you it is composed of the strongest alteratives that exist, and is an excellent Blood Purifier.

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Messrs. Mayer & Ross:
GENTS.—I have been using the Fish Guano for three (3) years, and say, without hesitancy, it is the best Guano I ever tried
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GENTS.—The Fish Guano, bought of you this season, gives entire satisfaction, as tested side by side with three other standard guanos, the Fish being ahead, making a net profit of sixty per cent. I expect to use more of it next season.
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