

The Charlotte Observer.

CHAR. H. JONES, Editor & Proprietor

SATURDAY, JAN. 14, 1882.

The small-pox is spreading rapidly in Altoona, Pa.

David's argument to the jury sounds a good deal like a noose to Guiteau.

Confederate bonds sold yesterday in Charleston in limited quantities at \$4 per \$1,000.

Over here he is known as Oscar Wilde, but over there among the Londoners he is a regular h'oss car.

The last census says that Georgia has more negroes in it than any other Southern State, and many of them are doing well.

A correspondent of the Raleigh News and Observer advocates the erection of a monument to the late Judge Geo. W. Brooks.

Miss Caroline Richings-Bernard is lying ill with small-pox in Richmond, Va., and physicians entertain but little hope of her recovery.

From the tenor of our exchange reports we should say that the most abundant article in North Carolina about this time is mud.

James F. Wilson, who has just been elected to the United States Senate from Iowa, is a devoted friend of Blaine.

We don't hear so much about the land agitation in Scotland, and yet the Scotch tenants are quite as persistent as the Irish.

Bishop Cain, of Texas and Louisiana, a colored man, has sued the Galveston and Houston Road for having been refused entrance to a first class coach. He claims \$20,000 damages.

It turns out that the two checks, one for \$1,000, the other \$300 which Guiteau received from Brooklyn and New York stalwarts proved to be bogus, sent by practical jokers.

The galleries of the House of Representatives in Richmond have been indefinitely closed in order to prevent their being made a landing place by the idle colored men of the capital.

Dr. Bliss thinks he ought to have \$50,000 for his services to President Garfield, and the other physicians \$25,000 each. They would have rendered the same services to a private individual for one-tenth of these figures.

A meeting of Kentucky ministers will take place on the third Wednesday in February, at Lexington, to take steps for the suppression of whiskey production and consumption in that State.

The court of appeals in Kentucky has more work than it can do. There are on the docket 1,271 cases, and the Louisville Courier-Journal remarks that litigants stand a good chance of dying of old age before their cases can be decided.

The National Board of Health is preparing a statement of the mortality in the country by small-pox during 1881. Thus far Philadelphia reports between 1,200 and 1,400 deaths, Chicago 800 or 900, and New York 600 or 700.

After a brief career, the Baltimore Times has passed into the hands of an assignee for the benefit of creditors. It is a right easy thing to start a daily paper but not quite so easy to keep it running.

Oscar Wilde will never know the truly beautiful inwardness of the North American search after the secret of life until four schooners of Cincinnati beet meet and bow to each other beneath his white satin vest.

A movement is on foot in Chicago for a mass meeting at an early day, to give expression to the popular disapproval of polygamy. Perhaps it would be in place to make a few remarks on the multiplicity of divorces for which Chicago is celebrated, while they are revolving.

An editorial in the Greensboro North State, states that Mr. T. N. Cooper was offered the marshmanship of the Fifth District, now held by R. M. Douglas, but declined, preferring to take his chances for the collectorship of the Sixth District, which is a better thing for which he is making a fight, backed by Dr. Mott.

The Langley cotton factory at Augusta, Ga., has just declared a semi-annual dividend of twelve and a half per cent, which is a practical refutation of the assertion that cotton factories in the South won't pay. And this is but one of the factories which pays an annual dividend of twenty per cent, or more.

There was wit as well as truth in the declaration of Representative Cox that a Territorial delegate should have his votes counted in question of his election. Congress ought to deal with polygamy; but there is no use in going about the bush to deal with it by indirection.

The Raleigh News and Observer informs us that the rental for the Atlantic road has been paid, and that Mr. Best is not busted, and hopes that we will not. Nay, verily, we shall not, but shall rather rejoice to see Mr. Best do his best, which thus far has consisted mainly in promises do so.

In Europe there is one soldier to every 110 of population. In the United States we have one soldier to every 2,000 people. The area of the United States is almost double that of Europe, but we have only 17 inhabitants to the square mile, against 145 in Europe. In such facts as these will be found the reason why 700,000 men and women found their way across the Atlantic to our shores in 1881.

KAISER WILLIAM.

Kaiser William has raised a breeze in Fatherland by the autocratic style of his recent receipt, the tone of which seems to have been a surprise to his subjects. Bismarck is said to have inspired the document, and persuaded the old gentleman, who is in his 80th year and in the nature of things cannot wield the scepter many years longer, that the people were enjoying too many privileges, and his Kaiser-ship too few. The Premier has never been entirely satisfied since the elections over there rather went contrary to his wishes and expectations, and a majority of the members of the Reichstag elected who were opposed to his particular way of running the state. He threatened to resign then and retire to private life, but reconsidered that, it seems, and concluded to remain and get even with his opponents by persuading the old Kaiser to take an advance position and assume an aggressive attitude. The result will be, it is thought, a parliamentary battle to resist the encroachments by the crown. It is probable that it may lead to even more serious results than this, judging from the expression of opinion by the press, for the people are not disposed to submit to the royal claims and pretensions, in which they see the work of the imperious Premier, who would ride rough-shod over those who differ from him, and is regarded as an enemy to liberal government.

SILK CULTURE IN THE SOUTH.

The subject of silk culture has attracted more or less attention in the South within the past couple of years, and in a few localities where it has been attempted it has met with considerable success. In Louisiana, we believe it has been undertaken by French and Italians, who are gratified at the success they have met with, and are confident of reaching rich results for their venture and labor. We are under the impression also that the possibility of producing it profitably in this State has been fully demonstrated. Many years ago there was quite a fever in some sections of the State and many acres of mulberry trees were planted, but for some reason the fever died out and so did the silk worm and the trees. Since then there has been no systematic effort made to revive that industry, though some farmers have for years raised a limited quantity, from which the girls of the household get their pocket money. As an addition to the other branches of farm production this might be added without any risk nor much expense, and be made to yield a handsome result for the outlay made. While if pursued in a small way the product to each individual would not be much, in the aggregate, if many engaged in it, it would amount to considerable and would lead perhaps to the establishing at central points of manufactories for the spinning and weaving of the silk, and this, by furnishing a ready home market, would have a tendency to encourage and enlarge the cultivation of it. Enterprises of this kind from small, unpretending beginnings grow to be grand industries. There is no good reason why the South may not in time, in addition to being the great cotton-producing section of the world, also be the great silk-producing section.

STRAW BONDS.

As an illustration of how the straw route swindlers carried on the straw bond game, was developed in a Washington court last Wednesday when eleven cases of the straw bondsmen were called up, it turned out that out of bonds given, aggregating over \$8,000,000, there wasn't actual value enough found in the real millions to buy a spavined horse. It seems there was a gang of men, who were paid a small consideration for going on these bonds, and who would make affidavit that they were possessed of certain property, large tracts of land, &c., which upon investigation proved to be false, the parties making such affidavits owning no lands nor anything else of value. One of the accused parties who had gone on bonds to the amount of over two millions, representing that he was a large land owner in Georgia, didn't own an acre. There must have certainly been a big screw loose somewhere in the postoffice department when a game of this kind could have been played so long and so successfully.

The small pox was brought into Chattanooga, Tenn., by a tramp.

A company of Northern capitalists, at the head of which is Inman of New York, will build another cotton factory at Augusta in a short time. The capital of the company will be \$500,000, with the privilege of increasing it to \$1,000,000.

Twenty-five years ago the city of Albany, N. Y., with a population of 67,000, consumed 350 pounds of opium and 375 ounces of morphia annually. Now with a population 91,000, there are 3,600 pounds of opium and 5,500 ounces of morphia sold every year in that city.

Sixteen out of twenty-one Massachusetts cities report smaller debts than one year ago. Among these is Boston, whose indebtedness is \$24,548,046.60 against \$20,908,459.41 at the close of 1880. This is a movement in the right direction in which, in these prosperous times, all cities should share.

Mr. Henry D. Hyde, of Boston, Mass., is reported in "The Gospel in All Land," as having said in a speech made before the American Missionary Association recently at Worcester, Mass., that "in all his traveling South he had never seen a white man doing manual labor."

Mr. Henry D. Hyde is either blind, or a great liar or a great ass. If he could or would have seen, he might have witnessed thousands of white men performing manual labor. An attempt to establish the whipping post was defeated in the legislature of Kentucky, last Monday by a vote of 47 to 41.

IS HE INSANE?

Whatever the opinion of the court or jury before whom Guiteau is being tried may be as to his insanity, there is no small number of people who believe him to be so. Col. Reed, one of his counsel, speaking of an interview with him a few days ago said: "I am astounded at his mental condition. I have never before, since the trial began, seen him so calm and collected before he felt such a firm conviction. The man is a lunatic. He received me, of course, as his friend, and in discussing his case, there was no occasion for dissimulation, yet I left him, after three hours' interview, thoroughly persuaded that, despite the evidence of learned experts, the man's reason is deformed. I pushed him with questions almost to the verge of cruelty. I tried to deject the amount of his insanity and endeavored to reach his conscience and discover if he were alive to any feelings of remorse, if he ever dreamed of the act or of its attendant consequences, but he clung to his expression that even the most hardened criminal, if sane, might be expected to give utterance to. He said to me with the greatest earnestness, 'The Lord will put words into your mouth, and I shall be acquitted. I have no money now, but I shall earn \$100,000 within a month after this trial is over, and I will then give you \$50,000 for the purpose of paying the last remark was so unnatural that it chilled me.'"

J. R. Randall, the brilliant Washington correspondent of the Augusta Chronicle, who attended the trial recently after a vivid pen-picture of the prisoner as he sits in the dock, says: "I never believed it before, but a close scrutiny of the man convinces me that he was a madman—a monomaniac when he shot Mr. Garfield, and he is a madman now. It is true that he occasionally exhibits astonishing penetration of sophistry and that, in smartness of retort, he is often too much for the prosecuting lawyers; but nothing is more common than an almost preternatural acuteness on some subjects manifested by the insane; and the famous Dr. McFarland, whose testimony was not permitted, cites the case of a patient who was so violently delirious that he contributed the most lucid brilliant and logical articles for a New York paper, but who was as mad as a March hare otherwise. In some persons the excitement in the direction of self-slaughter, while in others it is the apprehension of being murdered, where no danger is present. The father of this man was insane beyond a doubt, and before his birth his mother was temporarily aberrated. His enormous self-conceit and lower passions conspired to increase the congenital and organic lunacy. The vehement harangues he makes and the startling interruptions are not assumed, but are the result of a real, just as he made no preparation or effort to escape the consequences of his crime, so he now makes no effort on his devoted brother-in-law when that unhappy but constant friend seeks to prove him insane now as well as at the time of the assassination. The common impression here is that he will be condemned to death, because the jury fear violence at the hands of the mob in case they consigned him to an asylum instead of the gallows, although the latter fate would not be near so revolting to him as the former. The wretches who send him ropes and devilish messages are equal to the task of attempting the murder of a conscientious jurymen who would condemn his execution, though if he be insane, as some of the highest and purest men in the land believe, nothing would more tarnish the American name than his sentence of death on the gallows. This may not be a popular view of the matter, but it is my firm conviction against my former prejudices. Until I saw, heard and studied the miserable creature I believed him to be at least sane enough to hang; but I do not think now, and there are not a few of Mr. Garfield's church members who share that opinion.

THE LAST CRAZE.

The biggest fool craze which has struck this country for some time is the excitement over the asthete Oscar Wilde, the last imported sensation from abroad. Oscar is immense and has been sarcastically designated by matter-of-fact people who have not much aestheticism in their souls, the champion ass of the age, but he is not half the ass that the herd of asses are that follow at his heels, and rush to the public halls to pay their money to hear him orate on his pet hobby. In fact he is not an ass at all in our opinion, for he is taking in the lure while they are paying out the cash and dancing attendance on him. He will slash around the country, get well paid for his lectures, be worshipped by fashionable idiots, stuff his purse with money, go back to Europe and have a very high opinion of American ass-tethers.

The Case of the Ashland Fiends.

CATLETTSBURG, KY., Jan. 13.—Court officers say the grand jury will close their investigation to-night or early in the morning, and the trial of the Ashland murderers will begin at once. An affecting interview took place between Ellis and his wife, the latter begged him not to implicate Craft and Neal if they were not guilty. He solemnly assured her that his confession and statement were true and said he was ready to die and would rather die than refuse to testify to the truth. It is thought that Neal is about to confess. The prisoners will be confined separately hereafter.

A Wife-Killer Swings.

RUNQUET, Ont., Jan. 13th. Moreau, the "Fighting Canadian" who killed his wife in September last, was hanged in the jail yard this morning. The fall was 9 feet and death instantaneous, the neck being broken, and the head nearly severed from the trunk. His body was cut down two and a half minutes after the fall, the trunk being profusely.

The Cumberland River on the Boom.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Jan. 13.—It has been raining for the past week and the Cumberland river is rising rapidly, a rise of 5 feet within the past 24 hours. Back water has driven two hundred families from their houses. Hundreds of acres of ground within the city are under water, and mills and factories have been compelled to close. It is still raining and more damage is expected.

Virginia State Officers Elected.

RICHMOND, VA., Jan. 13.—The general assembly to-day elected the following: Secretary of the Commonwealth, W. E. Blair; Treasurer, D. Rivley; Register of the Land Office, John M. Rokenbrough; Superintendent of Public Printing, R. F. Walker; Supt. of Public Instruction, R. E. Farr; by a tight party vote, and being noisiness of the Resdjuster caucus.

RECORDS AND LOW SPRINGS WATER AND PRICE AS MUCH FOR CITY PER CENT.

RECORDS AND LOW SPRINGS WATER AND PRICE AS MUCH FOR CITY PER CENT. RECORDED AS MUCH FOR CITY PER CENT.

THE GUILTEAU ATTRACTION.

MAIN AND SLUSH HAVE NO TERRORS FOR THE CROWD.

David's argument and exhortations to the "Remember."

WASHINGTON, January 13.—Rain and slush had no terrors to-day for those who had secured tickets to the trial. An early hour about noon the court crowded, and at 10 o'clock possibly 300 persons were patiently waiting upon the outside.

Upon the opening of the court, Guiteau said: "In justice to myself and to David I desire to say that I received a letter yesterday severely denouncing David and my remarks against him were based upon that. I have found out, however, that I was mistaken, and that he is a high-spirited, high-spirited gentleman and a sound lawyer. I desire, therefore, to withdraw anything I said against him. I still entertain the same opinion of Col. Corkhill, however, and I hope I was wrong about David but right on Corkhill."

David resumed his argument and the review of evidence. He showed by the evidence of J. W. Guiteau and other witnesses for the prosecution, the fallacy and absurdity of Scoville's pet theory that the prisoner was an imbecile. After his opening speech Guiteau remained a quiet listener for an hour. David having used some pretty strong allusion to Guiteau, such as "this unspeakable liar," the prisoner retorted: "O, you are making all that fine talk for money," following it up with frequent comments such as "that isn't true," and similar expressions. David passed to the examination of the prisoner himself; his appearance upon the stand; what he had said, and what capacity of intellect he possessed. He proved conclusively that what had gone before had all been sham and hollow fraud. Scoville had dilated upon his morality and had asserted that a lack of intellect was his failing, on the contrary he had shown upon the stand wonderful memory, logic, reasoning and intellectual ability likewise. As the defence had claimed for him virtue and morality, the prosecution now availed themselves of their right to show the contrary, and what had been the results. He had been shown to be such a monster of corruption, deceit, depravity and wickedness that the country looked on with a shudder.

"That might have been the case," shouted Guiteau, "in July, but it isn't the case now. If you could see some of the letters I have been receiving you would see that I am one of the best and greatest men in the country."

Continuing, David skillfully and with wonderful effect reviewed that portion of the testimony bearing upon the prisoner's moral character as evidence in his past life.

"All this time," said the counsel, "no one accused him of insanity. In the estimation of his friends and his family he was sane enough for all the transactions of life, but when his hand is red with blood and outraged, law claims him as a sacrifice on the altar of justice we first hear of his insanity."

BLACKBURN'S ANSWER.

A Great Deal of Talk on a Dead Matter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 12.—The following letter and card have been furnished for publication:

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., Jan. 9, 1882. Mr. J. C. Blackburn, formerly of Kentucky, was handed me last night, and is, I find it, with accompanying documents, given to the public in this morning's prints. I presume it was intended for the possible reception of my own must have been simultaneous. Now, sir, it is only with the personal phase of the issue, so far as it regards myself, that I can deal, and, as you have availed yourself of the opportunity to make a public communication, as to your insinuations in regard to the yellow fever, which you so gratuitously throw in to distract attention from what had been said of yourself, all I have to say is that if with the proofs of which you profess knowledge, and of which I am ignorant, and which you regard as ample, your courage ever enables you to formulate the charge and become responsible for it, then will there be ample time left me to give it consideration. Respectfully, J. C. S. BLACKBURN.

A CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 12, 1882.—A correspondence between Gen. Steven G. Burbridge, formerly of Kentucky, and a citizen of Pennsylvania, and myself, begun by him, has through his instrumentality been obtruded upon public attention. I regret this but not because I have any reason to fear the judgment of the public on the questions involved. For the soldiers of the Union army who respected the laws of honorable warfare I have no feelings but respect and appreciation of their good conduct. General Burbridge is outside this pale by reason of atrocities well known to the people of Kentucky, which have justly made him an outcast from the state where honorable men have a hard time of honorable reconciliation the animosities of that unhappy period. I share fully the detestation of General Burbridge and his conduct, which is entertained alike by the Confederates and Union men in the State of Kentucky, and this feeling I have expressed on proper occasions. The fact was made known to him when he interrogated me as to my views respecting him, and he refused to modify his language or to accept his attempt of self-vindication. I gave him frankly this answer. His response is not an appeal to usages by which gentlemen have been governed, but an attempt to retort by counter-insult. If this course is satisfactory to General Burbridge or his feelings, I cannot complain. I dismiss him to the enjoyment of any honors he may have acquired by this effort to rehabilitate the reputation which, resting as it does, upon known facts of the shameful personal history, cannot be made worse by my or improve by my low assertions of innocence and certificates of character. These are not required by gentlemen who have practiced a decent respect for the opinions of mankind. J. C. S. BLACKBURN.

A Constable Shot by an Unknown Assassin.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., Jan. 13.—A dispatch from Morrillion says Benj. Treadway, a constable of Lick Mountain township, Conway county, was killed last night by an unknown assassin. He went out after supper to put his stock under shelter when he was fired upon, his face and head being riddled with buckshot, producing instant death. No clue to the assassin.

Weather.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Middle States rain and snow, followed by clearing weather, northwest to southwest winds rising barometer, stationary or slightly falling. South Atlantic and Gulf States, local rains, followed by clearing weather, variable winds mostly from north to west, stationary or lower barometer, followed by colder, clearing weather, northerly to westerly winds and higher barometer.

Skin Diseases Indicate an Impure Condition of the Blood.

Skin diseases indicate an impure condition of the blood. S. S. S. will cure any disease of the blood in its worst form if taken as directed.

Ladies, Gentlemen, Misses, Boys and Children. OUR STOCK OF BOOTS AND SHOES FOR THE FALL AND WINTER TRADE.

WE guarantee that every pair of SHOES we sell shall be found just as represented, and shall allow no house to give you better goods than we do for the money. Our stock has been carefully selected with a view to the wants of all classes of customers, and comprises a full line of beautiful and seasonable goods, of the very best quality and all grades, from the finest French Kid Button Boot to the Heaviest Brogan. If you wish to get your boots and shoes to suit you and at the lowest possible prices, you cannot do better than at our store. Give us a call.

A. E. RANKIN & BRO., Central Hotel Block, Trade Street, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

The Biggest Fire they Ever Had.

OWENSVILLE, KY., January 13.—On Monday night the planing mill, saw mill, grist mill and woolen mill of W. W. G. Tucker & Co., West Liberty, Morgan county, were burned. Loss placed at \$25,000. The mills were the finest in the mountains and the fire the greatest ever known in the mountain region of Kentucky.

A Double Execution.

St. Louis, January 13.—Thaddeus Stober and Wm. Ward, colored, were executed in the jail yard this morning. Ward died in 5 minutes and Stober in eleven. In 15 minutes the bodies were cut down and taken to the morgue.

Quality and efficacy considered, Dr. Bull's cough syrup is without exception the best cough preparation in the market. Price 25c a bottle.

A. S. Laney, of Atlanta, Ga., says: S. S. S. cured me of a violent case of Scrophulous, which had failed to yield to all other treatment.

\$10,000 would not purchase from me what S. S. S. has effected in curing me of Malarial Rheumatism. Archie Thomas, Editor of the Republic, can Springfield, Tenn.

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THE house and lot on B Street, formerly occupied by Thos. J. Sprinkle, is for sale or rent. Apply to THOS. H. HAUGSTON, Jan 12 1882

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Miscellaneous. Dr. J. H. McAden's Drug Store. From Saratoga Springs, N. Y. A new water recommended as a powerful tonic and strong diuretic. Also, Hathorn Natural Mineral Water, Recommended very highly as a cathartic and alterative in all forms of dyspepsia. ALSO, 5 CASES CONGRESS WATER, 10 CASES ROCK BRIDGE ALUM, 10 CASES BUFFALO LITHIA. And a full supply of IMPORTED APOLLINAR! -AND- Hunyadi Janos Waters. THE GREAT EUROPEAN NOVELTY! HUNYADI JANOS. THE BEST NATURAL APERIENT. AS A CATHARTIC. Dose:—A wine glass full before breakfast.

DR. C. W. BENSON'S SKIN CURE. Is Warranted to Cure ECZEMA, TETTERS, HUMORS, INFLAMMATION, MILK CRUST, ALL ROUGH SCALY ERUPTIONS, DISEASES OF HAIR AND SCALP, SCROFULA ULCERS, PIMPLES, AND TENDER ITCHINGS on all parts of the body. It makes the skin white and smooth, removes red and freckles, and is the BEST toilet dressing in THE WORLD. Elegantly put up, two bottles in one package, containing both internal and external treatment. Sold by all druggists. Price 50 cents a box. Depot, 106 North Eutaw street, Baltimore, Md. By mail, two boxes for \$1 or six boxes for \$2.50, to any address.

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NOTICE. All persons desiring teachers or trustees will please present their names on Thursday, 12th inst., at the court house in Charlotte. This day is set apart by law and there will be no private examinations thereafter, under penalty of contempt. W. T. WALLER, Jan 15 1882 Co. Supt. Pub. Instructions.