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We Will Commence Monday, Jan. 28th OUR ANNUAL CLEARING-OUT SALE. WE HAVE JUST FINISHED TAKING STOCK AND ARE DESIROUS OF REDUCING IT BEFORE OUR SPRING PURCHASES, and in order to do so will offer goods greatly below their real value.

ALEXANDER & HARRIS. FRED C. MUNZLER, WHOLESALE LAGER BEER DEALER AND BOTTLER. Charlotte, N. C. Represents two of the largest LAGER BEER Breweries in the United States.

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The Charlotte Observer.

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SCANDALOUS NEPOTISM. In the days of Gen. Grant's administration nepotism was so common as to attract universal attention and become a National disgrace.

SALEM NOTES. Moving for the Exposition--Local and Neighborhood Notes.

FROM THE HUB. CURRENT EVENTS IN AND ABOUT THE CAPITOL.

NEWS NOTES. Mr. and Mrs. John Jacob Astor have borrowed \$112,000 from John Livingston on valuable property erected on Forty-sixth street, New York.

How the Fitz John Porter Bill Passed the House--Republican Butterer yet Great Speech of Curtis, the War Governor of Pennsylvania--The Two Congressmen Hang Fire, Etc.

Atlanta Constitution: The mills must idle to the cotton fields. Thirty thousand idle workmen in the New England manufacturing centers show that Southern competition has struck a vital part. Let the capitalists move further South with their money.

The Smith family grows. It occupies fifteen closely printed pages of the London directory this year--a gain of half a dozen pages as compared with ten years ago.

A Washington report informs us that Mahone will not resign. Of course not. Who thought he would?

Correspondence of the Observer: SALEM, N. C., Feb. 4.--Mr. F. H. Fries, of Salem, and Messrs. Hinshaw & Bynum, of Winston, have published a card in the papers of both towns, in which they request all persons interested in the organization of a permanent fair association to develop the agricultural, mining, manufacturing, mechanical and stock-raising interests of this portion of the State, to meet at the courthouse, in Winston on Monday, 11th inst., at 1 o'clock.

On Friday night last, Mr. M. M. Caughy, gave a fine and interesting exhibition and lecture, in the academy, chapel, and on Saturday night at the opera house, in Winston. The views were the finest of the kind ever exhibited here, and Caughy's lecture was both very interesting and instructive.

On Saturday the dead body of an unknown negro man was found lying under the railroad trestle, about a mile from town. A jury was summoned and the coroner Wm. Barrow held an inquest over the remains, but as the jury had failed to arrive at a verdict, the coroner's report was not made.

On Monday night, 28th ult., a very pleasant party was given Miss Eva Kessler by her parents, on the occasion of her 18th birthday. A large number of her young friends, of both sexes, were present, and the evening was one of unbounded pleasure to all.

There was considerable excitement created in this vicinity one day last week about a mad dog. The dog belonged to Mr. Nat Snipes of Winston, and had bitten several dogs belonging to his neighbors.

Felix Winslow, colored, from the neighborhood of Kernersville, in this county, has been craving for fresh pork and made a raid on Mr. Joseph Nelson's smoke-house, in the same neighborhood, on the night after Mr. Nelson had killed his fine hog.

Dr. J. A. Butler, after spending a couple of weeks at Asheville, returned to his home in Salem last Saturday. On his way back he stopped at Thomasville a day or two and took a wild turkey hunt with the Thomas brothers of that place, bringing home a fine gobbler off of which he dined Sunday.

Mr. Demsey Bailey, of this vicinity, and a well-to-do farmer, died very suddenly on last Thursday, 31st ult. He had a hearty dinner on the day of his death and had started about his usual daily vocation when he was seized with violent pains about his breast. A physician was sent for, but before he could reach his home Mr. Bailey was dead. His residence had been heart disease.

On Wednesday evening of last week, Miss Theophilus Ann Welfare, of this place, died, after a long illness of consumption. Miss Welfare had been engaged in teaching school for the past thirty years, twelve of which were in Salem Academy. She had a flourishing school of her own, which she labored in up to within five days of her death. Her age was 52 years, 11 months and 5 days.

Quite a number of persons here who subscribed for a Western publication, each subscriber to receive a present which the number on his or her receipt calls for, are and have been since last November, patiently waiting to see their numbers come out.

There is a very large travel to Florida this winter. The steamship line between New York and Savannah carried last December 4,000 people more than ever before during the same month, and all the trains that arrive at Jacksonville are crowded.

FROM THE HUB.

How the Fitz John Porter Bill Passed the House--Republican Butterer yet Great Speech of Curtis, the War Governor of Pennsylvania--The Two Congressmen Hang Fire, Etc.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.--To-night at 7:20 the bill for the restoration of Gen. Fitz John Porter passed the House by a vote of 139 to 78. It was debated nearly four hours in the committee of the Whole. The chief features of the discussion were two very fine speeches by W. W. Phelps, an ex-Governor of Ohio, in the favor of the measure, Wolford, of Kentucky, also made a quaintly interesting speech on the same side. The House clustered around Curtis, who spoke nearly an hour, with great wit, eloquence and eccentricity of manner and enunciation. His style is conversational, with bursts and flashes of oratory. No speaker of the 48th Congress has yet claimed as much attention. The galleries were full to overflowing during the afternoon until nearly night.

The two members of the House yesterday with slight opposition forfeited fifteen millions acres of railroad land grants. The Mississippi fellows and a few others fought one another for the possession of the bill, but only one vote against the bill for the grant of the Texas Pacific.

The railroads are looking in vain to the Senate. That body will hardly dare to oppose the current. Ingalls and a few others will make speeches against forfeiture.

The Senate got up at 10 o'clock. The House is afraid to take it. Said to me a member who is a good judge of the popular current, as well as of the propriety of the thing: "It was a mistake in the part of the Senate. We will not commit a similar blunder. True, we are worked as hard or harder than they are. The clerks would come in handy, but we won't have them. If we do, they will have them, and come back, he might have added, that's the size, shape and color of it."

Keogh is not to have such an easy time, after all, in his confirmation. The matter has asked him to appear before it to answer charges. He must show cause why &c.

Judge D. H. Starbuck and young Mr. Patterson, of Salem, were here for a few days, and their visit is said to bode no good for Collector Wheeler. Douglas is still here.

Argument in the Pool-Skinner case was concluded today. A vote will be taken on Monday. Mr. Busbee thinks the report will be unanimous as to the Democrats. Possibly one member is unconvinced.

Col. John D. Whitford, of Newberne, and James I. Macks, of Wilmington, were here a few days ago. The latter went to Baltimore last evening.

Registered at the hotel yesterday were J. L. Morehead, of North Carolina, and John London, of Wyoming.

BIG CLAIM OF REAL ESTATE. Old land holders here are fumbling for their musty deeds. The heirs of Samuel Kessler, of this place, own about five hundred acres in the Northwest, including Iowa circles. Blodgett got rid of his property from time to time, between 1794 and 1806. His property seems to have been swamped by a lottery, to secure which he made various deeds of trust. These were not all cleared away until 1871. Mr. Corcoran is the owner of an important part of the disputed property. He has deeds from Blodgett's heirs. While some of those who are involved are uneasy it is not thought that the claim now put in can be made good in the courts.

SOME NEW MEMBERS. The new Springfield (Mass.) member, vice Robinson, is named Rockwell and parts his hair exactly in the middle and wears a Prince Albert coat, "all buttoned down before." A Republican, of course.

Hunt, another new member, is a heavily whiskered (Burnside) dapper fellow, nervous, jolly and apparently popular, from Louisiana, where he is Professor of Civil Law and Doctor of Laws in the State University. A Democrat by a large majority. (Fact, for his vote doubled his opponent's.)

On the main aisle, third seat from the present Republican side, just behind Greenbacker Brumm, sits probably the tallest legged man in Congress. This is Theodore Lyman, and he has all the way from Brookline, Massachusetts, where when he is at his usual occupation, he is a naturalist. A Harvard graduate. Speaks both like a scholar and a man of affairs. Of fine abilities. Independent.

Not far from Col. Lyman is Gov. Long, lawyer, Virgilian translator. Short light hair parted in the centre to a nicety. Dressy. Light overcoat, which he sometimes wears in his seat. Smartly like a dude. Republican, certainly. And so far silent as a sphinx. But he voted for Fitz John Porter.

Berkshire, of Mississippi, is not bashful. He has spoken two or three times already, not remarkable either for diction or profundity of thought. He had him yesterday on the public lands for future question. Van Eaton, a large fluent Mississippian, made a better speech on the same question. Clifton R. Breckinridge, a young person, is superior in force as a public speaker to any man in this paragraph.

Does Not Support It. Boston Transcript. General Butler, in proof of the worthlessness of petitions, says: "I could get in Massachusetts 10,000 men to sign a petition to have me enlarged. But, pray how does this fact support a proposition that petitions are altogether worthless!"

NEWS NOTES.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jacob Astor have borrowed \$112,000 from John Livingston on valuable property erected on Forty-sixth street, New York.

In Philadelphia, Friday Frank Harrison pleaded guilty to voting illegally and was fined \$100, sentenced to three months imprisonment and disfranchised for the period of four years.

Rev. Pendall Coombe, aged 76 years, a prominent minister in the Methodist Conference, was found dead in his study at Fortwood, Pa., Friday. A ruptured blood vessel was the cause of death.

Mr. W. Hone Mackenzie, the South Carolina agent for a New York banking-house, was thrown from a buggy near Aiken, Thursday, and instantly killed, his neck being broken.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Keely Motor Company held in Philadelphia Friday, another postponement of the promised public exhibition was announced at the request of the inventor.

Gen. Chas. C. McCormick, of Milton, Pa., died Wednesday. During the late war he arose from the ranks to the position of brigadier general, and was wounded at Bardstew, Ky., and Selma, Ala.

An unknown woman, about 65 years old, apparently a German, was dropped in the street in New York Friday night. She had over \$100 in her pocket and nine rings on her fingers mounted with diamonds and other precious stones.

In Philadelphia Thursday night a force of sixty policemen surprised the spectators at a cocking man and captured ninety-five of them and twenty teams. The prisoners, who represented all grades of society, were fined \$11,500 apiece.

At Wheeling, West Va., Friday, Judge Jacob decided in the case of Mrs. Claggett, arrested for playing a tambourine in the street during a procession of the Salvation Army, that the members of the Salvation Army have a right to parade in public with music.

The man who committed suicide at the Cosmopolitan Hotel in New York Friday and who registered as "W. H. Harley, Pa.," proves to be Leon Haas, secretary of the Optical Company of this city, who has been missing. He has relatives in New Orleans and Galveston.

The Earl of Huntingdon and a party of friends, including Lord Haings, Capt. Gambier and Thomas Nast, the artist, left Jacksonville Friday for the interior of South Florida. The Englishmen are much pleased with the climate and agricultural possibilities of Florida, and will interest themselves in bringing a large foreign immigration to this State.

Col. Macon Mason, whom Baker Pasha has appointed Governor of Massachusetts, is a native of Virginia and a graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He went with his State into the war, and since then has been in the Egyptian service. He is an officer of ability and resolution, with a long training in African warfare and entire familiarity with the native tribes of the Soudan.

The glory of man is his strength. If you are weakened down through excessive study or by early indiscretions, Allen's Brain Food will permanently restore all lost vigor, and strengthen all the muscles of brain and body. \$1.00 for 50¢ at druggists, or by mail from J. H. Allen, 315 First Ave., New York City.

Wintry Blasts. WINTRY BLASTS BRING COUGHS COLDS CONSUMPTION BRONCHITIS RHEUMATISM NEURALGIA Perry Davis' Pain Killer CURES COUGHS COLDS CONSUMPTION BRONCHITIS RHEUMATISM NEURALGIA Provide against the evil effects of Wintry Blasts by procuring PERRY DAVIS' PAIN KILLER. EVERY GOOD DRUGGIST KEEPS IT.

Grand Entertainment! OPERA HOUSE. Monday Evening, Next, Feb. 4th, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, GRAND MATINEE. For the benefit of the Ladies' HOME AND HOSPITAL.

"OTHER LANDS THAN OURS." CHAS. M. CAUGHY, A. M., Has the honor to announce two of his illustrated Art Entertainments, Monday evening.

"GLIMPSES OF ITALY." Crossing the Ocean, the old and new way--Nico-Monaco and Monte Carlo--The Salle de Jeu--Entering Italy--Genoa, the hour of Columbus--The Lighthouse--The Bugiatry, Cathedral and Campo Santo--The Bay of Naples--Vesuvius in Eruption--Fornelli, the City of the Dead--Rome--An afternoon on the Pincian Hill--The Models of the Spanish Grandee--The Professor of the Roman Forum and the Forum of Trajan--The Tomb of Cecilia Metella--The Arch of Constantine--The Colosseum--Memories of the Flavian Amphitheatre--The Forum--The Forum--The Forum--Moonlight and its ruins--An revoir to the City of the Caesars and the Vatican.

Tuesday Matinee. Reserved Seats, 50 Cents. General Admission, 25 Cents. Tickets for sale at the Methodist Music House. Terms made for school tickets. Chattering Piano will be used, also one of Mason & Hamlin's Organs, kindly furnished by Messrs. Smith.

The audience is respectfully requested to be good night's sleep. T. P. PRINTERS. We will sell a good second-hand T. P. Paper Cutter. Good as new except handle is worn. Cost \$20.00. Will be sold for \$10.00. THIS OFFICE.

Extraordinary Sale of

LADIES' UNDERGARMENTS.

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Will Commence on Monday Morning a

Special Sale

Ladies' and Misses' Undergarments.

Hosiery, Hosiery.

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