HOYT HOLDS TO HIS VIEWS MEPLY TO J. B. MOORE'S ARTICLE

with the Article Defending the Decisivation, Written By Mr. Moore, and Printed in The Macon Telescraph and The Observer—Reviews the Evidence Cited By Moore and Offers History in Refutation.

The following communication from r. W. Henry Hoyt, printed in a rent issue of The Macon Telegraph.

Mr. W. Henry Hoyt, printed in a recent issue of The Macon Telegraph, is reproduced by request:

Mr. James H. Moore's temperately written detense of the Mecklenburg Declaration in The Telegraph for the lith first, has doubtless carried conviction to many of your readers. Appearing as it does, in an issue which also contains a review (by John Charles McNeill, of The Charlotte Observer staff) of my recent book against the authenticity of the disputed document, to which it makes reference, and bearing the title. "An Argument: Replying to Critics," the article would seem to rout me completely. Mr. Moore, however, has simply restated the case for Mecklenburg as it stood half a century ago, and he leaves the casual reader with a very imperfect idea of the answer of his adversaries. He contends that "for all essential purposes the known and undisputed facts of this controversy demonstrate that the Mecklenburgers did on May 20, 1775, promulgate their Declaration of Independence." No new point has been brough: out in his reasoning from the accepted facts, and I am sure that Mr. Moore, like North Carolina editors who have been sturring at my work, has not read the latest presentation of the case for the "criss." I have already treated the matter so fully that hittle remains to be said in reply to his article.

The evidence cited by Mr. Moore con-

services you not communitie for severe examined more injustely, it is early ware. Soon after the loss of the evolution that the presentate to the Market and the substance of the resolutions where he ambetiance of the resolutions which he and many of his helicitiers had been been as a shield for the tender considered and which like many a constitute of our own day, he would be supposed our own day, he would have been a substance of our own day, he would have been the substance of the substance o

between 1819 and 1835 had any knowledge of the certificate. Here them incomes from my chapter contiled "Testimony of the Witnesses," "were 14 men, laboring under the weight of years, who does called upon to testify on the strength of City—Attending Virginia Fuir—Called upon to testify on the strength of Stillmord on Sunday—Person mere memory, after a lapse a half century or more, con-

s half century or more concerning the peculiar phraseology, or exact import or both of a series of resolutions which most of them had heard read but once from the steps of the courthouse in Charlotte. All were very young men or boys in May, 17%, 2nd likely to have been among the first who transfigured the Mecklenburg resolves of May 31, 17%, and the Mecklenburg resolves of May 31, 17%, and a Bachington of Independence. Here into a Declaration of Independence. Here were a series of resolutions, without a is mind. The document was certiby the son of the last custoffian of records of May, 1775, to be a true

copy of the papers left in his hands by his father and the greater number of the aged witnesses were virtually told that these were the selections which they had heard read, and that May 75, 1772, was their date, or that John McKoltt Alexander, their late benored compating, was a forger and a liar. All gave their was a forger and a liar. was a forger and a har All gave their testimony in answer to leading questions and yet, notwithstanding the strong preposessions under which they labored the paper of May St. 1775, reasserted its hold upon shelf methories even in their statements concerning the terms of the resolutions which they called a Device.

mr. Moore accepts John McKnitt Alexander's statement as "the keystone on which rests the fabric of May 23, 1775," and claims that it is buttressed by the contemporaneous testimony of Governor Martin as well as by the aged deponents. In my book he will find conclusive proof that Governor Martin never heard of the alleged declaration. Fifty years ago it was admitted on all hands that the Governor's statements concerning a treasonable publication of the Mecklenburg Committee in the Cape Fear Mercury refer to the May list resolves; but more recent advocates of the document of the 30th, having learned that the copy of recent advocates of the document of the 10th, having learned that the copy of The Cape Fear Mercury enclosed in Governor Martin's letter to Lord Dartmouth of June 30, 1775, was borrowed from the British State Paper Office in 1837 in the name of American Minister Stevenson, and never returned, assert that Jefferson's defenders thereby destroyed evidence of the Mecklenburg Declaration. The question of which resolutions were published in the missing newspaper is now settled by the discovery of a duplicate of Martin's letter in the possession of the present Earl of Dartmouth. In the duplicate Martin sucstituted a manuscript copy of the May 31st resolves for the Cape Fear Mercury.

With respect to the disputed taryship of the meeting which is alleged to have declared independence the pro-penderance of the testimony is still more emphatically against the accuracy of John McKnitt Alexander's reminiscences When we consider the circumstances unremains to be said in reply to his der which they testified, it is surprising that half their number should have con-troverted Alexander's statement that be The evidence cited by Mr. Moore consists of (I) the copy of the Mecklenburg acted as secretary to the meeting and named in that relation Ephraim Brevard, the recorded secretary of the meeting of sists of (1) the copy of the Mecklenburg Declaration and accompanying narrative which John McKnitt Alexander prepared from memory in 1890 (in collaboration with another, as may be seen from hitherto inaccessible manuscripts reproduced in my work). (2) testimony given by eyewitnesses of events in Charlotte in May, 175, after the publication of the Alexander document in 1819; (3) contemporaneous references of the Royal Governor Josiah Martin to treasonable resolves of Mecklenburg County. I shall not attempt to review the evidence, I wish merely to state my thesis and to touch upon some of the difficulties offered by Mr. Moore—difficulties which I too, once thought insurmountable.

The opponents of the authenticity of the paper of May 29, 1776, with whom are allied the great majority of historians, including some of the ablest North Carolina historical writers of to-day, argue that all the evidence should be understood as relating to a series of rederation. The deponents of the authenticity of the paper of May 29, 1776, with whom are allied the great majority of historians, including some of the ablest North Carolina historical writers of to-day, argue that all the evidence should be understood as relating to a series of rederation. The formula is refused in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In the recorded secretary to the meeting of the recorded secretary of the meeting of May 31st, 175. I do not agree with Mr. Moore that if my main thesis be establed to recorded secretary of the meeting of May 31st, 175. I do not agree with Mr. Moore character if my main thesis be establed as secretary of the recorded is extended in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In the recorded is extended in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In the recorded is extended in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In the recorded is extended in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In the recorded is extended in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In the recorded is extended in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In the recorded is extended in that relation Ephraim Brevard. In

rians, including some of the ablest North Carolina listorical writers of to-day, argue that all the evidence should be understood as relating to a series of resolves passed by the Mecklenburg Committee of Safety way 31, 1778. The resolves deslared British authority to to wholly suspended in the colonies. They provided that, until Parliament should "resign its unjust and arbitrary preferentions with respect to America," Mecklenburg County who with respect to America, "Mecklenburg County was never afteriah ministry never changed its attitude, Mecklenburg county was never afteriah ministry never changed its attitude, Mecklenburg county was never afteriah ministry never changed its attitude, Mecklenburg county was never afteriah ministry never changed its attitude, Mecklenburg county was never afteriah ministry never changed its attitude, in itself to remind there men of its provisional character. Then, say the underlievers, a few persons who gave not thought to the distinction between a suspension and a discription of the test with the mother country, and others with the mother country, and others with the mother country, and others who had forgotten the precise terms of the resolves, began to speak of an early Deckaration of Independence, and which had gained a strong foothold, the records of the Mecklenburg Committee of Safety were burned with the dwelling house of John McKnitt Alexander, their custodian. Alexander had attended the meeting of May 21, 1715, as a member of the committee, and was probably secretary of the committee to say or a large at a tended the meeting of May 21, 1715, as a member of the committee and and action. Col. William Polk, and action of the destination. Col. William Polk, and acted on. This tongsthat as a store the section of the leader in the declaration. Col. William Polk, and acted on. This tongsthat as a son of the leader in the testimony relied on to support the leader in the testimony relied on to support the testimony relied on to support the testimony relied on to support the t

City—Attending Virginia Fair— Freight Shipped on Sunday—Personal Mention.

Special to the Observer

ernor at his word and is celebrating broke up the tools, carried off the wathe day to the fullest extent. The gons and showered stones on the Eng-day was more generally celebrated lish strike breakers on the steamers, here than ever before. The factories forcing them to quit work, routed

rival, which purported to be the decara-tion made in May, 1755, accompanied by a marrative of events which these men had associated with the resolutions they his week and large numbers of Mount greater part of the week there. 'hief Marshal S. G. Pace lives in this

> Sunday was a noisy day about the depot. Two train loads of granite and other freight were sent out. George and Bishop Nichols left this morning for Guilford College Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Lowry spent Sunday with relatives at Pilot Mountain. Mountain. Messrs. J. P. and D. C. Fulk, of Phot

hold upon their memories even in their statements concerning the terms of the resolutions which they called a Declaration of Independence." The May 21st resolves were found in contemporary newspapers after all the witnesses had passed away.

Such is the gist of the story of the Mecklenburg myth. It is a strange and almost inacedible story of the failudity of human memors, but not without its parallel in history.

At the outset of their argument, says are. Moore, the friends of the Mecklenburg proments show too little regard for the house of the Mecklenburg fathers. The language in discovery the Mecklenburg fathers in the kidneys are strengthed to take Foley's Kidney Cure at the first signs of addrey trouble beging it would wear away and he was moon a victim of Bright's disease. There is danger in delay, but it Foley's Kidney Cure is taken at once the symptoms will disappear, the kidneys are strengthed and you are soon sound and well. A. R. Bass, of Morgantown, Ind., had to get up ten or twelve times in the highest and was cured by Foley's Kidney Cure. R. H. Jordan & Ca. and sufficiently indicated above. The op-

FIRE DESTROYS BARN.

Gaffney S. C., Sept. 1.—Saturday night fire was discovered in the barn of W. J. Wilkins. The fire had enveloped the entire building when discovered. A valuable horse belonging to Mr. Wilkins and a fine mule belonging to Mr. Wilkins and a fine mule belonging to Mr. J. T. Brown periahed in the flames. The mule and horse were confined in stalls in the barn, and after the fire was discovered there was no chance to save them. A continuous and the properties of the circumstances he can issue a death certificate for a baby which died twenty-one years ago and which has not as yet been built. chance to save them. A cow was run-ning loose in the lot and the was so badly burned before she could be got out that she may die. The fire was extinguished within ten minutes after the arrival of the fire liddics.

Mr. Wilkins thinks that \$500 will the boy who drives the delivery wagon of Mr. Wilkins came into the barn about 8 o'clock and fed his stock The boy does not smoke and the only theories are that it was either the work of rats or of an incendiary.

The revival which has been go-ing on at the Buford Street Methodist church conducted by the pastor, Rev. S. E. Harper, assisted by Rev. W. Speake, closed last night. There were several additions to the church during the progress of the meetings and much good is expected to result therefrom.

The free barbecue at Wilkinsville Saturday wes liberally patronized, a very large crowd being present. Speeches were made by Messrs. T. B. Butler, D. E. Filey and W. T. Slaughter. As it was under the auspices of the W. O. W. camp of Wilkinsville, of had calmed down somewhat and had selves to the discussion of woodcraft. Mr. C. E. Fisher, the enterprising Express Company, of Gaffney, has sucdelivery of express packages within its glass bottle many years ago. The the town free of charge. Mr. Fisher woman explained that she was keep-has the thanks of the people of the ing the body for her friend, but that city for this piece of enterprise which she had about concluded it was giv-

Charles Mardin, who has been with he Cherokee Drug Company for a year, has resigned to accept a position with the Royster Fertilized Company at Columbia. Charles is a splendid young man and his many friends regret to see him leave Gaffney.

Douglas Westrope, son of Mr. T. M Westrope, the jeweler, left Gaffney today to go to Philadelphia, where he will enter the school of engraving.

IRRIGATION CONGRESS.

Vice President Fairbanks Delivers Address and Message From President Roosevelt is Read.

Sacramento, flept. 2 .- Marked by large attendance and much enthusiasm the fifteenth national irrigation congress opened here this afternoon in the irrigation palace, which has seating accommodations for about Governor Chamberlain, of Oregon

president of the Congress responded to the addresses of welcome Vice President Fairbanks was given an enthusiastic reception when he arose to deliver his address.

Gifford Pinchot, government forester and personal representative of President Roosevelt at the congress, delivered the message of the country's chief executive which came by telegraph. Following is the message in part:

Have You Ever tons.

Standard Ice

were praying at the gravesides of their inent of our store we are of-

Belgian Dock Laborers, Joined by Porters and Others, Break Out Into Violence and Spread Terror Around

Antwerp, Sept. 2 .- The lockout of the dock laborers to-day caused the porters and others to strike in sympa-Mount Ary, Sept. 2.—It seems that the and resort to violence. The rio-everyhody is to-day taking our Gov-ters broke into the grain storehouses, that down and everything put on holl- other strike breakers, threw a steam crane overboard and wrecked a lot of machinery.

The rioters boarded the British Agenoria, destroyed her Airy citizens are arranging to spend freighting implements and seriously injured one of her engineers. They also took possession of the British ity, and he is now off to Virginia to steamer Sydney. The violence of the dock laborers and their sympathizers so terrified the men at work on board number of the vessels that they fled to the shore.

There were several sharp tusales between strikers and workmen who were returning to their lodgings under police escorts, in which revolvers were used freely. No one was hit.

WANT TO COME BACK.

Striking Operators in Houston Apply For Reinstatement as Individuals. Houston, Tex., Sept. 2 .- Striking operators formerly employed by the Postal Telegraph Company, have apolied for reinstatement as individuals. The manager of the Postal to-night notified them he would take their applications under advisement There are numerous rumers of breaks in the strikers' ranks in all parts of Texas.

DEAD BABY IN JAR IN HOUSE.

Care By Friend Twenty-One Years Ago-Police Aroused Over Case and Board of Health is Interested.

morning in making some repairs to private residence. A stonecutter at work in one of the basement rooms noticed a glass jar standing on a table and on closer examination was much shocked to find that the jar contained cover his loss. It is a mystery how the fire originated. The family of Mr. The workman notified a passing police man, who determined to take the jar with him to the station-house for a more careful investigation. Captain Whitlock, in charge at the First Sta-tion, decided that since the baby was dead, the case therefore came with-in the province of the coroner. Dr. Taylor was at once summoned and he went to the station to examine the remains of the infant.

Meanwhile the occupant of the house missing the treasured remains, was proceeding to burn the wires with the charge that her house had been enter ed and some of her property remov ed by an officer in uniform.

Coroner Taylor took the bottled baby under his arm and went around to call on the trate woman, assuring the police that he would make every efcourse the speakers confined them- begun to discuss the matter, the coroner was informed that the lady of the house was not the mother of the and wide-awake agent of the Southern baby, which had no kinfolk living in Virginia at present, the child having ceeded in getting his company to put been born in a far Northern State, handles. on a wagon for the collection and and having journeyed to Richmond in will prove such a convenience to ing her bad luck and was disposed to bury it.

The case presented a difficult problem to the police department and after consedration it was decided that the woman had the best claim on the child and the glass jar was left in her possession.

No evidence was presented of any foul play. The board of health searching the records to ascertain its rights, and may yet require the child to be buried. How it can take any action without also requiring the medical colleges to give interment to their specimens has not yet been decided. The coronor advised that the body be buried, but has not as yet concluded to issue a death certificate.

Cut Four Times, Officer Shoots to Kill.

Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 2 .- At Jellico, Ky., to-night Chief of Police James Ayers shot and killed Sampson Bolton, whom he was trying to arrest. Not until he had been three or four times did the officer fire. on the police force of Jellico, Ky., being succeeded one year ago by

ment? If not, you have failed to see some of the handsomest designs in

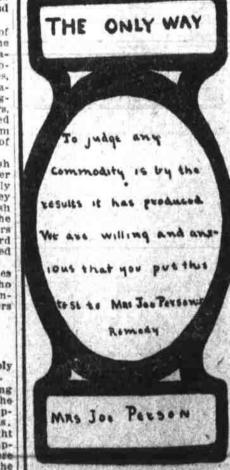
Hardwood Mantels ever displayed in the city, and the Coal and ICE prices are way down.

Come in the next time you are up

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Netice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Meeklenburg County, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 755 of the Public Laws of 1907, has this day called an election, to be held on Thursday, the 19th day of September, 1907, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of said county the question as to whether or not the said county shall issue bonds in the sum of 3300, 1000 the proceeds of which shall be used for the purpose of paying off the present fliating indebtedness of said county, and grading, building, repairing and otherwise improving the public highways and roads therein.

This the 6th day of August, 1907.

Board of Commissioners of Mecklenturg County.

burg County. BY W. M. LONG. Chairman. **MACHINES**

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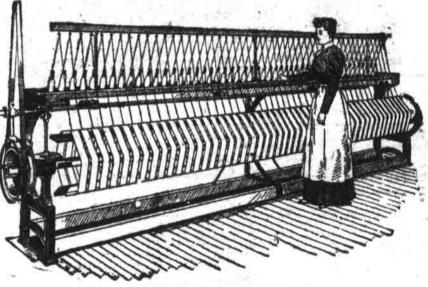
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