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The purpose to discontinue the present unsatisfactory system of state penitentiary farms and to establish in the counties farms for convicts to make them not only earn their own bread, but "help to feed the poor of the counties, as well as to work on the county roads," has some points in its favor. It requires, however, careful management to make farming profitable and the whirligig of politics would not always insure careful and experienced management for these proposed county farms. It seems to us that the convict road working offers the safest and best employment of convicts.

The board of aldermen want to feed city prisoners at 5 cents a meal. Chief Lyerly says the lowest bid he can get is seven cents. For this amount the following menu is furnished: Breakfast, water, a la hydrant; beef and peas; dinner, peas and beef; supper, water (trappe if pipes are frozen). The city hotel is preparing for a rush in the other direction.

It is creditable to the good judgment of many of the country editors of the western part of the state that they are making copious use of the excellent news reports of the Gazette's special Raleigh representative.

QUESTIONS OF LEGISLATION.
H. B. CARTER.

In my opinion one of the most important measures to which the legislature now in session will be called upon to act is a revision of the public school law. The present system has been thoroughly tested and the result has verified the statement of Dr. Curry, made in a speech to the Confederate veterans just after the passage of the law, that our public schools have been "murdered by the legislature." I think the true remedy is a return to the old system with a few slight modifications and improvements.

I see it suggested the new law should contain a provision that the school tax paid by white people should be applied to the white schools, and the tax paid by the colored people should be applied to the colored schools. I am inclined to think that it would be unwise to pass such a law. Although the colored people, almost as a unit, have voted the republican ticket since their enfranchisement, it has been the fixed policy of the democratic party to recognize no legal distinctions between the two races, and it has always treated the negro with the utmost fairness, as citizens of the state and entitled to all the privileges and rights of other citizens. This is shown by the fact that the same amount of public money is applied per capita for the education of the colored children of the state as to the white children, although more than 30 per cent of the public school fund is

Arrest disease by the timely use of Tut's Liver Pills, an old and favorite remedy of increasing popularity. Always cures **SICK HEADACHE,** sour stomach, malaria, indigestion, torpid liver, constipation and all bilious diseases. **TUT'S LIVER PILLS**

paid by the white people. This fairness to the colored race by the democratic party is further demonstrated by the numerous institutions of the state erected almost entirely by money paid by white people and under laws enacted by democratic legislatures for the treatment, comfort and education of the deaf and dumb, the blind and the insane of the colored race. This is, and should be a matter of pride to the white race. I would dislike very much to see the democratic party make a departure from this eminently just and humane policy, first inaugurated by that distinguished North Carolinian, Z. B. Vance, for, as he once said, "To educate the negro is to make a better citizen of him."

FRANCE ACTS LIKE SPAIN

Appeals to Powers for Protection Against England but even Russia is Silent

London, Jan. 21.—A week containing nothing more serious than news of the Samoan crisis, and an aggressive announcement of a virtual British protectorate over the Soudan must be regarded as comparatively peaceful in these days of noisy alarms. The sanguine assertion is made that England and France have reached a grand conciliation, and France herself has been quite constrained over her internal distractions. That the extremest symptoms of public insanity have been suppressed is not, unhappily, a safe augury for the future because the real crisis has been merely postponed. It was perhaps wisely decided not to deliver a decision in the Dreyfus case until late in February, but it is feared the attacks on the court of cassation will induce the court to accept the full responsibility of finally disposing of the whole case but will order a fresh court martial. The decree at Cairo yesterday for the future government of the Soudan called forth a protest from France and ought to decide pretty quickly whether France is prepared to fight England on any provocation. Meanwhile the French ambassadors at various European capitals are sounding the governments as to the likelihood of common protest against England's haughty action. It can be stated England has been assured of the benevolent neutrality of Germany and Italy, while France is by no means sure of even Russian support.

ALLEGED MURDERER CAUGHT

Run to Earth After a Year's Chase. Yesterday morning Clifford Clay, alias Miller, a negro, wanted in Central, Pickens county, S. C., on a charge of murder, was arrested in this city by Detective Jesse M. Morgan. The crime was committed about a year ago, and though the shrewd detective has been on Clay's trail ever since, the alleged murderer has heretofore managed to elude arrest. Clay is in jail awaiting the arrival of the South Carolina officers.

PEARSON AND NORWOOD CONTESTS

R. D. Gilmer, of Waynesville, who has been in the city for two days, has returned to his home. Mr. Gilmer stated that the answer of Hon. W. T. Crawford in the Pearson contest case, as well as the answer of Judge Norwood in the judgeship matter, would be ready for filing within the time prescribed by law.

SOLID BRONZE DISPLAY.

In the window of Brown & Northup's hardware store on Patton avenue is an assortment of solid bronze fixtures that are worth inspection. These fixtures would prove highly ornamental as well as almost everlastingly useful anywhere they might be placed. They have a solid appearance and a fine, soft lustre. Hinges, lock plates, door plates and door handles are the principal features. Some of these door handles are decidedly novel, the knobs being balls of cut glass.

PERSONALS.

John D. Plummer returned last night from his trip to Philadelphia.
Hon. W. T. Crawford, who has been in town a few days, returned to Waynesville yesterday.
Mrs. Elliott B. West went to Charleston, S. C., yesterday.
B. H. Sumner left for Franklin yesterday on business.
Colonel Thad. W. Jones, Tenth U. S. I., left for his command in Macon, Ga., yesterday.
Charles McNamee left for New York yesterday afternoon.
Attorney Thomas W. Rollins, of Marshall, arrived in town on business yesterday.
Mrs. Gilmer Brenner returned yesterday from a visit to Mrs. T. S. McBeck in Morganton.
Rev. R. A. Holland and daughter, who have been visiting Mrs. Glaser, on Chestnut street, will return to their home in St. Louis this week.
Will Cooper and C. M. Cheny were in from Weaverville yesterday.
Harry Woodruff, who has spent several months in the city, returned to his home in New York yesterday.
W. P. Batchelor, of Raleigh, arrived in the city yesterday.
William H. Nolan, of the Boston Globe's staff, is in the city. He is stopping at the Summey residence on Haywood street.

The Rev. Dr. Winchester Donald, of Trinity church, is at Asheville, N. C. He will be absent until the middle of February. Dr. Donald contracted a severe cold at the funeral of one of his former parishioners. His clothing was completely drenched while reading the interment service at the tomb. Then he contracted the grip, which left him in such a weak condition that his physician insisted upon his taking a brief rest. He has been for the past two weeks in North Carolina with friends. Although anxious to return to his work here, his physician commands him to remain south until he has fully recovered. The regular services at Trinity are conducted by his assistants, the Revs. Messrs. Dewart and Bornecamp, with occasional services by visiting clergymen.—Boston Herald, January 15. Dr. Donald is Phillip Brooks' successor at Trinity church, Boston. That he continues the work of the former rector is evinced by the fact of the constantly growing membership of Trinity. It is said to have increased by 500 members since his incumbency.

All Ladies' Wool Shoes, 10 per cent. of cost. G. A. Mears and Sons.

LARGER QUARTERS

Are what a larger patronage demands. **THAT'S WHY** I have moved from No. 10 to No 5 Patton Ave. If you want fashionable tailoring done, call on **H. PETRIE,** 5 Patton Ave. Over Redwood's Store.

HEADQUARTERS FOR Fruits and Produce.

Just received, a large consignment of **IRISH POTATOES, CALIFORNIA ORANGES N. C. GREEN APPLES N. C. SUN DRIED APPLES Etc., Etc.**

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Than you would have to pay exclusive dealers for the self same thing. These thoroughly modern desks are well built, and made to last a life time. Full of conveniences, they afford in satisfaction a full equivalent for what one pays for them. We carry a full line of Book Cases, Office Chairs, etc. Also Carpets, Matings, and Linoleums.

W. B. Williamson & Co. Furniture, Carpets, &c. 16 PATTON AVENUE.

Big Bargain in Bleached Cottons.

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THE FAVORITE BEER OF ASHEVILLE. Orders will be filled for Bottle Beer if left at or phoned to Halyburton & Co., Frank O'Donnell, C. B. McIntyre, Pat. Carr, Swannanoa Hotel Co., and Pat. McIntyre, Agt. Augusta Brewing Co.

THE "ANGELUS"

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J. W. Harrison, has removed to **65 North Main St.,** and is better able than ever to serve the public with

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We carry an extra large line of both, and take pleasure in showing them to everyone. **B. H. COSBY,** The Reliable Jeweler, 37 PATTON AVENUE

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still, with some, is, "where can we get the exact goods we want for the least money?" Now, if you can't fully believe your friends (for you all have friends trading with us) try us next month and we will answer your question. Respectfully,

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