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[Hillsboro Recorder, Jan. 8th.]
RAIL ROAD TO THE UNIVERSITY.

In our comments in our last issue on internal improvements, we could not be misunderstood to array ourselves in opposition to them, merely because we had ceased to be sanguine of the perfection of the many schemes that excite the interest of our contemporaries. In the advancement of what is feasible, we will not be behind any of the most advanced; and it is so easy to make the distinction between the practicable and the impossible, that our position cannot be mistaken. We realize in full force the vital necessity of giving full development to the resources of the State by judicious regard to the wants of its several sections. It is scarcely possible to err in the direction of expansion, the only restraining power being the resistance of obstacles invincible.

But there are other schemes that commend themselves by the simplicity of their investing elements; where importance of termini, facility of ground, shortness of route and cheapness of construction present objects so inviting and so free from the ordinary incidents of hindrances as to create wonder at the hesitation that has commanded a halt in those enterprises which long since had prominent and favorable consideration. Chief among the works is the rail road to the University of North Carolina.

We had occasion in former issues, to comment upon the error which insisted upon the isolation of Chapel Hill, and opposed, unfortunately with success, in the benefits of the North Carolina Rail Road. Certain theories of the virtues of scholastic seclusion, finding favor with those distrustful of young human nature, have given way under more enlightened modern ideas. We arraign our predecessors with reverence, but we do so with confidence, because they themselves had occasion to confess and deplore their mistake. And their successors are not reluctant to have corrected, since they find that neither the moral nor intellectual forces of the students of the University are impaired; rather, that they are elevated, refined, quickened by social intercourse and contact with the outer world.

A rail road is important to the well being of the University itself. Patronage and prosperity nowadays are linked with accessibility. The poetry of the shaded recesses of the leafy groves, where silent reveries float undisturbed by the rude shouts of the outer world, has given place to the practical idea of an education acquired with full purpose to plunge at once into the active pursuits of life. The time leaves no place for dreamers or for purely intellectual delights. It is men and manners and human nature the students must know, as well as books.

And Chapel Hill as a town needs connection with the rest of the world. Its beauty of location, its healthfulness and society, will attract attention, and with facility of access the village would expand into a city. With the contrast between the stage coach, no natural beauty, no charm of scenery, no pleasure of society will induce the seeker of either to forego the luxury or the expedition of the one to encounter the sluggishness and rude jostling of the other.

The country around Chapel Hill is well adapted to a wide range of agricultural products. The grain, grasses and fruits of all the upper region are grown in perfection; while the cotton of its immediate vicinity surpasses all produced in North Carolina, with the single exception of Anson county, and is grown in no insignificant quantity, furnishing the larger portion of the six thousand bales contributed by Orange county. It is not extravagant to assume that facility of transportation will increase the production of this as well as other articles.

One of the largest and most important interests of Chapel Hill yet lays dormant, and must continue to do so until a railroad gives an outlet for its results. The iron mine, the most valuable in quantity and quality east of the Cranberry works, has been developed just to the extent of demonstrating its worth, yet must be idle and profitless until the ores can be economically put on the market. This can never be done by the present modes of transportation.

For this and for other considerations a railroad is an imperative necessity, and we hope the Legislature will not hesitate a moment in granting the aid asked, which will be a naked charter, and the use of convict labor. Of this the State may be assured of a large and steady supply, and it cannot be better employed than in such work.

As to the route of the road, we have of course our own preferences, partly of a local nature, partly as connected with a system of connecting roads passing from the Dan to the Cape Fear. But whether the Chapel Hill road begins at Hillsboro, or Durham, or Apex, we shall hail its progress with pleasure, and will advocate it to the best of our

ability. Chapel Hill will be the recipient in its benefits, and for the sake of the University we sink all personal preference.

Let this long projected and long deferred enterprise be now undertaken in steadfast purpose soon to make it available for its many beneficent purposes.

DEATH.

How is it that, having once looked on Death, we can for a moment forget it? How can we go back to our hopes and dreams and labors, when we have understood that they must all end here, that the most loving eyes must be closed thus, the busiest hands so crossed upon the breast—the greatest mind become a blank, and human beauty turn in a few brief hours to a thing of horror? Why does not this phantom Death stand beside the altar, and say to bride and bridegroom, "Why love, when there must come a bitter parting for one of you ere long? Why wed, when the very wedding hour hurries you nearer to the grave as it passes by?"

How can the mother forget it, when her baby lies upon her breast, and I not say to herself, "I have only brought into this world another thing to die?" Why, do we not see the ghastly skeleton at our feasts; see him in our streets; hear him in songs; and be so bitterly oppressed by his inevitable coming as to lose all hope, and sit in dust and ashes, bewailing the bitter fate of man, who, do what he may, can only live to die?

Greatest of all mysteries is it, that we can go about forgetting, or seeming to forget, this thing. Nor could we—so it seems to us—but for that inward consciousness of a life beyond that of this world, greater and better, where the spirit shall take up its work again, and we shall learn, as we never can on earth, why we have lived here.

ANOTHER FIRE IN RALEIGH.

It really looks as if Raleigh was going to be burned entirely up this winter. Several destructive fires have occurred recently. The last one destroyed two dwellings and two stores on Hillsboro Street; to the left of the bridge over the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad as you go into the city by the Hillsboro road, the property of Miss Bynum and Mrs. Drake. We copy the following from the *Observer*:

The fire yesterday was quite destructive. The supply of water in that section of the town is very scarce, and the unusual cold causing it to freeze in the hose, made it difficult to use to advantage. The fire was discovered about three o'clock in the morning. It originated in the store of Messrs. Lewis & Jones, which was nearly consumed before assistance could be given. Mr. William Lewis who was sleeping in the store, barely escaped from the flames. He was seriously injured. The adjoining store of Mr. Jolley, with entire contents, was burned. The flames now spread to Mr. R. W. Best's building and Mrs. Drake's both of which were burned. Nearly all the furniture of both, was saved, much of which, however, was damaged.

Messrs. Lewis & Jones had \$2,000 insurance in the Aena Insurance Company, of Hartford. This was the only insurance and the loss falls heavily on Mr. Best, Mrs. Drake and Mr. Jolley. We did not learn to whom the store buildings belonged.

RULES OF CONDUCT.

- Never point to another.
- Never betray a confidence.
- Never wantonly frighten others.
- Never leave home with unkind words.
- Never neglect to call upon your friends.
- Never laugh at the misfortunes of others.
- Never give a promise that you do not fulfill.
- Never send a present hoping for one in return.
- Never speak much of your own performances.
- Never fail to be punctual at the time appointed.
- Never pick the teeth or clean the nails in company.
- Never fail to give a polite answer to a civil question.
- Never question a servant or child about family matters.
- Never present a gift saying that it is of no use to yourself.
- Never read letters which you may find addressed to others.
- Never fail, if a gentleman, of being civil and polite to ladies.
- Never call attention to the features or form of any one present.
- Never refer to a gift you have made or favor you have rendered.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Mrs. Sanders, in Cleveland county, is 110 years old and has fifty grand children.

It is said that the number of convicts in the penitentiary on the first of December was 349; at work on the Western North Carolina Railroad, 592; on the Western Railroad, 99; on the Chester and Lenoir, 48; and on the Georgia and North Carolina, 28, making a total of 1,116.

Morganton Blade: A correspondent writing from Linville Cove, Mitchell county, says: Twenty-one children have died in this neighborhood, of diphtheria, within a very short time. Of that number Baird Benfield lost five; Henry Wiseman, three; Milton Webb, five. I heard of a number of new cases.

Piedmont Press: The fish business at Henry, under the management of Worth and Huske, is moving up lively. During last and this week 25,000 young Cal. Salmon were put in Deep River at Jamestown, for the Cape Fear River; 30,000 in the Mountain streams of Dan River; 36,000 in the Green River; in Henderson county on the Spartanburg and Asheville Railroad. There are now 69,000 young trout to be put in the hill country streams. The operations at the winter hatchery have proven highly successful this season. In a few years our streams will all be well stocked with the very best fish and our people will look back with much pride upon the wise legislation of the last General Assembly in providing for the fish interest in connection with the Agricultural Department.

Raleigh Observer: The whole community was deeply grieved to learn that Mrs. Burwell was dead. The announcement was made at nearly all the churches on Sunday morning, and it was a sad announcement for the first Sunday of the new year. She was greatly beloved by her friends and respected by all who knew her. Mrs. Burwell was the daughter of John D. Spragins, of Charlotte county, Va., born on the 4th of November, 1839, married on December 17th, 1857. Her life was one of those pure, gentle, strong powers that work great things quietly and leave a hallowed memory. The funeral services were held yesterday evening at the First Presbyterian church, and were conducted by the Rev. John M. Watkins, assisted by the Rev. J. M. Atkinson and Rev. Dr. Pritchard. Her remains were followed to the cemetery by a large concourse of friends.

Wilmington Sun: The other day two ladies were preparing to toilet an accident, of perhaps a serious nature, occurred. The elder lady was sitting with a large cat at her feet. Suddenly, without warning the animal seized upon one of the lower extremities of the lady and tore the flesh with its teeth and claws. Before the young lady, her daughter, could come to her assistance the wounds inflicted by the cat were many and painful. The young lady bled not a moment, but took hold of the little enraged beast and pulled it quickly away. The cat infuriated to tigerish anger, sprang at her, its tail swollen as large as a human arm, and scratched her hands and other parts of her person, he sides badly tearing her dress. A neighboring gentleman was appealed to for help, and by the aid of the young lady's tight grip on the cat's neck and a dumb bell in the hands of the gentleman, the furious feline was killed. A physician was called upon to dress the wounds of the elder lady, who is afflicted with erysipelas in the lacerated limb, and whose safety is a matter of anxiety.

Raleigh News: One of the distributors of the Young Men's Christian Association states that his attention was called to a suffering family not two squares from the Capitol. He went immediately to see them and found a state of destitution that would astound many of the good people here, could they have seen the case for themselves. The household consists of a woman 80 years of age and a younger woman with three children. This mother has been bed-ridden for weeks. They seemed to be in want of every comfort, and the only fuel they had on Friday night to warm their open shed, was the trimmings of the evergreens used in decorating one of the churches on Christmas. The sick and suffering woman was overcome with cold that she was only kept alive by the faithful rubbing of her aged attendant. This is no fancy sketch but an actual, living fact that any one who desires can see for themselves. Wood was at once provided and they will be cared for in the future. Little do many of the citizens know of the actual suffering just at their doors. Cases of such destitution and helplessness may be found, no doubt, in every ward in the city.

[Memphis Avalanche.]

WHAT TENNESSEE THINKS OF DURHAM.

EDITOR AVALANCHE:—During our terrible scourge, I made a visit to my native State, North Carolina, and while there visited the little inland city of Durham, which is known the world over by the reputation of its Durham tobacco. In the place are located ten or twelve smoking factories. The leading and principal one, in fact the largest exclusive smoking factory in the world, is that of Blackwell & Co., being the exclusive manufacturers of the celebrated old original Durham Bull Tobacco. They put up in their mammoth establishment only the one brand, and of a remarkable uniform quality, in packages of pounds, halves, quarters and eighths, and every package contains a label with Blackwell & Co's name, and the bull stamped on it, the bull being their trade mark. I was told that a great many parties had counterfeited the trade mark, both in North Carolina and other States, but in every instance legal proceedings had been instituted against them, and they were compelled to discontinue their brand of the bull.

Previous to my going to Durham I thought all smoking tobacco with the name Durham on it, was the genuine Durham Bull Tobacco, and as a smoker was often deceived as to the quality of the tobacco I sometimes bought, not noticing the bull on it, or knowing there was but one Durham smoking tobacco factory in the world. But I found on my visit there some ten or twelve factories and some quite small ones, and was also told that there were factories in Richmond, Va., and Baltimore, and even in California, putting the names of Durham on their tobacco, and some using the term, "The Old Original Durham Tobacco," but being a little careful as to putting on the bull, but I saw one party using the brand of the twin bulls or cows' heads, and another using the Sitting Bull, and another the Buffalo. I was told they were all infringements on the old original Durham Bull Tobacco.

I learned while there and observing the workings of the various factories that the true secret to Blackwell & Co's unprecedented success was—first, their buyer, Col. Blackwell, being a thorough judge of the leaf, and all the tobacco used by them is grown in a belt of six or eight counties in North Carolina, Virginia being the finest section in the known world for the growth of fine, sweet, sun-cured leaf, and of those goods the buyer selects the very best, regardless of price, and the establishment carries on hand, stored in their warehouses, 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 pounds leaf, and never works any until it is two years old, giving to it that sweet, mild and mellow flavor, whilst a great many of the smaller factories buy it new and direct from the farmers, work it immediately and put it on the market and the consumers often complain of the strong, biting flavor of the Durham tobacco, and rightly too.

Blackwell & Co's factory buildings occupy about ten acres of ground, and the main building is a noble brick structure, four stories high and basement. The various tobacco machines, box factories, printing presses and heating apparatus of the various buildings are run by a massive 250 horse-power engine, and the entire establishment lighted up with gas made on the grounds. The capacity of the factory is about 20,000 pounds per day, which amount is being shipped daily to all parts of the civilized world. I saw large shipments being made to Europe and Australia; also to Mexico. I am told their foreign trade is large and increasing. The amount they pay the Government on each and every pound they work, going into millions of pounds, is really immense, but fortunately for us that tax is not imposed on the necessities of life, but on a luxury and an innocent and pleasant one. Such an establishment as Blackwell & Co's is an ornament and honor to any State or country, and I, as an old North Carolinian, am truly proud of it. G. L. S.

South Carolina is the worst State in the country for couples to emigrate to who want to get divorced. Before the war divorce was unknown, but under reconstruction rule the State lurched way over toward the Indiana freedom. A bill was introduced at a recent session of the Legislature limiting the ground for divorce to the ancient one of adultery, but it was finally amended by repealing the whole law now on the statute books, and thus leaving no way at all open to secure a divorce.

"I don't do this business for profit," said a barber, when asked how he could afford to shave for five cents. "I merely carry it on because I love to see the dying struggles of a man while he is being talked to death."

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

Per annum, \$1 50.

Six months, \$1 00.

Advertisements appearing in the LEDGER will reach the farmers of Alamance, Chatham, Wake, Orange and other counties, and is therefore a good advertising medium.

Advertisements will be inserted in these columns on as liberal terms as in any first class paper.

The LEDGER's circulation is increasing rapidly, and bids fair to have as large circulation as any country newspaper in the State.

The Fall Season will soon open, and every farmer should keep up

with the cotton, tobacco and produce markets. The LEDGER will furnish the markets of Raleigh, Durham, Hillsboro, Chapel Hill, &c. Arrangements are being made for weekly communications from Raleigh and other points.

The LEDGER will use whatever influence it may command to have a Railroad built to Chapel Hill, and an Experimental Farm connected with the University.

The columns of the LEDGER will be devoted to Literature, Agriculture, Latest News, Original Correspondents, Markets, &c., and will avoid political issues as much as possible, though claiming the right to object to obnoxious men and measures.

Then, fellow-citizens, subscribe to the LEDGER and aid us in building up a good newspaper.

Office opposite the store of

J. W. Carr, and next door to L. J. Weaver.

Lead Publishing Co. EDITORS.



NOTICE.—We will be pleased to publish any communications from any person relative to the good of the people; but any communication relative to personal matters or tending to bring about a controversy will not be tolerated.—Ed's.

ECONOMY.
Rave at fashion, and preach economy, if you will. It is all the better for the world that rich people should spend their money lavishly, instead of hoarding it. Every flounce on the skirt of that glittering belle, ridiculous as it may be from an artistic point of view, helps to make some dressmaker's assistant more certain of her week's work. Everything she "cannot possibly live without," though it be a gawdaw suitable for a squaw, makes it so much more certain that every shopkeeper in the land shall prosper.

So, when her father, scorning the red brick mansion in which his parents took delight, spends a year or so in elaborating a palace of white marble, he finds work for so many score of laborers who else might starve or go to the poor-house. So that finery is paid for, so that one only "buys for cash," there is more good than harm in the long run in what seems like extravagance. A miser does more harm to his fellow-men than a spendthrift, and the only alarming point in the present universal show and glitter is, that unlucky people with inadequate purses may seek to take a part in it at the expense of trustful tradesmen.

If only the rich become extravagant, we say hurrah, and go ahead, even if you do not leave a million or so to a poor-house when you die. Your cook and coachman and tailor and jeweller, your wife's dressmaker, and all the host of working folk paid to minister to your far-reaching whims, have no need of one.

PARENTAL PARTIALITY.

There is a fatal danger in family government, from which we warn every parent, and that is partiality. It is too often the case that fathers and mothers have their favorite child. From this two evils result. In the first place, the pet usually becomes a spoiled child; and the "flower of the family" seldom yields to any other than bitter fruit. In the second place, the neglected part of the household feel envy toward the child that makes the odious distinction. Disunion is thus sown in what ought to be the Eden of life, a seed of wrong is planted by the parent's hand in the hearts of a part of his family, an example of injustice is written on the soul of the offspring, by him who should instil into it, by every word and deed, the holy principles of equity.

The Supreme Court convened in Raleigh on Monday last. Associate Justice Ashe is detained at his home in Anson county, on account of severe illness. Chief Justice Smith and Justice Dillard spent Monday and Tuesday in examining applicants for license. There were 31 young men applying.

We copy into our columns in this week's paper an editorial from Hillsboro Recorder in relation to the building of a railroad to Hillsboro. Col. John D. Carr, the clearest thinker and ablest legislator in the State.