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Ledger 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.—Eds.

It is not probable that an extra session of Congress will be held immediately after the adjournment of the present Congress—which takes place on March 4th.

We are glad to see that our Legislators have ceased offering bills, to a great extent, and are now considering how they shall dispose of those which have already been introduced.

RALEIGH is running over with excitement in consequence of an application being made to the Legislature for a charter for the extension of the Raleigh & Augusta Air Line Railroad to Charlotte.

MARSHAL MACMAHON, President of France, rather than occupy an antagonistic position with the Chambers during the rest of his term, resigned his office on the 30th ult., and M. Grevy was elected in his stead.—There is no indication of a revolution as yet.

The latest statistics of cotton manufactures, show some very interesting facts in regard to the progress of manufactures in America. The manufacture of cotton goods has reached perfection in this country and it is a notable fact that we can manufacture cotton stuffs a great deal cheaper than England.

The popular opinion concerning our present Legislature seems to be that although its members may not have as great a reputation for statesmanship as many of their predecessors, yet they possess as much good, sound, common-sense as any body of men who have ever preceded them in making laws for the people.

MANY Northern papers, in addition to the State press, are making great predictions of the brilliant things Vance will do while in the United States Senate. We hope he will not disappoint them, but we are aware that some expect of him actions which are beyond the power of the brightest intellect to accomplish.

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES: The Trustees of the University met in the city of Raleigh on Wednesday the 29th ult.

A resolution was adopted favoring the project of connecting the site of the University by railway with the railroad system of the State, as being of great advantage not only to the University, but to the educational interests of the State.

The following gentlemen were appointed members of the Executive Committee: The Governor, ex-officio chairman of the committee; Paul C. Cameron, Geo. V. Strong, W. L. Saunders, R. H. Battle, J. S. Carr, E. Grisson and A. M. Lewis.

The Trustees appointed to visit and inspect the University were, P. C. Cameron, John Manning, P. B. Meaus, J. S. Carr, Wm. B. Lynch and William H. Battle.

C. D. Grandy, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Chemistry, was raised to a full professorship with the title of Professor of Natural Philosophy.

PRESIDENT BATTLE'S ADDRESS.

On Thursday night the 30th ult., President Battle delivered in the Hall of Commons, at Raleigh, a lecture on the value of the University to farmers. We clip the following account of the address from the Observer of the 31st ult.:

Mr. Battle's address was designed to show that university education will make men better farmers, mechanics, &c. A farmer who has good sound sense will be vastly benefited by a knowledge of chemistry, botany, physiology, zoology, geology, &c. He showed wherein these sciences are of advantage. He gave many instances in England and America of poor counties made rich by farmers, who combined practical with theoretical knowledge. Prominent among these, he named Coke, of Holkam, Lord Townsend, Lawes, of Rotterdam, and others. He contended that the want of scientific education for farmers is what drives ambitious young men into other professions. He gave many instances of the discoveries of minerals, ores, &c., made by educated men, which proved the advantage of having such education, and predicted that the sending out of young men taught how to use their eyes, would be attended with rapid development of the resources of our State. He showed why the knowledge of mineralogy and of entomology and of the use of the microscope, of the internal organs of animals, and how to dissect them, will be of vast value to our people. He explained the operations of the Normal School. He urged that this school was beneficial not alone to the teachers, but chiefly to the children who come under their instruction; that the teachers who were at the University will come in contact with at least 10,000 pupils in one year; and in the course of their teaching life with hundreds of thousands of children who will be made wiser and better through the influence of the Normal School. Mr. Battle gave some statistics, too, in regard to the schools of Prussia and of this country, and gave many forcible and conclusive reasons why the good work commenced should go on until light shall illumine every nook and corner of our State.

BLACK DEATH.

This terrible scourge of mankind has recently made its appearance in the very heart of Russia, and is spreading to an alarming extent throughout the empire. Coming, as it does, upon a people weakened by pestilence and war, with very inadequate sanitary regulations, its ravages are fearful and complete. All Europe is alarmed at its approach—and well it may be, for "black death" is a plague which has produced more desolation than any other scourge with which humanity has been cursed. In the 15th century its ravages extended over the whole earth, and snatched from its bosom twenty-five millions of souls. Whole countries were depopulated, and this world of ours became one vast scene of desolation and ruin. In those days there were no sanitary regulations, and nothing was known of the nature of the disease, consequently the ravage could not be stopped. But to-day, every country has its sanitary commission, and although the disease is not understood, yet it is being investigated by the physicians of the various European governments—so that it is not probable that the scourge will extend over the whole of the continent.

PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

At a meeting of the Trustees of the University held in Raleigh on the 29th ult., Mr. C. D. Grandy, assistant professor of Mathematics and Chemistry, was raised to a full professorship with the title of Professor of Natural Philosophy. This, we believe, has produced universal satisfaction among the professors and students, and will be hailed with pleasure by the many friends of Mr. Grandy throughout the State. Professor Grandy ranks high as a teacher, and although young in years, he is well matured in intellect, and is fully capable of exercising the duties of the position to which he has been raised. In a word, he is well fitted for, and will fill with credit, the chair of Natural Philosophy of the University.

The Plant is an ardent advocate of the railroad.

COL. W. L. SAUNDERS.

The many friends of the Raleigh Observer will learn with regret Col. Saunders' withdrawal from the editorial staff of that valuable paper, which was done by advice of his physician, who deemed it necessary for him to retire from the cares of editorial life in order that he might be restored to health. In severing his connection with the newspaper business in general, the press loses an able and efficient writer, democracy an ardent supporter, and the State a brave defender. Col. Saunders has won for himself an enviable place in his profession; and by untiring and never-ceasing labor he has succeeded in raising the standard of journalism in North Carolina. We sincerely hope that he may soon be fully restored to health, and be enabled once more to use his pen in serving the State which he loves so well and defended so bravely.

A NEW TRIAL REFUSED!

We learn from the Durham Plant, that the Supreme Court has refused to grant a new trial to the Chapel Hill burglars. They will be re-sentenced at the next term of Orange Superior Court, which meets in the Spring. This is just what we expected—and if not pardoned by the Governor, justice will have its course and Davis, Andrews and Carleton will certainly be hung.

LIEUT. GOV. ROBINSON.

James L. Robinson was chosen by the Democratic caucus on last Tuesday night and elected on Wednesday President of the Senate of North Carolina. His elevation to this important position is the result of the many valuable services performed for his countrymen and the determination of our people to reward greatness, and to honor men who honored North Carolina.

On Wednesday the 5th inst. the government of North Carolina changed hands. Vance gives place to Jarvis, who will exercise the executive powers during the remainder of the term.

CHAPEL HILL RAILROAD.

This subject has before been alluded to in the columns of the Plant. The necessity of such a road the most skeptical will not call in question, and that it ought to start from Durham none will dispute.

Build a railroad to Chapel Hill and you not only afford traveling facilities for the benefit of the University, but a country vastly rich in agricultural products will be opened up. An iron mine, which is equal to any now being worked, will have access to the outside world, and the population of Chapel Hill will double in twelve months. But the question will be asked, is the State to be taxed to build a road whereby the University and a small area of country is to be benefited? The answer should be, no. There is no proposition to build the road by taxation.

All that is asked of the State is to grant the right of way and the road will be built by subscription. But at present there is an element at work in good old North Carolina who are opposed to any more railroads. Such an idea is worthy only of old fogies and the Legislature should buy it so deep that it can never again be resurrected.

There are many reasons why Durham should be the starting point. In the first place, Durham can and will do more for such a road than any other point. In the second place, should it ever become necessary, as it likely will, to extend this road, this would be on a direct line to Oxford and connect with the Clarksville branch and thereby make it a very important road. The charter should be granted running from Durham.

The Philadelphia North American, a Republican organ, knows of no ground upon which the President is to be congratulated for having signed the pension bill—a measure which was demanded by no consideration of policy or justice. Knowing something of the opinions of a limited number of veterans who may fairly be considered typical of the class, we assert, says that paper, that the soldiers were not the men who urged the passage of this measure, but rather a lot of sharks and demagogues, who hope to share the reward either in dollars or cheap buncombe.

The Mayor of Rockford, Ill., has presented each of the newsboys and bootblacks of the city with a new pair of clothes.

THE LEGISLATURE.

We cannot publish a full report of the Legislative proceedings. We publish such as is of importance to our readers. Our extracts are taken from the Raleigh Observer:

The hour for the special order having arrived, H. B. 89, to so alter the constitution in regard to crimes and punishments as to include whipping, but that no female shall be so punished. A minority report of the Judiciary Committee was read, opposing the change, on the ground of its barbarity, and as it would deprive the State of so great a portion of the convict labor now so imperatively needed on works of public improvement.

Mr. Blaisdell moved the indefinite postponement of the matter. Upon this the ayes and nays were called, when it was postponed by a vote of ayes 48, and nays 45.

A report from the committee to examine the Treasurer's vouchers was read. The report recites that it took the committee eight days to examine the vouchers, and asks the Legislature to order the same to be destroyed. The report also congratulates the State on having such officers as Dr. Worth, D. W. Bain and T. C. Worth. It also recommends a revision of the laws. The report was ordered to be printed.

Bill to continue the Normal school act in force, and to extend its benefits to females.

Mr. McLean said that the law now applied to young men only. That this was an inadvertence and this bill proposed to remedy the same. Further that the bill only appropriated \$2,000 annually, and he did not see how the money could be better spent. The bill passed.

A MONTHLY ROYAL SCRAP BOOK.

The most intelligent readers have Scrap Books for preserving the choicest articles clipped from time to time from newspapers, magazines and books. These collections, although comparatively very small, are often esteemed of more value than books, because they embrace only the most precious gems gathered from the large fields of literature. If several persons of culture and experience, who are especially adapted for making these selections, should submit the results of their labors to a competent editor to classify and arrange into departments embracing every variety of desirable household reading, and if this matter, thus arranged and classified, should be printed in book form, we should have something like each number of WOOD'S HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE, which contains one hundred large pages. This Magazine is destined to be a Monthly Royal Scrap Book of the cream of the world's literature. The February number on our table, being the second number of the sixteenth volume, embodies a feast of literary gems suited to the tastes of all readers, and its articles breathe a spirit of economy, morality and virtue which is highly refreshing in this age of fashionable extravagance and folly. No family can afford to do without it. The subscription price is only \$2 per year. Sample copy will be sent on receipt of only 10 cents. Address, S. S. WOOD, Tribune Building, New York City.

THE NORTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERIAN.

This organ of the North Carolina Presbyterians, always orthodox and ably edited, has been improved by the addition of departments of Church and General Religious Intelligence. Its Family and Miscellaneous reading is both attractive and instructive. An epitome of Secular News is furnished every week. The ablest writers write for it, among whom are the following: Rev. Drs. Drury Lacy, J. Henry Smith, J. B. Adger, and A. W. Miller; Rev. Messrs. Jos. M. Atkinson, E. M. Harding, D. E. Jordan, J. Rumpel, E. F. Rockwell, P. H. Dalton, L. C. Vass, H. G. Hill, W. S. Lacy, W. W. Pharr, F. H. Johnston, P. T. Penick, R. Z. Johnston, S. H. Chester, J. W. Primrose, S. M. Smith, A. F. Dickson, J. M. Whaley; Prof. J. R. Baker; Mrs. Cornelia Phillips Spencer; Mrs. Mary Ayer Miller ("Luola"); Mrs. H. M. Irwin, and many others.

Price \$2.65 a year. Send for Premium List. Address, JOHN McLAURIN, Editor and Proprietor, Wilmington, N. C.

NORTH CAROLINA.

On Monday 27th ult., the Wilmington & Seaboard Railroad stables ten horses, car sheds, two large and three small cars, four carts, all their street car and cart harness, &c., were destroyed by fire. The fire was an incendiary's work. Loss \$5,500 and it was insured for \$3,155.

Winston Sentinel: On Town Fort about fourteen miles North of Winston, the robins have established an immense roost in the reed brakes along that stream, and every night thousands of these birds gather there and the neighbors go with bags and gather them in with their hands, in such quantities as they desire.

A Mecklenburg county negro went to Cabarrus county and getting his leg broken was put in the poor house of the latter county. Soon afterwards the authorities of Cabarrus sent the negro to the Mecklenburg poor house, and on the trip, during very cold weather, his leg was broken over again and had to be cut off. He will sue Cabarrus county for the loss of his leg, and the result of his action will be looked for with interest.

The printers of Raleigh had a grand re-union and supper at the National Hotel, on the night of the 28th of January. Toasts were prepared and responded to, and a general good time was enjoyed. Letters from invited guests who could not attend were read, and some of these, notably the one from Gov. Holden, were highly interesting in the information they contained concerning the progress and improvement in everything pertaining to printing within the past forty years.

Raleigh Observer: The elegant furniture for the furnishing of the government building in all its departments, is now being placed in the various offices. It is of walnut, uniform in pattern, and of a peculiarly rich yet chaste design. The work is spoken of as being substantial, the material excellent. The officials in the building will be greatly inconvenienced by the removal of this furniture, which will also set off its interior to much greater advantage. The court room on the third floor will be one of the most elegantly furnished in the South.

Statesville Landmark: At Rockingham, on the Carolina Central Railroad, two colored men were quarreling, when one of them picked up an axe and laid the other's skull open at one blow, killing him instantly. The sheriff of Rockingham county, Mr. Long, on being informed of the affair put out to arrest the murderer, but he had escaped, and up to the latest information had not been captured. We could not learn the names of the parties. The affair occurred Saturday last.

A Rutherfordton correspondent to the Shelby Aurora says: Shortly after midnight, on the night of Sunday, the 5th of January, Mary Latham, a white woman residing about one-half mile from this place, returned to her home from this place in a state of intoxication. While preparing to retire her clothes came in contact with the fire on the hearth, and before she could effect any means to extinguish them, she was so badly burned that she died within an hour afterwards. The mother of the woman who has for years been entirely helpless with paralysis got out of her bed and removed three children from the house and by her screams aroused a neighboring woman who arrived in time to put out the fire which had taken hold upon the building, but too late to do more for the unfortunate woman than to prevent her body being entirely consumed.

Newbern Nut Shell: The remains of Mrs. Sarah D. Curtis were followed by very many of our citizens to Cedar Grove Cemetery yesterday, where they were interred. A larger number of relatives attended the funeral than have attended any funeral in this city since our recollection. This was owing to the extreme age of Mrs. Curtis. Few persons attain to that age at which they can look on their great-grand children, as did this lady. No less than six business houses of our most prominent merchants were closed Friday and Saturday on account of family connections. From the 11th to the 31st of last month six of our citizens, all females, at ages ranging from 76 to 94 years, paid the last debt of nature. This is an astonishing record, and yet when we remember what severe weather we had between the dates mentioned, and the amount of sickness that resulted therefrom, it cannot be wondered at. There is scarcely a family in our city that has escaped the "deep colds" arising from the severe weather; young persons, as well as the aged, have been prostrated on their beds, and probably only escaped the fate of the aged because they were stronger and more able to "pull through" their illness.

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 the 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 making up a good newspaper. Office opposite the store of J. W. Carr, and next door to L. Weaver.