

Western Democrat. W. J. YATES, Editor and Proprietor. CHARLOTTE, N. C. December 25, 1865.

We extend the compliments of the Season to our patrons and friends, and hope that they may enter upon the New Year with cheerful prospects and renewed energy.

For the generous and very liberal patronage always extended to us by the citizens of this and surrounding counties, we desire to make due acknowledgments.

And we can say that the prospects of the paper are better now than they have ever been. Our circulation is increasing, and we receive unmistakable evidence of satisfaction with our past course.

We have no promises to make for the future, more than to say that we shall continue to publish the "Democrat," and in a few months expect to buy new type and refit our printing establishment out-and-out with new material.

A merry Christmas and New Year to one and all.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY COURT.—The next Term of the County Court for Mecklenburg will be held on the Second Monday in January, instead of the fourth Monday.

A majority of the Magistrates must be present on Tuesday for the transaction of important business.

It is important that all who have not paid their taxes should call on Sheriff White and settle before or during Court week.

THE N. C. LEGISLATURE adjourned on Monday last to meet again on the first Monday in February. We publish on our first page a list of Captions of Laws passed.

CONGRESS has adjourned till the 5th of January.

SEVERAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—On Friday last the Mail Train on the N. C. Road, which left here at 3 p. m., met with a serious accident 12 miles from here, near Harrisburg Depot.

ABSTRACT.—Just as we are going to press we learn that Mr R. P. Waring, the Editor of the Times, has been arrested and carried to Raleigh, by order of Gen. Roper.

Contracts for carrying the mail from this place to Beattie's Ford, and to Monroe via Horuets Nest, Orville, Stevens Mill, &c, have been awarded to Thos Capps.

BROOMS.—Mr J. N. Scofield, of Mount Mourne, Iredell county, N. C., is engaged in manufacturing an superior article of Brooms as were ever made anywhere, and he says he can sell them to merchants at less rates than they can be bought in the Northern markets.

Gov. Perry of South Carolina received the following dispatch from President Johnson: Washington, Dec. 11.—I thank you for your dispatch. It is gratifying to know that the message was favorably received.

We frequently receive orders to send the Democrat to persons who have not paid the subscription price in advance. We are not afraid to credit many who give us such orders, but they forget that we are doing a cash business, and that all subscriptions must be paid in advance.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. Providence Academy—E. C. Kuykendal. Fayetteville N. C. Military Academy—Maj W A Banks. Calicoes—T. H. BREM.

Notice to Housekeepers and Merchants—J. N. Scofield. Commission Merchants—Goodman & Merrill, N. Y. Court Order—S. Williams, Clerk. Steam Engines—J. M. Howie.

THE SITUATION—OUR PROSPECTS.—From all that we hear and see, we presume there is considerable apprehension of "evil to come" prevailing among the "country people."

It is the duty of our national authorities to do all in their power to dispel apprehension and allay fear. If President Johnson is really as good a friend of the South as he is represented to be, he will soon produce a change in the management of affairs and demand restoration to former rights.

But we do not consider the prospect as bad as many others do. As for war, we think it will be a long time (if ever) before the United States engages in a struggle with England or France.

It is immaterial about having representatives in Congress during the present session, for they would be utterly powerless. If President Johnson is true to his professions, he will withdraw, at an early day, the military governments from the Southern States and declare the civil governments re-established, and thus forestall the radicals who control Congress.

Considering the circumstances which have surrounded us since the close of the war, the people of North Carolina have reason to be thankful that they have got thus far along without greater injury and inconvenience. It is true, annoyances have been and are being suffered, but we know that Gov. Holden has done all in his power to relieve the people and save them from trouble, and we might show that it was unfortunate that he was not elected Governor; but at present we are not disposed to quarrel with any one about it.

Upon the whole, we think that no depressing discouragement should check the operations and energies of our people. Let us wait with timely patience and all may yet work well. In the meantime, newspaper writers ought to be careful not to produce excitement or uneasiness by theatrical, grumbling or gloomy articles, nor by indulging in controversy and feuds.

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TAXES.—It will be remembered that a few weeks ago we stated that the merchants of Newberne had protested against paying the taxes imposed by the State Convention, on the ground, principally, that that body had no right to levy retrospective taxes—that is, had no authority to impose taxes on business transacted previous to the establishment of the Provisional Government.

The merchants of Newberne appealed to the President of the United States for an opinion on the question, and the following dispatch states the result: Washington, Dec. 16.—The President approves the decision made by the Hon. B. F. Moore in a late opinion given to the Governor of the State of North Carolina, to the effect that the late State Convention had no right to impose retrospective taxes.

We don't know yet how the matter will be settled. Of course the President had no right to interfere, but as we are still under a Provisional Government we suppose his opinion must be respected.

STEALING COTTON.—Cotton stealing seems to be the main dependence of rogues in this section at present. About every night somebody's smoke house, or hog-pen, or chicken-house, is invaded; but day and night cotton-stealing is carried on, and with so much boldness that it is surprising that there are not more funerals among the rogish class. One night last week six bales of cotton were stolen from Mrs. Glenn, living 4 or 6 miles from town, and brought to town and deposited in a gentleman's barn (of course without his knowledge or consent.)

MISTAKEN.—For several weeks past we have noticed the following paragraph going the rounds in the papers: "Mrs Col. Gaston Meares makes the following announcement in the Wilmington (N. C.) Dispatch:—In consequence of the repudiation, by the representatives of the people of North Carolina, of their fairly and honestly contracted debts, I and my children have been made losers to the extent of ninety-four thousand dollars in bonds authorized by the Legislature of 1860, in favor of the Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Railroad."

DEATH OF AN EDITOR.—James Fulton, Esq., the Senior Editor of the Wilmington Journal, died on the 14th inst., of congestive chills. Mr Fulton was a newspaper writer of much ability, and possessed that excellent quality of being a cautious and discreet Editor. He will be recollected by many in this section of the State as the editor of the "Mecklenburg Jeffersonian," published in this place about 18 years ago. In the death of Mr Fulton the town of Wilmington and the State have lost a valuable citizen.

SMALL POX.—From what we see in the Wilmington papers, we judge that small pox is prevailing extensively in that city.

THE NEGROES IN JAMAICA who undertook an insurrection for the purpose of killing the whites, have found it a rather bad business. For the last month or two the English authorities have been hanging, shooting and whipping to death the leaders of the rebellion, and the work of punishment still goes on. Hundreds of the negroes have been put to death.

SWINDLERS.—There are a few advertising agencies in the Northern cities that are organized for the express purpose of swindling proprietors of newspapers.—Wilmington Dispatch.

A LETTER FROM HON. GEO. DAVIS.—We have been favored (says the Wilmington Dispatch) with the following copy of a letter received by Mr Dawson, Mayor of the city, from the Hon. George Davis:

Fort Lafayette, N. Y. Harbor, } November 30, 1865. } Hon. John Dawson, Mayor: Sir: A friend has sent me a copy of the Wilmington Herald containing the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of Wilmington, held on the 22d inst., for the purpose of taking measures to memorialize the President of the United States for the exercise of the Executive clemency in my behalf.

Believe me, Sir, I am profoundly touched by this proof of the kind remembrance and esteem of my friends at home—of those who have known me longest and best, and that it was their own spontaneous action, unsolicited and, even unknown by me, makes it doubly gratifying.

I beg, through you, to tender to the citizens of Wilmington, a feeble expression of my warm appreciation and grateful acknowledgment of their kindness, and of my earnest hope for their welfare and prosperity.

Very respectfully, your obt' serv't, GEO. DAVIS.

Mr M. C. Bruce, a merchant in Augusta, Ga., publishes a card in the Constitutionalist, of that city, denying the statement made a few days since that he had donated \$100,000 to Breckinridge, and says that General Breckinridge is now living comfortably in Canada, and is not in need of such a gift.

Correspondence of the Richmond Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20. The proceeding in the House of Representatives on yesterday, and in the Senate to-day, damaged the Radicals prodigiously. Thad. Stevens, their leader and dictator, delivered on Monday a speech so detestable in sentiment, hideous in temper, and atrocious in doctrine, that some of his most obedient followers fled from his support when Mokaona unveiled his horrid visage.

The prevailing sentiment among the Radicals now is, that they must get rid by some means of this wolfish old man of the sea, or that he will throttle them.

At the hotels, in the reading rooms, and wherever the Republican members of Congress congregated, after the adjournment of the House, the violence and fury of the old savage was deprecated.

So strong was this manifestation of disapproval, that even that thoroughly lubricated political weathercock, Forney, veered suddenly round to the point on the compass marked "Conservative," and declares in the Chronicle that no party can support the opinions of Stevens and live.

The decree of Maximilian of September last having been submitted to Attorney General Speed, that officer pronounced the opinion that it makes the workmen in Mexico slaves. Secretary Seward enclosed this opinion to our Minister at Paris, who, at Mr Seward's request, called the attention of the French Government to the subject, but to which no response has been received.

Hons. T. N. Dawkins, F. J. Moses, and A. P. Aldrich, have been elected Law Judges for South Carolina, and Hon. W. D. Johnson and H. D. Lessene, Chancellors.

Mr Jefferson Davis is visited by his Old Richmond Pastor, and takes the Sacrament.—Fortress Monroe, Dec. 13.—Mr Davis' old clergyman of St Paul's church, in Richmond, the church which he attended during the war, and from which he made that marvellously rapid exit on the last Sunday of his attendance there, has been allowed to spend a day with him. The sacrament was administered to him, and everything done that could be, by his old religious teacher and adviser, through scriptural reading and prayer, to give him cheerful resignation.

UNSAUND COTTON SEED.—As a great deal of unsound cotton seed will be bought and sold this winter, a correspondent of the Bainbridge Chart and Compass, recommends the following precaution: "Count, say one hundred or one thousand seed, place them in rich earth, moistened with warm water in a vessel, and place the vessel in a warm place at night and morning, and during the day place the vessel in the sun—South aspect—side of a wall so that the rays of the sun may be reflected on the seed, and all the sound ones will be up in a few days and the amount of rotten seed can be determined."

A DIMINUTIVE BREED OF CATTLE.—In the report of the Secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture for 1862, Mr Flint gives the following description of the cows of Brittany, a province in the north of France, as observed by him at the International Exhibition in London: "The little Bretonne cows pleased me exceedingly. Standing only about three feet high on their legs—the most fashionable height—mostly black and white, now and then, but rarely, a red and white; they are docile as kittens, and look pretty enough to become the kitchen pet of the hard pressed mountain or hillside farmer, with pastures too short for a grasser animal—Ten pounds of hay will suffice for their limited wants for twenty-four hours, and they would evidently fill a ten quart pail as quick and as long as any other cow."

THE ORPHAN'S EDUCATION FUND.—A meeting of a number of the Directors of the Orphan's Fund was held at the Executive office in the State Capitol, on the 14th. Hon M. E. Manly presided.

Rev C. F. Deems addressed the board in regard to the original aim in organizing the association, its prospects, and the circumstances that had frustrated its designs.

On motion of Mr H. G. Williams, of Nash, a resolution was adopted for returning all contributions to the funds of the association to the donors. Mr John G. Williams, the Treasurer, is prepared to make the restoration, whether of Confederate money, bonds, cotton, watches, jewelry, and other articles, upon application to him.

The Board unanimously adopted a resolution of thanks to Rev. C. F. Deems, D. D., for his praiseworthy efforts in raising the funds for this great charity, which, under different circumstances, would have resulted in such unmeasured benefit to the class for which it was designed, and which would have been a monument of honor to him as its originator, and to the State.

The girls out West—probably old maids—are forming anti-tobacco societies, pledging themselves that they will not kiss or marry any man who chews or smokes the obnoxious weed.

A profound observer remarks: "I have often observed at public entertainments that where there is anything to be seen, and everybody wants particularly to see it, everybody immediately stands up, and effectually prevents anybody from seeing anything."

STATE ITEMS.

SUICIDE.—We learn that Benj. Best, Esq., a highly respectable citizen of this county, committed suicide yesterday morning by cutting his throat.—Goldboro News.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—We learn that several cars of the mail train coming east, on the North Carolina Railroad, ran off the track yesterday morning, three miles beyond Durham's depot, by which several cars were considerably damaged, but fortunately nobody was seriously hurt.—Raleigh Standard 20th.

A pretty little woman in Parkersburg, Va., has been arrested for the freak of carrying four Federal officers.—Exchange.

That is not exactly "the style" in this section, as illustrated in a recent case, in which the lady, instead of forming an alliance with "four Federal officers," fraternized with one nigger.—Wilmington Journal.

AND STILL THEY COME.—Daily the freight trains, from below, come laden with goods for this point and the interior. Whence come the demand for these extraordinary supplies, and whence will come the money, or produce necessary to pay for them?

Prudence dictates economy throughout the entire South, but we fear no heed will be paid to its dictation. We hear of great destitution in certain localities, and taxation is said to be burdensome in the extreme, and yet hundreds of articles are daily purchased which could very well be dispensed with, and the savings applied to deeds of charity, or to pay the tax collector whose visits are almost as certain as that of the grim monster death himself.—Goldboro News.

I. G. Lash, of Salem, has been appointed Collector of the Internal Revenue Tax in the 2d Collection District of North Carolina.

A LECTURE BADLY NEEDED.—We earnestly trust that some brilliant fascinating temperance lecturer will make his appearance in our city and endeavor to stay the tide of intemperance which seems to run so strongly. We learn that the police, a few nights since, found eleven men lying drunk on the streets. This vice seems to have increased rather than diminished since the surrender. Can't something be done in the way of moral suasion?—Salisbury Banner.

MARRIED. At Davidson College, on the 20th inst., by the Rev. R. Burwell, Dr. Robt. Gibbon of Charlotte, to Miss Mary Rogers, daughter of the late Rev E. P. Rogers of Charlotte.

In this county, on the 19th inst., by the Rev. S. C. Pharr, Mr Geo W Williamson to Miss J. L. Wilson, daughter of Stephen Wilson.

In this county, on the 20th inst., by the Rev E. F. Rockwell, Capt. L. A. Potts to Miss Emma A., daughter of Mr Houston Johnston.

In this county, on the 21st inst., by J. R. Gillespie, Esq. Mr J. A. Hall to Miss Esther White. Also, by the same, Mr Jas Torrence to Miss Martha Pippins. Also, by the same, Mr John Deaton to Miss Margaret Park.

On the 30th of November, by Rev. L. M. Berry; Mr John A. Parker of Lincolnton, to Miss Mary R. Lowe of Cleveland county.

PROVIDENCE ACADEMY. 12 miles south of Charlotte. Terms made known on application. December 25, 1865 3p

CALICOES. A new supply, of the latest styles, just received by T. H. BREM. Dec 25, 1865 2t

Notice to Housekeepers & Merchants. The undersigned takes this method to inform the public that he is now making BROOMS of the quality, which he offers at reduced prices. Thankful for the liberal patronage heretofore accorded him he would solicit the continuance of the same. These Brooms can be had at manufacturer's prices at Wholesale and Retail at Taylor & Duncan's and J. M. Sanders & Co's. Be sure to enquire for Scofield's Broom. His name is stamped on every Broom Handle. Orders solicited and promptly filled. Address, J. N. SCOFIELD, Mount Mourne, Iredell county, N. C. Dec 25, 1865 1m

STEAM ENGINES, With or Without Boilers. I have several STEAM ENGINES of various Horse-Powers, with or without Boilers, which I offer for sale on good terms, at J. M. HOWIES, Machine Shops, Charlotte, N. C. Dec 25, 1865 4t

RAILROAD HOTEL FOR RENT. I will rent on the 1st day of January, 1866, at Public Auction, if not rented before, the RAILROAD HOTEL, now occupied by Mrs. Terrell. M. D. L. MOODY. Dec 25, 1865 1t

W. GOODMAN, of Mississippi, A. P. MERRILL, Jr., of New York, General Commission Merchants, 36 NEW STREET, NEW YORK. We have made an arrangement by which Mr D W COURTS, late Public Treasurer of North Carolina, becomes interested in all the business sent us from that State. He is not associated now with the firm of Bennett, Van Pelt & Co., New York. We hope his friends will patronize us. Dec 25, 1865 1f

HUTCHINSON & BROWN, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, CHARLOTTE, N. C. Having again associated themselves in the practice of Law, will give faithful attention to all business entrusted to them in Mecklenburg and the adjoining counties. Office in the corner building formerly occupied by the late Col. Wm. A. Owens, nearly opposite the Charlotte Hotel, where one or the other may always be found. December 25, 1865. 3mpd.

NEW FURNITURE. DAVIDSON & BROTHER, CHARLOTTE, N. C. Are now receiving a complete assortment of NEW FURNITURE, embracing everything usually kept in that line of business. Also, a large lot of Metallic Burial Cases and Caskets, (the last is something new in this market,) with entire Glass Top, very handsome, and of which is offered to the public for CASH and CASH ONLY. Persons sending for any of the above articles, or Colliers of any kind (all of which are kept constantly on hand) must send the money, or they will not be sent. This course we intend to pursue, without distinction of persons. Dec 25, 1865 1m

LAND SALE. The undersigned as Executors of John Rhyne, deceased, will expose to public sale at Brevard's Station, in Gaston county, on the 18th day of January next, a tract of Wood Land containing about 132 acres. Said tract is convenient to a Steam Saw-Mill now in operation on the W. C. & R. Road, and contains a quantity of valuable pine timber for building purposes. WM. T. SHIPPER, DAVID RHYNE, Executors. Dec 25, 1865 4t

MURCHISON & MURRAY, Commission Merchants, 188 Front Street, NEW YORK. All consignments to us are insured from point of shipment, whether advice of shipment is received or not. Liberal advances made on consignments when desired. Murray & Murchison, Wilmington, N. C., will pay Taxes, Railroad freight, &c, on consignments to us, and forward through that place free of commissions. December 25, 1865 3mpd

State of N. Carolina—Cleveland Co. Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Nov. Term, 1865. Reuben Blanton, Administrator of Daniel Blanton, deceased, vs. Charles Blanton et al. Petition to Sell Land. It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the defendants in this case, Charles Blanton, the heirs of Grandison Blanton, the heirs of Permelia Logan, the heirs of Amity Logan, F. A. Blanton, Martha McMurry, Pinkney Blanton, the heirs of Kialon Blanton, and the heirs of John Blanton, are non-residents of this State, it is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Western Democrat, for six successive weeks, notifying defendants to appear and answer to the petition, and that the Court House in Shelby, on the 6th Monday after the 4th Monday in December, 1865, then and there to make themselves parties to this issue, if they think proper so to do. Witness, S. Williams Clerk of said Court at office, the 6th Monday after the 4th Monday in Sept., 1865. S. WILLIAMS, Clerk. Dec 25, 1865 6t

FAYETTEVILLE N. C. MILITARY ACADEMY. The exercises of this Institution have been resumed without the military feature, and an additional number of pupils will be required for the balance of the session, which will terminate twenty-six weeks from the 1st of January, 1866. The discipline and course of instruction will be the same as in similar schools, with the exception of a thorough course in the Ancient Languages, embracing Latin and Greek composition. In Surveying and Engineering the instruction will be both theoretical and practical. Arrangements will be made at an early day to secure a complete set of Chemical and Philosophical apparatus. No pains or expense will be spared to make this one of the best Schools in the country. The buildings are located on Haymont which overlooks the town of Fayetteville, and which is remarkable for the healthiness of the location, the beauty of the scenery and the intelligence, refinement, and high moral character of the people. There is almost daily connection between Wilmington and Fayetteville by Steamboat, and this is suggested as the best route to the latter place from almost any quarter. Students will be received at any time, and will be charged from the date of entrance, though it will be best to enter about the 1st of January, 1866. Terms for Twenty-six Weeks from 1st January, 1866, Payable in Advance: Tuition, \$50; Board and Lodging, \$150; Washing, Fuel and Lights, \$25; the balance of the necessary and incidental expenses must be addressed to: Maj. WM. A. BANKS, Supt. Dec 25, 1865.

NOTICE. Is hereby given, that the Copartnership heretofore existing under the name and style of Brown, Tate & Co., was dissolved by mutual consent on the 1st day of July, 1865. The name of the firm will be used in liquidation only. By call on our Agent, Mr Samuel P. Alexander, without delay, debtors can discharge their liabilities in United States currency. We will not take depreciated currency after the 1st day of April, 1866. J. L. BROWN, J. L. TATE, W. E. STITT. Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 18, 1865 1m

PROCLAMATION, By W. W. Holden, Provisional Governor of North Carolina. WHEREAS, It has been represented to me that there is an urgent necessity in many of the Counties of this State, that funds should be raised by taxation for the support of the poor: Now, therefore, I, W. W. Holden, Provisional Governor of the State of North Carolina, by virtue of the power vested in me, do hereby proclaim and declare: That a majority of the Provisional Justices of the Peace in any County in this State are hereby empowered and authorized to impose such a tax as in their judgment may be indispensable to the support of the poor; such tax to be levied, collected, accounted for, and used in accordance with the provisions of chapter 28 and 26, Revised Code of North Carolina. Provisional officers whose duty it is to execute the orders of the Provisional Justices, are hereby commanded to see to the performance of their duty under this Proclamation. Done at our City of Raleigh, on the 9th day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and in the presence of the Independence of the United States the 90th. W. W. HOLDEN, Prov. Gov. By the Governor: W. R. RICHARDSON, Private Sec'y. Dec 18, 1865 3t

Liverpool Salt. 50 large Sacks, in good order, for sale low at the Depot of the Char. & S. C. Railroad. A. H. MARTIN. December 4, 1865 1f

CHARLOTTE MARKET, Dec. 25. During the past week Cotton ranged at from 33 1/2 to 36 in currency, and 24 1/2 to 25 in gold—but little sold—tendency thought to be upward. Bacon 25 to 25, Pork 12 1/2 to 13, Lard 25, Flour advanced to \$6.15, and \$7. Corn \$1.15 and \$1.25. Groceries remain at about former rates. Dec 25, 1865 2t