

The Alabama Claims Controversy. After a temporary cessation of the words conflict over the Alabama claims on the part of the governments of Great Britain and the United States the controversy has been re-opened.

Another Annexation Measure. A week or two ago it was announced that the administration at Washington had negotiated a treaty with the Republic of San Domingo, securing to this country for a term of fifty years, the fine harbor of Samana, on the east coast of the island, at a cost of \$150,000 yearly.

Washington Items. Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Richardson Prentiss, is resigning. Senator Pratt of Indiana, has resigned.

News Items. The State Central Committee of the Democratic party, has prepared a bill to be submitted to Congress, providing that the Legislature shall meet and take only the oath prescribed in the 14th amendment, and go on to elect State officers and Judges, after which it shall adjourn and its work be submitted to Congress.

Foreign Items. The Protestant and Catholic Mission Houses at Nankin, China, have been destroyed by a mob, the inmates barely escaping with their lives.

St. Louis, Dec. 28.—Nearly five hundred Chinese will arrive here to-night; they will immediately proceed to Texas to work on Railroads.

At the Woman's Suffrage Convention at Worcester, Thursday, one of the speakers asked all the women in the hall who thought their husbands were tyrants to stand up. Nine women arose in response to this request, and created considerable amusement and laughter.

Horrible Murder in Davidson County on Dec. 20th.—Richard Conigge, a highly respectable colored man was murdered in his slumby at Leonard's Creek Bridge, on the N. C. R. R., near Lexington. When a coroner's inquest was held the jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death by the hands of some unknown assassin or assassins; his skull being fractured and his throat cut.

Mrs. Mary Bayard Clarke.—This talented lady, who has recently returned from a visit North, where she went for the purpose of recruiting her health, has resumed her labors as an authoress and poetess. Many of the finest articles in Appleton's Journal and Hosmer's Musical Journal, are the production of her ready pen.

Snow in Buncombe.—We learn from the Asheville News that on Friday night last that section of country was visited by a heavy snow storm. On Christmas day the ground was covered with the beautiful flakes six inches deep, and in places where it drifted it lay three feet deep.

Horrid Murder.—Reuben Elback was found in Hillsboro, on Christmas morning, on his bed with his skull broken and his throat cut entirely across, a rope tied around his neck and his mouth stuffed with rags. This foul murder was perpetrated in the very heart of the town.

Reserve Power. It is not wise to work constantly up to the highest rate of which we are capable. It is the engineer on the railroad who to keep the speed of his train up to the highest rate he could attain with his engine it would soon be used up.

The Papal Council.—The "Infallibility Question"—Opposition is too strong, it seems, for the Pope and the ultramontanists. The Council was convened for the purpose of proclaiming the doctrine of papal infallibility, at least for this century. It was a hard blow when the Fulda bishops spoke out against it.

A Card for the Afflicted to Read. Having witnessed the remarkable cures and astonishingly beneficial results of treating diseases by VACUUM, with Dr. Hodgkiss' "EQUALIZER," we have been induced to purchase the Patent-Right, together with a complete set of instruments.

Plantations for Sale. I offer for sale the valuable plantation on which I now live, 3 miles North of Charlotte, containing about 400 Acres—one-third cleared, and the other two-thirds well timbered—situated on good Meadaw.

Material Progress in Japan and China. By mail from Yokohama, Shanghai and Hong Kong we have an illustration of the material advance which is being made in Japan and China, and generally in the Far East, towards a more intimate communication with the European world.

A Young Wife's Secret. "Now, Eliza, after such a delightful wedding holiday as we have had, would it not be a good time to tell me your secret?" A young and happy looking couple were seated at breakfast, on the morning after their short honeymoon trip, when this question was asked.

Children's Etiquette.—Always say "yes, sir," "no, sir," "yes, papa," "no, papa," "thank you," "no, thank you," "good night," "good morning." Use no slang terms. Clean faces, clean clothes, clean shoes, and clean finger nails, indicate good breeding.

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Agricultural. Good Plows and Deep Plowing. Editor Norfolk Journal: Nothing connected with the cultivation of the soil is, and always has been, more imperfectly understood than plowing, and nothing has been more strongly contended than deep plowing.

Let us now look at what is required. All plants take up their food in the form of a solution. Every manure must be dissolved before it can be taken up or absorbed by the roots. Carbon, silphur, and every other element must be dissolved before it can be of any service to the plant. Let not this fact be forgotten, and it will account in a great measure for the action of manures.

Horse Treatment.—There are a very few common sense rules which, if followed, will command themselves to the horse, as well as to the trainer, viz: 1st. Always feed kindly toward a horse no matter what he does to you, and consequently never show "temper."

Finley High School, LENOX, N. C. The Spring Term in this Institution will begin January 12th, 1870. Board per Session, \$50 00 Tuition—Classics, 25 00 English, from \$12 to 18 00

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A Man who would have his Gal. From an old Carolina periodical we clip an anecdote that happily illustrates the customs of the period when physical force was the tribunal before which all questions were brought for arbitration. In one of the upper counties of North Carolina, a young fellow by the name of Ben Sykes had courted a fair one for some years, but either was not ready or not willing, for he never came to the point.

The Chinese as House Servants. We have had glowing accounts lately of the admirable qualities of the Chinese as house servants, but there seems to be an obverse side to the picture. The New York Mail prints the following extract of a letter from a lady who recently went to San Francisco, in which this matter is treated:

Who Killed Stenwall Jackson?—To the N. Y. Evening Telegram.—Major Peyton, Adjutant General to Gen. Kades during the late war, was quite close to Gen. Jackson when he was killed, and gave me an account of that matter. He said Jackson's command was moving forward to the front to relieve Rods. Gen. Jackson rode to the front, leaving strict orders if any cavalry was heard coming down the road to fire. Rods' command had just passed through Jackson's line, when horses were heard galloping down the road, which proved to be Jackson and staff.

Gregory & Williamson. (In Bryce's Building.) Ask the attention of the public to their large stock of Heavy Groceries, Provisions and fine Liquors and Wines.

W. L. SPRING, JAMES OSBORNE, L. W. SPRING. Springs, Osborne & Co. COMMISSION MERCHANTS, 125 North Water Street, Philadelphia.

Notice is hereby given that the firm of R. M. MILLER & CO., was, on the 15th November, dissolved by mutual consent. J. B. McLAUGHLIN, R. M. MILLER, W. J. YATES, Editor of Western Democrat, Charlotte, N. C. [Dec 20, 1869] 3a

A Great Country Ahead. Three hundred and fifty-two thousand five hundred and sixty-nine immigrants landed on our shores from July 1st, 1868, to June 30th, 1869. A trifle over 80,000 of them were under 15, and a trifle over 40,000 were over 40 years of age; and all the rest, numbering nearly a quarter of a million, were in the prime of life, between the ages of 15 and 40 years.

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REMOVAL. GRIER & ALEXANDER, Grocers and Commission Merchants. Are now opening a large and well selected stock of Groceries in the house heretofore occupied by W. J. Black.

F. SCARR, DRUGGIST. Has just received a new Stock of Kerosene Lamps, Of every description, viz: Parlor, Hall, Student and Hand Lamps. Also, Lamps of various styles for Stores.

Valuable City Property for Sale. In obedience to a decree of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg county, I will, as Executor of Wm. M. Berryhill, deceased, sell at the Court House door in Charlotte, on Saturday, the 16th day of January, 1870, at Public Auction, the Real Estate of said Berryhill, consisting of One Lot with three small houses, situated at the Corner of Trade and Graham streets, and opposite the residence of Col. Wm. Johnston.

Fresh Garden, Flower, Fruit, Herb, Tree, Shrub and Evergreen Seeds. With directions for culture, prepaid by mail. The most complete and judicious assortment in the country. Agents wanted.

State of North Carolina, Mecklenburg county. In Superior Court. S. A. Harris, Adm'r, and others against Ezekiel Elms and others. Motion to amend record by striking out the words "Heirs at Law made party defendants."

State of North Carolina, Mecklenburg county. In Superior Court. J. B. Kerr and Alex. Graham against Ezekiel Elms, S. A. Harris, Martin Hendricks and Laura Elms' dricks. Motion to amend the record in this suit at Fall Term, 1869, by striking out the words "Heirs at Law made parties defendants."

State of North Carolina, Catawba county. In the Probate Court. C. A. Hunsicker, Administrator of F. C. Hunsicker, deceased, vs. Adolphus Hunsicker, et al. Petition for null and void Land.