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The First Term of the next Scholastic year will begin August 6th, 1877, and continue twenty weeks.

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REV. S. S. RAHN, A. M., Professor of Ancient Languages and Literature.

H. T. J. LUDWICK, A. M., Professor of Mathematics, Astronomy, &c.

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Education in North Carolina.

There is no one question which above all others, possesses the importance to the people of North Carolina than that of education, for

'It is education forms the common mind—Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined.'

But it is a lamentable fact, but nevertheless a true one, as is shown by statistics, that there are a larger number of adults in the State of North Carolina who cannot read and write than in the case with any other State of the Union.

And this is not at all surprising, when we perceive the almost stolid indifference manifested in the matter by the masses of the people throughout the State.

Take, for instance, the county of Cabarrus as an illustration—a county whose inhabitants very probably possess as much intelligence as can be found in any other section of the State, and observe how much ignorance there is among them, and how few schools are kept up throughout the county, and many of those for only a fractional portion of the year.

There are twelve townships in the county, and there is not one of them in which there could not be one or more good schools established, and kept running throughout the greater portion of the year, if the people would but arouse themselves to the importance of the question.

There has been, and continues to be, too much indifference to this question manifested by our people. It ought not to be, and would not be, if our people would but unite and take the matter in hand in earnest.

Municipal Indebtedness.

Raleigh Observer.

A carefully compiled article in the Galaxy for September presents some startling facts on the subject of municipal indebtedness.

The author solicited statistics from one hundred and fifty of the principal cities, representing every State in the Union. Satisfactory replies were received from one hundred and thirty of these, and on the information thus obtained the following results are based.

The municipal debts of 130 cities in 1876 was \$644,387,663. The assessed value of property was \$6,175,082,158. The annual taxation was \$112,711,272. The population was 8,576,249.

These figures show that the 130 cities referred to owed debts amounting to over 10 per cent. of the assessed value of their property. The average was over \$74 per capita for every man, woman and child of the population. The taxation amounted to 2 per cent. of the assessed value of property—an average for every person in them of \$13.

Taking twelve of the largest cities in the country—New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Chicago, Boston, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Baltimore, San Francisco, New Orleans, Louisville and Pittsburg—the results are still more startling. The population of these amounts to 5,043,618. The assessed value of property is \$4,608,580,981. The municipal indebtedness is \$436,668,119, and the annual interest is \$79,353,777. About 11 per cent. of the whole assessed value of property is owing, and the people are annually taxed 16 per capita.

Based upon these figures the municipal indebtedness of the entire country cannot be short of \$1,000,000,000. A large portion of this amount is due abroad, and vast sums must annually be sent to Europe to pay interest.

When to this vast amount is added our county, State and national indebtedness, the burden resting upon the American people is seen to be truly appalling. But what shall we say when to all this is added the load of individual indebtedness?

MECHANICS GOING TO EUROPE.—

New York, Aug. 28.—This morning about twenty-five carpenters sailed on the Wisconsin. They are under contract for three years each with building firms in Manchester, to receive wages equivalent to \$3.50 per day here, with eight hours work and half holiday on Saturdays.

DIRECT TRADE WITH LIVERPOOL.—

Nashville, August 25th.—The Nashville millers opened a direct trade with Liverpool, via Port Royal, South Carolina, yesterday, by forwarding 1,200 barrels of flour, for which the steamer Mexican is waiting.

The Eastern War.

London, August 28.—The Times' Bucharest correspondent telegraphs: "It is said that the bills around Schipka are covered with Turkish bodies and that their loss already has been as great as that of the Russians at Plevna. The Russians still hold Schipka pass."

Constantinople, August 28.—A telegram from Adrianople announces that the Russians still hold Fort Nicholas in Schipka Pass. The Turks are attacking the highest Russian position in the pass. A large number of Turkish wounded are arriving at Adrianople.

A dispatch from Shumla announces that the Russians occupy Papoki.

London, August 28.—It is noteworthy that no bulletin of Monday's date has yet been received from Russian headquarters concerning the fighting at Schipka pass, although they previously reports daily, and sometimes twice a day.

The Daily News has the following special from Shumla, Tuesday, 28th: "Yesterday, Suliman Pasha made an assault on the Russian position in Schipka pass at 9 o'clock in the morning. The battle, which was sanguinary, lasted until 6 in the evening. The enemy, who were assaulted on both flanks, were unable to resist the attack, and the Turks gained possession of all the earthworks at the opening of the defile."

A telegram to the Times from Shumla also says: "Suliman Pasha has captured nearly all the Russian positions. The Russians lost 3,000 killed and wounded."

The Daily News correspondent with the Russian headquarters before Plevna, says: "The Turks have been receiving reinforcements more rapidly and in greater numbers than the Russians, and are beginning to take the offensive along the line. They are also keeping the Russians on the Plevna front on a continual *quo vive* by concentrating as if about to attack."

The Daily News Vienna dispatch says: "In several churches of Hungary, a *Te deum* has been celebrated, and prayers offered for further Turkish victories. The Vatican has instructed the Bishops to prevent this in the future."

Advices from Russian headquarters at Gorny Studin, dated August 28th, say: "All is quiet this morning. Our troops maintain their positions. The Turks remain under cover behind the neighboring heights out of the range of our batteries. The total number of wounded from August 21st to the 27th, is 2,480, including ninety-five officers. The number killed is unknown. Everything is quiet in the direction of Plevna and Lottscha."

BLOODY AFFRAY.—

We understand that a bloody affray occurred in the "dark corner," a section of country partly in North and partly in South Carolina, which has been notorious as the theatre of lawlessness and violence many years, on Sunday last. Two men named respectively Harrison and Durham, having quarreled on Saturday, met by arrangement on Sunday, accompanied by seconds and friends to fight it out. Harrison shot Durham in the cheek the ball passing out of the back of his head. As soon as he fell his brother rushed up and shot Harrison, killing him instantly.

It is reported by some that one of Harrison's friends thereupon shot and killed "Doc" Durham, but this is contradicted by others. "Bill" Durham, the man first shot was living at last reports, but was sinking rapidly and was not expected to recover.—Hendersonville News Era.

STRANGE STORIES ABOUT TURKISH PASHAS.—

New York, August 24.—The Army and Navy Journal says that the victor of Plevna, Osman Pasha, it is confidently asserted in England from private sources, is none other than that celebrated fugitive from French prisons, Marshal Francois Achille Bazaine. The Journal also states that Mehemet Ali is of French descent, was born at Madgeburg, and originally named Julius Detrouil; that Blum Pasha was a Prussian lieutenant of engineers thirty years ago; that Reschid Pasha was a Lieutenant Streckey, of the Russian artillery; and that Faize Pasha, who beat the Russians in Armenia, is a Swiss.

Remarkable Suicides.

Perhaps the most remarkable suicide on record has been committed in Sweden. A Government official in the district of Ripas, wearied by pecuniary difficulties, took a row with his wife and two children upon a neighboring lake, ostensibly to pass a few hours in fishing, but after getting to a distance at which he could do no harm to others, he applied a match to a quantity of explosive material, supposed to be some form of dynamite, that he had, unobserved, taken with him, and blew the boat and its occupants literally into fragments.

A dreadful occurrence is reported from Bellambi, New South Wales. On the 26th of May the house of a man named Peter Brawen was burned down during the night, and in the morning it was found that the man and two of his children, aged 11 and 13 years, had perished in the flames. Within a few yards of the smouldering ruins there was also a dog with his head nearly chopped off, evidently by an axe lying beside him besmeared with blood. A slate was found near the burned house, with the following written thereon, in the hand-writing of Brawen: "25th May. I cannot live any longer. During the last ten years I have wished a thousands times I had never been born. I love my little children too well to leave them to be tortured by their brutal mother—that dirty, drunken, selfish, and unfeeling savage. I bequeath her to Satan, and curse her with my last breath, and rejoice at the near approach of my end."

Telephony.

Thomas A. Edison, a New York electrician, has perfected and recently brought out an instrument which carries a long step forward the new science of telephony. It is based on entirely novel principles, and differs in toto from the telephones of Professors Gray and Bell. It was proposed to try it between New York and Saratoga, about two hundred miles, a distance which even the simply instrumental telephones have never successfully traversed. To test the practicability of such a feat the experiment was tried yesterday of sending music over a loop of wire to Hartford and back, or 240 miles. This was done at noon yesterday in the Western Union building, Broadway and Dey street, under the supervision of Mr. E. H. Johnson, an able electrician, and Mr. Downer, manager of the central office. Several amateur singers, who had volunteered for the occasion, sang in the end of the tube resembling somewhat the open end of a clarinet, and the music having traversed the 240 miles of wire was reproduced at its termination by a complex and ingenious contrivance in a tone which was audible anywhere within a large room in another part of the building. This result was so entirely satisfactory that it has been determined to give a concert in Saratoga, and Signor Tagliapietro, among other vocalists, has been engaged to sing in this city on that occasion.—N. Y. Herald.

The Georgia Constitutional Convention.

Charlotte Observer.

This body adjourned last Saturday, after having adopted a Constitution which is to be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection on the second Wednesday of December next. The convention made lobbying a crime and declared all lobby contracts null. It enacted especially severe laws against duelling, confirmed the lease of the penitentiary convicts to contractors, forbade the State ever lending its aid, directly or indirectly, to any enterprise, handsomely sustained the State University, refused to tax private libraries except of professional men, reduced the homestead to \$2,500 and gave the husband the right to waive all but \$300 of it. Senators Hill and Gordon spoke to a large crowd in Atlanta, on Saturday night, in favor of the ratification of the new Constitution.

There are in North Carolina according to the Baptist Year Book, 56,289 colored Baptists. There are preaching the gospel of Christ to this multitude of brethren and sisters about 250 colored ministers.

Hold on Boys.

Hold on to your tongue when you are just ready to swear, lie, or speak harshly or use an improper word.

Hold on to your hand when you are about to punch, strike, scratch, steal, or do any improper act.

Hold on to your foot when you are on the point of kicking, running off from study, or pursuing the path of error, shame or crime.

Hold on to your temper when you are angry excited or imposed upon, or others are angry with you.

Hold on to your heart when evil associates seek your company and invite you to join in their mirth, games and revelry.

Hold on to your good name at all times, for it is more valuable than gold, high places or fashionable attire.

Hold on to truth, for it will serve you well and do you through eternity.

Hold on to your good character for it is and ever will be your greatest wealth.

How to Get Along.

Don't stop to tell stories during business hours.

If you have a place of business, be there when wanted.

No man can get rich by sitting around stores and saloons.

Never fool in business matters.

Have order, system and regularity, and also promptness.

Do not meddle with business you know not of.

Do not kick every one in your path.

More miles can be made, in a day by going steadily than stopping.

Pay as you go.

THE JEWS IN TURKEY.—

Washington, August 22.—A dispatch has been received at the Department of State from the United States Minister to Turkey concerning the persecution of the Israelites in the Ottoman Empire. The total number of the Empire is given at 500,000; of this total, Roumania contains 250,000; Asiatic Turkey, 80,000; European Turkey, 75,000; Serbia, 2,000, etc. The United States Minister says that justice to the Turk compels him to admit that the Israelites have been better treated by the Ottoman than by many of the Western powers, and that the impression prevails that they are better treated in the Empire than the Christians. They are recognized as an independent religious community, with the privilege of their own ecclesiastical rule, their chief rabbi, Chacham Bashi, possessing in consequence of his functions great influence.

SENTENCING HER HUSBAND TO BE HANGED.—

Mrs. Morris, a woman Justice of the peace in Wyoming Territory, heard a case of scandalous character, in which her husband was defendant. She sentenced him to be hanged by the neck until dead, and was anxious to have the sentence carried into effect at once, until the attorneys explained to her that she was sitting simply as an examining court. She then held him in bonds of \$18,000,000 to await the action of the Grand Jury, and said she would shoot the first man that attempted to raise the sureties.—Virginia City Chronicle.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—

Camp Robinson, Neb., August 24.—The Sidney coach, from Deadwood, was stopped last night, above Buffalo Gap, by five road agents, who fired into the coach before word was given to halt. Ed. Cook, division superintendent of the stage line, was shot through the ear. The robbers secured \$12 out of about \$1,000 in the possession of the passengers. One passenger, obeying the order to throw up his hands, threw up \$500 with them. It being dark the money was not noticed by the robbers.

CALIFORNIA'S DOG STORY.—

The other day a large Newfoundland dog and two or three smaller untagged curs were taken to the pound, the poundmaster's assistants fastening all the gates but one, which they entered themselves. Then the poundmen prepared to make an onslaught upon the dogs. The big dog jumped over the fence and started off, but the little ones couldn't follow so he went back to the gate and raised the latch from the outside and let them out. The four dogs then ran away at full speed, and left the dog catchers in the lurch. This story is true, and we've got the papers for it.—Savannah Bee.

A COOL ROBBERY.—

One of the coolest robberies on record was committed in this city between 1 o'clock and an early hour in the day of Sunday last, at the store of Mr. J. C. Stevenson, on Market street. The coolness consisted in the perfect nonchalance and consideration displayed by the thief, who, after prizing off an iron bar with which one of the rear windows was latched, and effecting an entrance, helped himself to what change there was in the drawer, cut off a number of slices of ham, leaving the remainder on the counter, and made way with a few oranges and apples, smoked a cigar, and then quietly departed, as he came, the whole extent of his depredations not amounting to more than nine or ten dollars.—WfJ Star.

STARTING IN THE WORLD.—

Many an unwise parent labors hard and lives sparingly all his life for the purpose of leaving enough to give his children a start in the world, as it is called. Setting a young man afloat with money left him by his relatives is like tying bladders under the arms of one who cannot swim; ten chances to one he will lose his bladders and go to the bottom. Teach him to swim and he will never need the bladders. Give your child a good sound education and you have done enough for him. See to it that his morals are pure, his mind cultivated, and his whole nature made subservient to the law which governs man, and you have given what will be of more value than the wealth of the Indies.

AN IMMENSE GRAIN CROP.—

The wheat crop of Ohio for the season of 1877 will be the largest ever known in that State. The wheat area in the State the past season is placed at 2,100,000 acres, which is believed to be smaller than what it actually is, and is an increase of one sixth of the acreage of 1850, when the per acre. At the same average per acre, the yield of 1877 in the entire wheat-growing district of the State, will be 37,800,000 bushels. The other grain crops are very fair, the promise being that the total yield of cereals for the year will exceed by 20,000,000 bushels any previous year. It is calculated that at present prices, the farmers of Ohio will clear at least \$50,000,000 on the year's harvest.—Raleigh News.

DID YOU EVER?—

It is a fact, that during the session of the Criminal Court yesterday a colored individual by the name of Hampton Freeman was called on as a witness. He had been out shopping in the morning and had a couple of pairs of shoes with him when he came into court. Before going on the stand he deposited his bundle on a seat near the bar. And would you think it? Another negro, immediately under the nose of the Judge, in the presence of the Solicitor, Clerk, Sheriff and jury in court assembled, stole that bundle of shoes and got away with it. We would walk to Salisbury to see that rogue tried before Judge Cloud. It would be a show worth seeing.—Raleigh Observer.

'What statue is that?'

asked a stranger, as he gazed upon the marble pile at the west end of the Capitol grounds, the other day.

'That, sir,' said a bystander, 'is the Monument of Peace.'

'Peace,' exclaimed the stranger. 'Are not those two women at the top?'

'Yes; History and America,' was the reply.

'Well, who ever heard of peace where there were two women?' said the stranger, his thoughts, doubtless, wandering off to his mother-in-law.

'The question was a poser, and no one in the crowd attempted to answer it.

A theological student supposed to be deficient in judgment, in the course of a class examination was asked by a professor, "Pray, Mr. E., how would you discover a fool?"

"By the questions he would ask," said Mr. E.

Those who come to you to talk about others are the ones who generally go to others to talk about you.

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