

STATE NEWS. The Week's Cleanings from Our Exchanges. Items of Interest the State Over. Mr. Ben. Saunders, one of the gnards at the stockade near Greensboro, died suddenly in that city Monday night, says the Workman.

FRANCHISE ASSESSMENTS. The board of assessors (Governor, Auditor and Treasurer) have assessed the franchise of railroads, and the following is the valuation the present year as based upon returns received. The figures are the assessments per mile: North Carolina railroad, \$1,000; North-Western North Carolina, \$770; Piedmont railroad, \$2,000; Atlantic & Charlotte Air-Line, \$945; Charlotte, Columbia & Augusta, \$715; Atlantic, Tennessee & Ohio, \$305; Chester & Lenoir Narrow Gauge, \$155; University R. R., \$120; Milton & Sutherlin Narrow Gauge, one-half mile, \$100; Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta R. R., \$875; Jamesville & Washington, \$53; Alma & Little Rock, \$307; Cheraw & Salisbury, \$420; Albemarle & Raleigh, \$213; Western North Carolina R. R., \$417; Asheville & Spartanburg, \$305; Oxford & Henderson, \$435; Midland North Carolina, for 1885, \$300; Danville, Mocksville & South-Western, for 1886, \$70; Scotland Neck, \$400; Norfolk Southern, \$730.

Hints to Settlers. With persons of moderate means who are in search of homes it is a serious question where to locate. While preferring the climate of California to that of any other State, they find great difficulty in making correct calculations in regard to the cost of building up a home and the length of time required to receive an income from the investment. I have had some excellent opportunities for studying this question in all its phases. There is in this State, as in many others, a great deal of good government land unoccupied which may be had by homestead pre-emption. In the northern part of the State and in the foothills generally the land is timbered and requires clearing, which will cost from \$15 to \$50 per acre, either in money or labor. One year's time will be necessary for the preparation of from ten to twenty acres ready for the plow. The second year the soil will not produce an account of its wild nature, and it will be the third year before any returns can be received. From the time of settlement until the farm does pay it is all outgo, and the amount depends upon the size of the family. I would estimate the amount requisite to take a quarter section of Government land and improve it at not less than \$3,000 cash. The person who has no means, or but a very limited amount, may build up a home on Government land by six or eight years of patient labor, and by working for his neighbor when he can and working on his farm when he can not get work out. Improved land can be purchased for the acre at from \$20 to \$50 per acre. Now, if the homesteader would be content with a few acres he could on such land receive an income from the start, and by degrees get a vineyard or orchard planted, which would be in full bearing in four years. Let us suppose that the average yield from a fruit tree is 250 pounds, and for this you receive one-fifth of a cent per pound in the orchard; the result would be 50 cents per tree, and 100 trees per acre would be \$50. Forty acres of land cultivated in this way would bring a yearly return of \$2,000, and be a sure and steady income. Fruit-raising and vine-growing must and will be the principal industries in this State, and the homesteader should bear this in mind and also the fact that it requires three to five years to receive an income from that industry. A system of general culture to a certain extent may be followed on these lands. Small grains, vegetables, etc., can be grown for home use, but not for profit. On the prairie lands of the West as good a crop of wheat or corn may be grown the second year on new lands as in any subsequent one, and a small percentage in the orchard, as long as the land is well cultivated. Here we must wait longer for our first returns, but when they do come they are enough larger and surer to more than cast the balance in our favor.—Cor. Shasta Free Press.

Wilmington Star: In looking over a postoffice directory yesterday we were surprised to find that North Carolina is the seventh State in the number of its postoffices. It has 1,864. The Asheville Citizen says the storm on the Hominy on Saturday evening was the heaviest and most destructive which ever visited that section. The damage to crops and land by the wash is very heavy. The Lumberton Rehearsal says: A construction train of 26 cars from the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad passed through here Wednesday on its way to Fayetteville, there to commence laying track of the Wilson Short Cut. Holland, Montgomery & Co., announce that they will shortly begin the publication in Charlotte, of an independent weekly paper, in the interests of the colored people. It will be called the Vindex and the first issue is to appear July 30th. The Asheville Citizen says: Mr. J. F. Wells tells us of a very large and destructive water-spout on north Turkey creek, Sandy Mush, last Saturday. It damaged crops terribly. Rains have done serious damage to our friends in that section. The Mocksville Times says a gentleman reports that he has a tobacco patch and he knows that over two thousand plants had been cut down and eaten by rabbits, and now the tobacco is ten or twelve inches high the cutting and eating business is still going on. There is a continual increase in the number of northern people settling in the State. A large party of distinguished northerners will arrive here the first part of next week, looking for suitable places to locate. Among the number is Hon. W. M. Stenger, Secretary of State of Pennsylvania.

Durham Recorder: There is plenty of work for the officers of the town to do indicting people for violation of the sanitary laws. Mr. George, the Rector of St. Phillip's church, preached his first sermon yesterday to a large audience. The sermon is highly complimented, and his congregation are well pleased. The State Board of Education met at the Governor's office. The main business of the meeting was to receive bids for the Bible and Carnegie lands in Hyde county. There was one bid submitted to them and that was rejected. The survey of these lands is now going on and the board are determined to press the work as rapidly as possible. Hickory proposes to hold an Industrial Fair. A Fair Association was organized on July 2nd with R. P. Reinhardt, of Catawba as President. Vice Presidents from several counties were also appointed, among this number are J. T. Bostia of Cleveland; J. D. Moore of Gaston; Ambrose Costner of Lincoln, and D. H. Peeler of Burke. This laudable enterprise should be encouraged.

Charlotte Chronicle: Monroe Item—The rains have been incessant and the water courses the highest known in fifty years. Some fine bridges are gone and many considerably damaged. Farmers are despondent. The Fourth of July lasted about three days this year. As it fell on Sunday, some observed Saturday, others Monday. In Charlotte the day was observed by the closing of all the banks, the cotton weaver's office, the mint, and Sunday hours at the postoffice. The Charlotte Chronicle says: J. R. Russel, an Englishman by birth, about 25 years of age, light hair and mustache, went through the pockets of a companion of his and appropriated what money he could find—about \$75 or \$80—adorned himself with some of his companion's wearing apparel, cuff buttons, etc., and his presence then became conspicuous by its absence. He is wanted by the chief of police of this city. Twenty-five dollars is offered for his arrest and detention.

The Greensboro Workman says: On last Tuesday lightning struck Mr. Spike's house on the West Main street, and ran down the inside, shattering the mantelpiece and window lights; at the same time striking a sycamore tree at the end of the house and a corner of the house on an adjoining lot. Other places were affected by the terrible jar, but none seriously. A more singular and remarkable freak of the electric element has hardly ever been known here. The Chadbourne Times says: One of the saddest accidents which has been visited upon this section of the county occurred a few days since in the drowning of Canaday Mitchell, a child about eight years of age. His mother being confined to her bed by sickness, and there being no one else about the house, she sent the little fellow to the well to draw water, and while attempting to do so he fell in. The mother heard the screams of her child, but was unable to render any assistance, lying helpless upon her couch while her child passed from time into eternity.

Parents Needing SCHOOL BOOKS will do well to consult us before buying. ALSO MANUFACTURERS OF AROMATIC SYRUP for disguising Quinine and other nauseous medicines. KIRBY & ROBINSON, Messenger Building, Goldsboro, N. C., Jan. 14-17

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READ THE FOLLOWING TESTIMONIALS: The portraits represented on your engraving, are regarded as the best, of the Confederate Generals, which have been issued. Very respectfully, WADE HAMPTON. * * * The portraits are good, and very much better than any I have yet seen thus grouped.—CUSTIS LEE. * * * The likenesses are good.—G. T. BEAUREGARD. * * * The portraits of the Confederate Leaders represented on your engraving are good.—JAMES LONGSTREET. * * * The likenesses are excellent.—FITZHUGH LEE. Having secured the exclusive control of the above beautiful engraving for the Southern States, by purchasing the whole edition, we have decided to present a copy to each of our subscribers, until the edition is exhausted, in the following order:—First, we will send out one copy to every subscriber now on our books whose account is paid up in full to January 1st, 1887, or beyond that date. We owe this to our subscribers who have by prompt payments and liberal support in the past, made possible the great success of the MESSENGER. Second, we will send out one copy of the Engraving to each of our present subscribers who will between now and Sept. 1, 1886, settle their subscription accounts to at least January 1, 1887. We will inform any of our friends whose account with the MESSENGER is behind, just how much is due up to next January. Third, to all new subscribers who will send us in two dollars for one year's subscription to the MESSENGER, in advance, we will present a copy of the engraving free. We will not guarantee any pictures beyond Sept. 1, 1886. Address, The Messenger Publishing Company, Goldsboro, N. C.

The Messenger Publishing Company, Goldsboro, N. C. STRIKE! WHILE THE IRON IS HOT! The Public are notified that (contemplating enlarging and improving my store) I have determined to reduce my Stock and will close out, commencing MONDAY, June 7th, 1886, Without Reserve, My entire Stock of Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Notions, &c., at Bargains heretofore unknown in Goldsboro. Come and be Convinced. JOSEPH EDWARDS, CHAMPION OF LOW PRICES. Goldsboro, N. C., June 7, 1886.—1m

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