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J. D. KERNODLE, Editor.

AT THE STATE CAPITAL.

The Legislature convened at noon yesterday in the city of Raleigh. The clans got together Tuesday night and agreed upon a division of the officers for the Senate and House.

A. F. Hileman, of Cabarrus, was selected for Speaker of the House. The offices in the Senate and the House, it is learned from the News and Observer, elected by the Republicans are as follows:

First Assistant Principal Clerk—Auxley, of Iredell. Third Assistant Principal Clerk—Battle, of Edgecombe. First Assistant Engraving Clerk—Needham, of Starey. Door-keeper—Hallyburton, of Burke. Reading Clerk—Watson, of Newbern.

In the House only four offices fell to the Republicans for election. They are: Principal Clerk—E. O. Masten, of Wilkes. Reading Clerk—F. B. Benbow, of Yadkin.

Assistant Door-keeper—Abe Middleton, of Duplin. Assistant Principal Clerk—Alex. Berry, of Hyde. The Populists elect the rest of the principal Senate and House officers.

Where there are a number of laborers and assistant clerks necessary they will be divided equally among the Populists and Republicans. The Populists had not named their officers when the latest reports got to the papers.

The Democrats made a proposition to the Populists asking for an arrangement whereby the two parties could co-operate for the election of a free silver Senator. This stirred up the Pritchard Populists and the proposition was referred to the conference committee.

It will be remembered that there has been a good deal said about a number of Populists supporting Pritchard, and this proposition nettled them. Col. Harry Skinner is an ardent advocate of the re-election of Pritchard, whom he says has pledged himself to vote for any and all measures looking to the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, provided it is not a rider to any other bill.

Twenty-seven Populist members announced that they would support Pritchard in the caucus. Seventeen will vote for him no matter what the caucus does. Col. Skinner gave the names of sixteen of them to the News and Observer and they appeared in yesterday's paper. So the election of Pritchard is a foregone conclusion.

WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 1, 1897. No President, not even Andy Johnson, ever held a New Year reception that was attended by fewer Senators and Representatives than were at the White House to-day. The President gave no sign indicating that he noticed their absence, but it is nevertheless certain that he did. Otherwise the reception was a great success.

Mrs. Cleveland never looked better, the cortege of lady assistants never displayed more elegant costumes, the diplomatic corps never made a more gorgeous showing and the army, navy and marine officers were out in force in spick and span new uniforms with gold lace and brass buttons galore.

The Cuban question is awaiting the reassembling of Congress, next week, although there are daily, almost hourly, reports of steps being taken either in Spain, or by Gen. Weyler, or by Secretary Olney and the Spanish Minister which will result in placing it where there will be no occasion for Congress to act upon it. That most of these rumors are originated by persons who are either friendly towards Spain or at least opposed to any action by the present Congress is generally believed in Washington.

The Democratic National Committee makes no secret of using all the influence it can command towards bringing about the re-election of Senator Dubois, of Idaho, who is being opposed by Hanna and his crowd, because he followed his convictions and supported the democratic platform and ticket in the late campaign, and because they think his defeat would result in frightening other silver Senators into continuing to act with the republican party. Most democrats who know the active part Dubois took in fighting for Bryan endorse Senator Blackburn's language.

"We owe Dubois a debt of gratitude, and nothing should be allowed to stand in the way of its settlement. It is a debt of honor, and like all debts of honor, should be paid in advance of all other obligations." Gen. Wheeler, of Ala., one of the democratic members of the House committee on Ways and Means who is carefully attending the tariff hearings now in progress, although he knows that he and his democratic colleagues will not be allowed to have any hand in making the tariff bill, is always emphatic in speech and often dramatic. Nobody was surprised, therefore, when Mr. W. R. Craig, of Vicksburg, Miss., as the representative of the cotton growers of the Mississippi Valley, appeared before the Committee and asked that a duty of 3 cents a pound be put on Egyptian cotton, to see the wily old soldier stiffen up and to hear him say: "The South would be selling its birthright for a mess of pottage to ask for this protection?" Representative Payne thought to faze Gen. Wheeler when he asked him, "What do you call its birthright?" Without turning a hair the Alabamian replied: "Free institutions, free trade, free everything."

Senator Call's term expires Feb. 3, and the Florida legislature which will elect his successor does not meet until April, so that if McKinley calls the extra session together in March, Florida will for a time have only one Senator. According to a member of the Florida legislature, who is now in Washington, Senator Call will certainly be his own successor, notwithstanding the red hot fight which is being made against him. This gentleman says: "The only way that Senator Call can be defeated for re-election is to cede the State back to Spain or abolish the office. I am a member of the Farmer's Alliance and as a great majority of the members of the legislature are Farmers' Alliance men, and not lawyers, I know what I am talking about."

At a public meeting of the McKinley and Hobart Club of this city ex-Commissioner Douglas and that the club organization would be kept up for the purpose of supporting McKinley and Hobart in 1900. When a friend told Speaker Reed about that speech his only comment was "huh." Mr. Reed knows that it isn't the ticket of 1900, but the offices of '97, that the "ex" and

THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CLUB ARE WORRIED ABOUT.

One thing has been made very clear by the first week of the tariff hearings. That is, that the men who have asked for higher duties, on the ground that their business under the present tariff is unprofitable, must have a big surplus to draw upon. None of them looked like men engaged in unprofitable occupations. On the contrary, to a man they appeared well-dressed, well-fed and prosperous, and if they haven't been making money they must have inherited money. They certainly didn't look like men who were "hard up."

NORTH CAROLINA CLAYS.

There is perhaps less known about these than any other of the State's mineral resources. In middle and western North Carolina when a man in the country desires a quantity of brick for building a house or chimney, he usually opens up his own clay bed, makes and burns his own brick. The result of this sort of work has had rather a discouraging effect on persons who know good brick when they see them, as they travel over different parts of the State and see so many chimneys and even houses put up of brick of inferior quality.

But the inferior quality of these brick does not necessarily indicate the inferior quality of the clay from which they were made. In many cases it is due to the inexperience of the brick maker, the improper mixing of the clays, the improper burning, or other causes. And so it often happens that we find in some places brick both of very good quality and very poor quality made from the same clay. The many places in the State at which inferior brick may be seen has given rise to a widespread belief that brick of the best quality are not or cannot be made in North Carolina. Consequently in a number of cases, people who desire to use first class brick have ordered them from other States.

With a view to determining the exact quality of our clays, their distribution in the State and the purposes for which they are best adapted, the Geological Survey inaugurated during the past year a careful examination of the clay deposits in all portions of the State. A large number of samples have been collected and these are to be tested during the present winter in every way, and by every method which can throw any light on the question. In a number of cases the laboratory tests will be supplemented by furnace tests for the fire brick, and by factory tests for brick for ordinary purposes, and in the case of clays for the making of tile, sewer pipe, etc. The report on this subject which it is hoped will be published next Spring, will contain in addition to the information thus gained in regard to the clays themselves, descriptions of the most improved machinery and methods for making brick, tile and sewer pipe of the best quality. In connection with these investigations, we have found that in a number of cases our brick makers are using the crudest sort of methods for the mixing of clays and the making of the brick; and the officers of the survey have received from many of them applications for information along this line. Hence it is hoped that this report will be found useful not only by the persons who desire information about our clay deposits, but also by many of our own citizens who are engaged in the manufacture of brick and other material out of these clays.

All clay is the result of the rotting of rocks. The best of our clays are found along the lowlands bordering the rivers and smaller streams, where they have been deposited by the action of slowly running water, the decayed rock having been washed from the hillsides and the sand and mica and other minerals in these rocks having been separated from the clays through the action of water, and deposited in different localities. And thus it is to-day that the best brick made in the State, like those at Goldsboro, Pomona, Bethania, Fayetteville and Raleigh are made from these stream deposits.

The result of the exploration conducted during the year by the Geological Survey has been to show up very large quantities of clay of excellent quality along the lowlands of many of our important streams, such as the Neuse, Cape Fear, Yadkin, Catawba and others. Many of the best of these deposits have never been opened up nor developed to any extent; but they promise that in the future as the demand grows for good brick and other clay products, we may expect developed in North Carolina large industries along this line. J. A. HOLMES, State Geologist.

Those who have used Dr. King's New Discovery know its value, and those who have not, have now the opportunity to try it free. Call on the advertised Druggist and get a Trial Bottle, Free. Send your name and address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills Free, as well as a copy of Guide to Health and Household Instructor, Free. All of which is guaranteed to do you good and cost you nothing. Sold at T. A. Albright & Co.

Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merit. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from deleterious substance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c per box. Sold at T. A. Albright & Co.

A New Year Text.

Paul advances the theory: "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Here's a text for the New Year—a text to make the New Year really a happy one. How shall you carry it out? By splitting up the burdens into fragments—you take part of mine and I take part of yours, and each one will take part of the other's, and so we will fulfill the law of Christ.

One of the ways towards this end is encouragement. Encourage the merchant. If he has a superior style of goods, tell him so.

Encourage the newspaper men. Be affable to them when you have no ax to grind.

Encourage mechanics. If one has done a job well, tell him it is splendidly done.

Encourage the farmers. There is no class of people in the country who want your sympathy just now more than farmers.

Encourage the doctors. You praise the doctor when he brings you up from an awful crisis of disease, but do you praise the doctor when through skillful treatment of the incipient stages of disease he keeps you from sinking down to the awful crisis?

Encourage the lawyers. Encourage the teachers in our public schools.

Encourage all invalids by telling them how many you have known with the same ailments to get well.

Encourage all starting in life by yourself becoming renaissance. Such is happiness and the road to a happy New Year—Durham Sun.

BOLD SAFE ROBBERIES.

The Charlotte Observer Building Set on Fire—Narrow Escape of Inmates. CHARLOTTE, Jan. 2.—The Observer building sustained a disastrous loss by fire to-night, the result of an explosion in the office of the business manager of the job department, on the second floor.

The explosion was the work of safe robbers, who attempted to blow open the safe in the office. The paper stock in the room was instantly ignited; and the fire spread with such rapidity that the men in the newspaper composing room barely had time to get out, losing their coats, hats and other effects. The second floor was wholly, and the third partly gutted. A new book bindery plant had just been put in on the second floor, and this was entirely destroyed, and all the presses were more or less burned besides the loss of a \$3,000 stock of paper.

The Observer's battery of Mergenthaler type-setting machines was swept by the fire, the bolts being burned and the key boards melted. The loss is fully covered by insurance. The police claim to have a clue to safe blowers. The combination and its workings were blown from the safe and the hinges were missing but the door withstood the shock.

The Observer appeared Sunday morning as usual.

Kentucky Turkey Crop.

The slaughter of turkeys has become a profitable industry in many Kentucky towns, and at this season of the year the traffic in turkey meat is enormous. The Paris News prints some figures showing the extent of the business in Bourbon county: "It is estimated that the turkey crop this year was worth \$123,000 to the farmers of Bourbon county, although the crop was a short one. This year Brent Bros., of Paris, slaughtered in this city about 6,000 turkeys, against 11,000 in 1895 and 18,000 in 1891, paying over \$5,000 this year to Bourbon farmers for the fowls. About 4,000 turkeys were slaughtered at Millersburg, about 4,500 at Clintonville, 600 at Spears' Mills, about 1,500 by Haggard & Smith, in this city, making over 16,000 turkeys killed in Bourbon, including the 6,000 killed by Brent Bros. Besides the \$23,000 paid for the fowls, the sum of \$498 was paid to have the turkeys pickled. Brent Bros. also shipped 11,000 turkeys from Carlisle, and Warren Bacon (for Brent Bros.) shipped 10,000 from Flemingsburg."

Free Pills.

Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merit. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from deleterious substance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c per box. Sold at T. A. Albright & Co.

Some of the Old Year's Fallacies.

Farewell, old 1896. Remember that it was in your time that W. J. Bryan and Co. Watson were defeated and other great calamities occurred. My advice to you is to be modest in history and not monopolize a whole book in the narration of your events. If you had put many men who are now about to survive you away in their political graves the angels would celebrate the New Year with many more companions and the devil would get the due account.

Twenty-First Annual State Convention of the Y. M. C. A.

The twenty-first Annual State Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association, will meet at Winston-Salem, Feb. 19-22. Messrs. W. C. Dowd, Chas. W. Tillett, J. M. Rogers and Geo. B. Hanna, were appointed a committee to arrange a programme which will be one of the strongest ever presented. Delegates from all the Young Men's Christian Associations in North Carolina, and all Christian workers will be welcome. All persons interested should correspond with Mr. F. P. Turner, State Secretary, Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. S. M. Sayford, College Evangelist, has recently visited the following institutions in North Carolina: Trinity College, University of N. C., Davidson College, Agricultural & Mechanical College and Wake Forest College. Although his stay at each institution was very short, the Christian men were very greatly helped and many students entered into a covenant to move forward in their christian life. Mr. Sayford holds a unique position; representing no organization or movement. He has for the past nine years devoted all his time and strength to Christian work among the colleges, during which time he has visited more than 300 institutions. God has wonderfully blessed him in this work.

A Danville Tobaccoist Falls.

Danville Va., Jan. 2.—John W. Holland, for many years a prominent tobaccoist in this city, but for the past eight years retired, yesterday afternoon made an assignment to Berryman Green, trustee.

Mr. Holland does not owe a dollar on his own account, but was security for his brother, the late C. G. Holland, on notes aggregating \$148,000. Sui's on some of these notes were recently entered and in order that all creditors should be placed on an equal footing this assignment was made. The notes are held by banks in Danville, Richmond, Petersburg, Lynchburg, Baltimore and other places. The assessed value of the property conveyed is about \$200,000.

Colorado Curiosities.

Durham Sun. George W. Howard, who lives on East Main street, a few days since received a box of curiosities from a relative at Aspen, Colorado. In the box was a hind foot of a rabbit, the foot being at least six inches long. It is supposed to be that of a Jack rabbit, some of which grow to an enormous size in the West. There were several pieces of ore, among the rest being gold and silver ore. A claw of something resembling a chicken's foot was also with the rest, supposed to be that of some bird. Two copies of a small paper, entitled "Our Record," were sent with the curiosities.

A Big Tree in Rowan.

Some time ago Mr. John Benson cut on the lands of Mr. Robt. Fleming, on Fourth creek in Rowan county, a white oak tree which measured 15 feet in circumference—5 feet across the stump—and was clear of limbs for 66 feet. The tree was cut into 7 sections. The first—7 feet in length—too big to handle. The other 6 were hauled to Teague Bros. & Current's mill and made into shingles. They turned out 13,101 shingles and the shingles were sold for \$3 per 1,000. Pretty good for one tree.

Calendars and Coupons.

So many beautiful calendars and entertaining novelties have been issued by the proprietors of Hood's Sarsaparilla, that we are hardly surprised to receive this season not only one of the very prettiest designs in calendars, but with it coupons which entitle the recipient to attractive novelties. Every one who gets a Hood's Sarsaparilla calendar for 1897 secures something that will prove interesting and valuable as well as a beautiful specimen of the lithographer's art. The calendar is accompanied this season by an amusing little book on "The Weather." Ask your druggist for Hood's Coupon Calendar, or send 6 cents in stamps for one to C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Effective Advertising.

"Did you observe," said a merchant to a customer, "that handsome sign I had painted on the wall of my place?" "No, I haven't," replied the customer, "but if you will send the wall around to my place I will try and read the announcement. I read the papers and have not time to go around and read the bill-boards." And the merchant scratched his head and walked off.

Catarh is a constitutional disease and requires a constitutional remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla, which purifies the blood.

Fits Cured. From Dr. J. C. Peckham's... Hood's Sarsaparilla. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS.

A detective agency has been established at Charlotte with Wm. M. Hollin, superintendent.

David A. Crandall was murdered by John Kreed, in Pitt county Christmas day. They were drunk.

Judge Coble's new 8 room residence in Statesville was burned. Most of the loss was covered by insurance.

Several Republican legislators say that the speaker of the house will be a populist and that every Democratic officer will be removed.

Major C. Dowd, of Charlotte, who has been engaged in writing a life of Senator Vance, has about completed his work.

The dwelling of Dr. Brooks, of Ashe county, was burned recently with its contents—including \$400 in cash. Fire supposed to have been incendiary.

The Raleigh correspondent of the Charlotte Observer says 36 Morion elders are laboring in this State, spreading their doctrines. They are scattered over 36 counties.

We'll have to drop out of the turnip contest. A Gaston county man has one that weighs 144 pounds—one-half pound more than the record product, says the Landmark.

The colored military company of Charlotte, Chas. S. L. A. Taylor, commander, is so very anxious to go to Cuba and fight for the insurgents that they can't sleep, says an exchange.

The Lenoir Topic says Congressman Linney is preparing an address on the life of Abraham Lincoln to be delivered before an association in the city of Boston on the 12th of January.

The official report on the cost of public printing under the present fusion contract shows that it is \$8,500 greater than for the previous two years. "To the victors belong the spoils."

Archibald Brady, ex-cashier of the Charlotte Loan and Savings Bank, has been indicted for embezzlement. Brady defaulted last summer but the loss was made good by his friends.

The McKinley wave struck Windsor week before last. Slow collections and low prices forced Saunders & Sutton, leading merchants there to the wall. They turn over everything to their creditors.

Mrs. Beasley, of Durham, was arranging a bedding bed when it suddenly took a "notion to shut up," and whacked her on the head with such severity that she was laid up for a couple of days.

The Wilmington Star says Alexander Sprunt & Son of Wilmington, will handle 200,000 bales of cotton this season, which is the largest amount of that staple handled by any firm in any place in the United States.

The State Department of Agriculture says the yield of this year's cotton crop in the State is 122 per cent, as compared with last year's; but last year's crop was not over \$35,000 bales, while this year's is a little over 400,000 bales.

Newbern Chronicle, 21st: Mr. Stewart Dixon of Greensboro, came to this city yesterday and while standing in the store of Mr. J. B. Holland dropped dead. Mr. Dixon was 72 years old and was loved and respected by all who knew him.

Jim Green, colored, a newcomer in the lower part of Richmond county, was lynched Christmas night by a number of white men, strangers in the neighborhood. It is supposed that they came from South Carolina, and lynched Green for some crime committed in that state.

Goldsboro Argus, 20th: Several office seeking Republicans came along the line of the A. & N. C. R. R. in the city today. They have had another restraining order served against the meeting of the stockholders of the above road called for tomorrow in this city.

Charlotte News: A young colored boy in Greensboro couldn't wake his friend easily, so he procured a shot gun and pulled the trigger close to his comrade's ear. Somehow the gun slipped, and instead of waking up the boy put him to sleep. It is to be hoped that this method of awakening sleepers will not become the fashion, as it is a bit uncomfortable for the sleeper.

When people are obliged to take medicine they want that it shall give quick relief and not add discomfort to their sufferings. Three reasons why people who suffer with Constipation and Biliousness should take Simmons Liver Regulator: "It is Better than Pills, it does not grip; it gives quick relief, and does not weaken but strengthens and refreshes the whole system."—J. K. Hiland, Monroe, La.

CASTORIA. The best... Hood's Sarsaparilla. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

There was a remarkable jail delivery at Wilson last Thursday. There were seventeen prisoners in the cells. Sheriff Cherry turned them in the corridor to have some work done in the cells. After the work was done the sheriff tried to get the prisoners to return to their cells, but they refused. There was no one to aid the officer, and some of the prisoners held the officer while one took the keys, opened the door and the whole crowd made a rush for liberty. Many men were in the neighborhood of the jail and gave chase to the prisoners, who were running in all directions. They were all caught except six.

"Excuse me" observed the man in spectacles, "but I am a surgeon, and that is where the liver is," retorted the other. "It was in his big toe or his left ear DeWitt's Little Early Risers would reach it and shake it for him." Simmons the Druggist.

There are now thirty six Mormon elders (or missionaries) at work in this State. They are widely scattered. All in charge of Elder A. C. Hubbard, who is known as the presiding elder. He also travels, as do the others. The Mormons have what they call a conference in this State, and it meets annually. The elders assert that they do not advise their converts to go to Utah, but to remain where they are and act as "heaven" to make others. Most of the elders are young, some almost boyish, and do not appear to be of an educated class. They say that their church does not advance money or give it to persons who insist on going to Utah, but say the elders sometimes advance it themselves. The elders always work in couples because they say the disciples did so.

The length of life may be increased by lessening its dangers. The majority of people die from lung troubles. These may be averted by promptly using One Minute Cough Cure. Simmons the Druggist.

Some of the Republicans in the western part of the State are holding public meetings and dividing up the pie. The Asheville Citizen says the Republicans of Jackson county have held a meeting and adopted resolutions recommending K. J. Harris for the collector for this district, J. M. Moody for district attorney, and J. J. Hooker for assistant district attorney. Cherokee county Republicans, in public meeting assembled, have declared for J. G. Grant, of Hendersonville, for collector, and for Felix P. Axley for assistant district attorney.

Absolutely pure, perfectly harmless, and invariably reliable are the qualities of the One Minute Cough Cure. It never fails in colds, croup and lung troubles. Children like it because it is pleasant to take and it helps them. Simmons the Druggist.

It is learned from the Chatham Record that Mr. Robert N. Green, of Hickory Mountain township, that county, died on 23rd ult., aged 84 years. He was a prominent and highly esteemed citizen and twice represented Chatham in the Legislature, in 1858 and in 1860. He was buried at Pleasant Hill on Christmas Day.

The colored Methodist Conference sent Rev. McLees to a church in Charlotte but the congregation refused to receive him because they say he is a Democrat.

Ingle & Jobe sell coffins and caskets cheaper than any other house in North Carolina. Opposite city Market, Burlington, N. C.

Scrofula. Makes life misery to thousands of people. It manifests itself in many different ways, like going, swellings, running sores, boils, salt rheum and pimples and other eruptions. Scrofula is a man is wholly free from it, in some form. It clings tenaciously until the last vestige of scrofulous poison is eradicated by Hood's Sarsaparilla, the One True Blood Purifier. Thousands of voluntary testimonials tell of suffering from scrofula, often inherited and most tenacious, positively, perfectly and permanently cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion. Other Locals. —Go to Ingle & Jobe, leaders in low prices, for your coffins and caskets. They will not be undersold. Forty men were killed by an explosion of fire-damp in a coal mine in Hungary. —School Committees desiring to purchase desks should examine the samples in the county examiners office in the court house. —When you are in need of printing call on THE GLEANER, where you will find an assortment of first class stationery. Prices reasonable—work first class.