—ADVERTISEMENTS:—As an advertising medium, The Topic ranks "A No 1" among the newspapers of Western North Carolina, In the countie of Caldwell, Watauga and Ashe its circulation is greater than that of all other secular newspaper combined; while it has a large and constantly in the country of country in the country of country in the country of country creasing circulation in Burke, Alexander, Mitchel Wilkes and Alleghany and throughout the State Advertisements inserted at low rates in propertion

-JOB PRINTING :- THE TOPIC JOB PRINTING department is complete. With good presses and large assortment of new and beautiful type, job work of all kinds, pamphlets, circulars, posters, catalogues, minutes, bill heads, letter heads, cards, &c., &c., executed on short notice and at the lowest

REMITTANCES:—Money may be sent at our risk, by check, registered letter, or post office money order. Money sent otherwise is at the risk of the sender.

communications containing items of local or general interest respectfully solicited. Manuscripts intended for publication must be written on oneside of the paper, and accompanied by the name of the writer, as a guarantee of good faith.

As will be seen in the Legislative report, a new railroad commission bill was under discussion last, week.

LAST Saturday week Dr. Wm. B. Wood, a prominent physician at New Orleans, and a native of this State,

JOHN W. FOSTER has been appointed by the President envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Spain.

AT the last term of Forsyth Supe rior Court one of the jurors was convicted of some crime and sentenced to work on the railroad.

THERE is a movement among th Lutherans to collect funds for the purpose of erecting a colosal brouze statue of Martin Luther at Wash

ALTHOUGH Monday was the day appointed for the adjournment of the Legislature it will probably remain session until the last of this week, by which time all of its business will doubtless be transacted.

JUDGE A. C. HASKELL has been made President of the C. & G. and C. C & A. Railroad, the two roads having been consolidated under one management. The latter road is the one holding the C. & L. R. R. under

THE new eighth Congressional Dis trict, it seems to us, is very happily constituted. Although the Raleigh News and Observer said that one of the difficulties in the committee's way was a disinclination to break up the "happy family" of the eld eighth, we must say, as far as Caldwell is concerned, that we are much better satisfied with the new than with the old district. The Gastonia Gazette, speaki ing for the southern section of the district, says "if there are any object tionable in the arrangement, features we fail toobserve them."

On the 25th of February the city of Staunton, Va., was startled by the appoundement that five lunatics, live ing at the Insane Asylum at that place, had suddenly and simultaneously dropped dead that morning. Investigation proved that the apothe cary of the establishment had fixed up the doses of medicine for the var rious patients and placed them on a waiter in the ballway, where they remained an bour before the wardens took them away. As the patients who died staid in separate wards and were attended by different wardens, it is supposed that the poison, prusi sic acid, was placed in the doses during the interval of an hour by some lunatic or a sane person possessed of the devil. The whole affair is a mys tery and is being worked up.

On Saturday of last week, ex-Judge John M. Cloud, who was returning from a trip to his Florida plantation, died on hoard a passenger coach of the C. C. & A. railroad en route to Charlotte just a short while before the train reached the latter place. He died from a stroke of speplexy. Judge Cloud was born in Stokes county about the year 1807. He practiced law in Stokes and Surry before the war, but at the close of where he has resided ever since. The career of Judge Cloud on the bench is familiar to our readers, not withstanding his eccentricities, his hard, common sense and correct, upright character made a just judge of him, though he was assuredly unfitted by nature and education to adorn the Judicial ermine however honest he may have been. He was a zealous republican and a man of strong prejudices. He was a consin of Judge Bynum, of this State, and of Senator Hampton, of South Carolina. He leaves a bandsome estate which will

THE Ittinois Legisla ure is considering a bill providing for compulsory education of all children between

law,

necessity for such

least, without a most dry is criminal negligence. To provide good schools is the first duty of a commonwealth and after to provide for the attendance upon them, of all persons for whom they were instituted. In this progressive age people who have been so unfortunate as to miss an education appreciate at what disadvantage they are placed and they should see to it that their children have not this handicap, of ignorance to pull them back and retard their getting along is the world. Public interest in such matters has as much (or more) to do with public schools as do the enactments of a Legislature. If the people demand a flexible system of education, which they can bend to suit their requirements they

are pretty sure to get it min ways for THE LEGISLATURE. FORTY-SEVENTH DAY.

Senate called to order at 10 o'clock.

CALENDAR. Bill to authorize the county of Pen.

der to issue bonds. Bill passed third reading-yeas 28,

and mid the matter was all TOBACCO WEIGHERS.

Mr. Cozart introduceo a substitute for his hill for the appointment of weighers in tobacco warehouses. The substitute leaves the appointment of the weighers to the warehousemen, on the petition of fifty farmers; fixes a uniform price for weighing and only allows three per cent. on the gross sales and ten cents a hundred for

Mr. Berry called the previous question, and the bill passed its third read

Bill to establish graded School in Lenoir township, in Caldwell county, passed third reading, year 36, nays 0.

Bill to require the commissioners of McDowell county to compromise, commute and settle the county debt. Passed second reading -ayes 36, nays

Resolution to furnish Superior Court judges and solicitors copies of the acts of the General Assembly of this session. Passed its third read-

Bill to amend the law in regard to sheriffs' fees (requires the money on all executions paid to the sheriff him. self) passed third reading.

Bill to incorporate the Platonic Literary Seciety of Rutherford College. Passed its third read-

Bill to divide North Carolina into.

nine congressional districts. Mr. Strayborn saked that the bill be printed. He said that it's being here right at the end of the session. was the fault of the committee if it was anybody's fault, and he hoped it would be printed.

Mr. Dotson, also was in favor, of giving the minority, side the opportunity to read the bill. The motion prevailed on 72 sear hoois pley s

At 1:30 the Code came up as special order on third reading. Mr. Clarke moved that it be read,

The Reading Clerk opened the mmerse volume and began to all od bus . Isnotimilitativos

The Clerk went on with the reading of the immense volume of twelve bundred pages, and for montyers

The chair soon stopped the reading and said : "Whenever it is the pleas ure of the Senators to come to order and listen to the rea ling, the chair will direct the clerk to proceed." (There was a pause of some minutes till the Senators were seated and the buzz subsided,) and the chair then said : "The clerk will proceed." The

reading went on, At 2: 35 the reading was ended, and the chair-(Mr. Morehead in the chair) said : "Shall the bill pass its third reading. Senators? those of you in favor of the bill on its third read. ing will answer yes, those opposed,

no." The roll was called vairy bos a Mr. Strayborn and Mr. Mebane inight mites t mod yed; half I tad ?! explained that they would like to vote for the bill, but as it contained county government they couldn't do so. The vote stood: yeas 38, nays 10, so the bill passed third reading.

hen taken up and disposed of Rose in the Chair. A 1988 Shr.

CONTESTED ELECTION CASE The majority report on the contest. ed election case from Northampton county was taken up and read. After giving detailed evidence, the report concludes with this resolution : Re was lost. The bill then passed year solved, That G. H. Parker was elected descend by inheritance to relatives no ed and entitled to occupy the seat Mr. Hill pffered an amendment

R. B. Peebles, and that the said Peeblesswas not elected to the some

ority report to morrow: er time to get at the full Sp

her discussion, and House granted Mr. Simmons' request, and the minority report will come np temorrow morning.

CALENDAR.

77. Passed third reading as the To amend chapter 58, private laws

ine yellow tobacco along 7,9781 10 To amend section deschaptes 1115. laws of 181 Lapessed taird reading

mportance of the resources of the

doidy aNIGHE SESSIONITTO bus of The following bills passed third readings For Relief of former greditors of Fayetteville; to amend wharter of Asheville; to smend law in regard to market house, &c., at Wilmington; to incorporate Mt. St. Joseph Acade

my. Catawba county. The same To incorporate Mt. St. Joseph Academy at Hickory, Catawha county. Third reading rear evil at eldayaq To incorporate the Loftin Silver

and Lead Mining Company to the To amend chapter 102, laws of railway and sent to the Northmal 881. To incorporate the Salisbury Water

Works Company-west very very visit To provide for the alternate keeping in repair of county roads,

FORTY-EIGHTH DAY.

SENATE .- Senate was called to order at 10 ofclocks deta med I

OH THE WIRBLES, IN . I LIKE Mr. Lovill to establish a new township in the county of Ashe. I make

bes .xcCALBNDAR.ft to faile Bill to empower the board of com. missioners of MaDowell dounty to compromise, commute and settle the county debt passed third readingyeas 88, nave 0,1 Anetti nit to sin

Bill to establish a new township in the county of Ashe, passed third readring. benitan Hew the a con-

Bill to provide for the levying and collection of taxes the machinery act. hMr Alexander said the most material changes were that it made three assessors instead of one, and prevented the uses of public money for private purposes.

The finance committee offered amendments preventing the sheriffs and county treasurers from using the public money for private purposes

Mr. Pinnix suggested to consider the amendments "seriatim." This was done, the Senate amendments. more or less, all applied to the sheriffs and the county treasurers. Another amendment provides to indict that class of able bodied persons able to work but won't and who won't pay their taxes, making it a misdemeanor to be fined double their taxes and allowing them to work it out on the roads if they fail for six months after they are returned on the insolvent. lists, and an amendment from Mr. Womack to this making the chairmas of the board of the county | commissioners a prosecutor before the justice of the peace. These amend ments excited much discussion. Mesers. Linney and Watson advocating them, and Messrs, McLean, Ping nix, Black and Bichardson opposing them. Long ther connect.med.

Mr. McLean asked the aves and noes (on them Ordered -avea 20. noes 17, so the amendments were adopted. The bill then passed its

sthird reading our readstand of loa Bill to amend section 1. chapter 232, laws 1879, passed its third read along eves his beaving broast, .gol.

Bill to suthorize the chairman of the finance committee to administer oaths, Passed third reading

Resolution from Mr. Dortch begin ning night session of the Senate was adopted arried form was west said Bill to make appropriations for the

Incana Asylumes month all hofeman Mr. Pemberton offered an amende ment to strike out section 5, being the appropriation to the Western Asylum at Morgapton, Also an amendment

to strike out \$58,000 and insert ne and friends Five supp. 000,008 Mr. Levill thought the first amend ment ought not to prevail, but that the second should to some la latwa

On motion of Mr. Hill, the bill was made special order for 8 g'olock to-

Bill to appropriate fifty dollars a year for the penitentiary Sunday School passed third reading, me year oal then on Noiseas Thorn Migray Ind

Bill making appropriation to the insane asylums came np. and was House.-House met, with Speaker discussed at length. An amendment to reduce the smount, for the comples tion of the asylum at Morganton from \$35 000 per year to \$25,000 was discussed by Mesert. Pemberten, Borkin, Battle, Linney, Ha Watter, il Payne, Clarke, Webb., Womack, Pinnig. 14

.83. paye 8of feeloof aruge year medt married.

Northampton, county, now held by saylum at Baleigh from \$58,000 to

Senate adjourned.

roods by taxation. It passed second The House then went into commit-

of the bill to raise revenue, which was read by sections.

Amendment was made to section 23, by striking out \$5 and inserting \$15; by striking out \$25 and insert ing \$50, and by adding the word

"itinerant medical practitioners." Section 25 (relating to the mer chaule' tax) preduced much debate several amendments thereto being offered looking to the reduction of the

Mr. Leneir, favored the section as it was in the bill ; the farmer makes but one profit on his crop; the mer chant repeatedly turns his profits

During the discussion the hour of adjournment was announced; the committee arose and reported pro-

NIGHT SESSION. The special order, the Parker Peebles election case, was taken up. and discussed by Mesers, McLoud, Simmons and Peebles. A vote was not had until hearly midnight.

On the resolution of the majority that Parker was entitled to the seat, the vote was: Yess 88, nays 14.

Mr. Parker came forward, qualified and took his seat.

FORTY, NINTH DAY. SENATE. - The Senate was called to order at 10 o'clock.

THE INSANE ASYLUMS. Bill making appopriations to the insane asylums of the State came up as unfinished business of last night. The bill passed its third reading.

Bill to authorize the establishmen

of graded schools in the State. Mr. Pemberton explains objects of this bill, saying it was intended to meet the wants of the cities and towns that had no graded schools. The bill provides that 100 tax paying citizens, one forth of whom shall be freeholders, may petition the board or commissioners, who may order election. It provides for election of trustess of such schools, and

five cents on poll. The bill passed its third reading. Yeas 28, nays none.

limits special assessments to one-

fourth of one per cent. and seventy-

NINE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS. The President announced that the hour of 11 a. m, for the special order had arrived, it being the bill to divide the State into nine Congressional districts. Passed its third reading.

lote W. N. C. B. R. Bill for the sale of the State's interest in the Western North Carolina Railroad., out we tor my the of re

Mr. Morehead said said he saw no phance for adjourning next Monday that this was a very important bill. and moved it be printed, including the report of the committee. So order. father of which he owner was ... be

CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS Mr. Loftin's bill, entitling Contederate soldiers to the benefit of the act passed, giving those of them who had lost eyes, hand or feet, \$5 a month from the date the act was ratified in 1879, passed third reading.

Bill supplemental to act at present session making February and August terms exclusively for trial of civil causes, allowing jail deliveries at these terms, passed third reading. DOS THE STATE GUARD.

Bill for the encouragement and support of the State Guard. Mr. Dortch's bill. Authorizes the Gove ernor to pay \$150 a year to each sotive company; not to exceed 25 companies in the State; the adjutant General to AGENTO WANTED-Outsite now ready \$1. For particulars address Douglass Bros, Phila. Ps.

\$50,000. Pending argument, the be appointed by the Governor; and gives him a salary of aix bandred -yeas 19.

the bill pa ding and ed its second third reading hen pass 37. laws of 1879. Medifies relative to freights, Passed third

Bill as to conditional sales, require registered as mortgages, passed third reading.

Bill to throw ittiedicate slands into the Board of Education, so that they could sell them, passed its third read.

Bill to secure creditors a fast divisi ion of the estates of debtors; substitate from the committee adopted, and the bill passed third reading.

AGAINST FREE PASSES, TAUGUL Mr. Dortch's bill against allowing ree passes came up. Many Senators notified the Chair of amendments sweep of the Norsess THORNES a

Discussion of Mr. Dorters bell in business. against free passes was resumed state The question recurred on the passage of the original bill. There was see us. a lively time, in explanation of votes, &c. The vote stood : Year 54, nays

12 : so the bill passed its second readve report, however general and .gol House - The House, was called to order by Speaker Rose.

Biles min a diw he Mr. Lenoir, to aid in the construction of a road in Watauga county,

RAILROAD COMMISSION. Bill to establish a railroad comm's. sion came up. Mr. Tate offered a substitute providing, I. To make it unlawful for any railroad in the State to charge for lickets more than 3 cents per mile. 2. To make it anlaw. ful for any Company to discriminate against any town br section. 3. Com missioners to consult with railroad authorities and agree upon just and uniform freight rates. 4, 5 and 6. To appoint three commissioners and clerk, with salary of commissioners \$2,100, and of clerk \$1200, and \$600 for rent and expenses, the same to be provided by a tax on railroads of one mill for every passenger transported. Pending discussion adjourned.

SALE BY U. S. MARSHAL.

BY VIRTUE of an execution in favor of the nited States against J. M. Webb, returnable to the United States against J. M. Webb, returnable to the United States District Court, Spring Term 1888, at Statesville, N. C., I will sell for CASH to the highest bidder at Lenoir in Unidwell County, N. C., on Monday, the 2nd day of April, 1883, the interest of the above mained defendant in and to the following

property:

THE LAND where he now lives, adjoining the lands of Madison Gragg and others, lying on Wilson's Creek and containing 450 acres, more or less.

DEEDS made at the cost of the purchaser.

R. M. Dovelas,

U. S. Marshal, Western District N. C.

By H. O. STEELE, U. S. Deputy Marshal.

FEB. 21, 1883.—mb28.

BOY LOST!

MY SON, about 15 years old, has been absent several weeks. He has red hair and a fair complexion. All persons are hereby forbidden to employ him. Any information concerning him will be Yellow Hill, Wilkes County, N. C.

THE UNION TRUST COMPANY.

DDLPHIA, PA. CAPITAL, \$1,000,000. | CHARTER PERPETUAL Acts as Executor, Administrator, Assignee, Re-ceiver, Guardiean, Attorney, Agent Trustee and Committee, ylone or in connection with an individu-al appointee,

Takes charge of the property of absentees and not residents, collects and remits income promptly, and discharges faithfully the duties of every fiduciary trust and agency known to the law. Sages for Bent within Burglary-proof Vaults of the Wills kept in Fire and Burgiar-proof Safes without tharge. Histo, securities and all other valuables securely kept at a mederate annual charge for sale return or specific indemnity,

Car Trusts and other approved securities for

Interest allowed on Moneya deposited for definite periods, or upon ten day's notice,

W. C. PATTERSON, President
HIESTER CLYMER, Vice President.
MAHLON S. STOKES, Treasurer.
FRANCIS BACON, Sec'y and Trust Officer. HON. R. E. MONAGHAN MON. R. E. M. V. West Chester, Pa; GEN. W. W. H. DAVIS, Doylestopn, Pa. CHAS. W. COOPER, Alleutown, Pa. Philadelphia, Pa.; HON. T. F. RANDOLPH.

t, copper mining and parameters. HI - SERIARD



ancient description, settlers, with other industries; also

bills thou mayout dig brass." I active intelligent and piofitable THEY can be induced to sell at any time to responsible parties who pay down the cash or good marketable produce.

1883

The old year with its success and disappointments has gone and as we enter upon the duties of the new year we present our best wishes to our friends and customers and as the same time return thanks for the liberal patronage given us in the past and which we hope to merit in the future. Our patrons shall continue to have the benefit of our former motto "nolite attention, short profits, 16 ounces to the pound and 36 nches to the yard." As for goods we shall keep an attractiv tock of general merchandise suited in PRICE, QUANTITY AND QUALITY, to the wants of our market. To be brief, we intend to keep step to the music of the times and lag behind no one

Purchasers visiting Lenoir are cordially invited to call and

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous year, we remain,

Very truly yours,

Cloyd & Nelson.

Look! Bargains!

I HAVE opened a nice lot of

GROCERIES AND NOTIONS

Next door to S. W. Hamilton, which I will sell for Cash or Barter VERY CHEAP. Call and examine before buying elsewhere. I also have opened a tin shop and will do all kinds of TIN WORK both on new and old ware. All kinds sheet iron and Tin work solicited. J. S. P. HAMILTON.

WIESENFELD.

Gener'l Merchant

STATES INTELLED.

Lenoir N. C.

Offers his well selected stock of

GOODS

prices for

Lenoir, N. C., March 7, 1888.