

# The Lenoir Topic

VOLUME X.

LENOIR, N. C., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1885.

NUMBER 29.

Wallace  
Bros.,

STATESVILLE, N. C.

Wholesale Dealers

General Merchandise

Largest Warehouse

and best facilities

for handling

dried fruit, berries, etc., in

the State.

RESPECTFULLY

Wallace  
Bros.

August 27th, 1864.

J. M. SPAINHOUR,  
Graduate Baltimore Dental College,  
Dentist.  
Lenoir, N. C.

Uses no Impure Material for  
Filling Teeth.  
Work as Low as Good  
Work can be Done.  
Patients from a distance may  
avoid delay by informing  
him at what time they  
propose coming.

F. LEE CLINE,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
HICKORY, N. C.

EDMUND JONES,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
LENOIR, N. C.

CLINTON A. CILLEY,  
Attorney-At-Law,  
Lenoir, N. C.  
Practice in All The Courts.

## The Russo-English Bone of Contention.

*Baltimore Sun.*  
The territory under dispute between Russia on the one hand and Afghanistan and England on the other is the fertile province of Badkhis, which, being bounded on the south by the Paropamisus range of mountains, and embracing the country between the Murghab and Heri-Rud rivers, extends northward toward the Russian province of Turkistan. All the recognized official maps, whether English or Russian, have until recently agreed to define its northern boundary and at the same time the northern boundary of Afghanistan by a line running somewhat vaguely eastward from Sarakhs across the Turcoman desert to Khoja Saleh, on the Oxus. In the summer of 1883, when the Viceroy of India granted the Ameer Abdurrahman an annual subsidy, the latter asked for a map of his dominions. His request being granted, the Ameer found his north-west frontier extending, as he had anticipated, beyond Sari Yazid and Pendjeh on the Murghab. About a year ago he occupied the latter place, deeming its possession necessary in order to cover the road leading to Balkh and other portions of northern and northeastern Afghanistan. His title to Pendjeh is disputed by the Russians, both by reason of the recentness of this occupation, and by reason of the fact that the whole Badkhis district is peopled in the main by Turcomans and "belongs, therefore, ethnologically to Turkestan." It is urged on the other hand by the Ameer that military occupation is not to be regarded as the only possible proof of title; that Shere Ali, or his son, Yakoob Khan, certainly held Badkhis from 1863 to 1879, and during that period, as well as at earlier times, the Sariks who inhabit Pendjeh paid tribute to the Herat government. Of the latter fact the registers of the Herat administration bear ample testimony. Vazir, who traversed this region in the early days of Shere Ali's authority, is explicit on the point of its being Afghan territory, and asserts, in fact, that it has been Afghan for over two centuries. The Russian foreign office in 1873 conceded that this region was outside the sphere of Russian influence, and the Russian ambassador at London in 1882 reiterated this statement. When, in 1883, the British government committed itself irrevocably, by definite assurances to the Ameer, to the policy of maintaining the integrity of Afghanistan, the necessity of marking out, through the agency of an international boundary commission, the limits of Afghanistan to be protected became evident. When, twelve months ago, Russia seized Merv, ignoring her repeated declarations to the British foreign office that she had no intention of appropriating the Tekke stronghold, this necessity of a delimitation of frontiers became more pressing. A further advance to Sarakhs being followed by vigorous protests, Russia declared her readiness to delimit the Afghan frontier "from the Oxus to Sarakhs." The English accepted the suggestion, and at once appointed Sir Peter Lumsden to proceed to Badkhis to join with a Russian commissioner in marking out a boundary line, and he has been for some months on the ground awaiting the arrival of Gen. Zelenov, the Russian commissioner, who, however, is still on his farm, near Tiflis. Meanwhile the military forces of Russia advanced further southward, and have occupied Zulicair Pass, Ak-robot and Pul-i-Khisti—points sixty miles south of the line which the boundary commission was appointed to work upon. The contention of the Russians now is that the province of Badkhis should be given up to them as far as the Bobat Pass, within fifty miles of Herat, in the west, and in the east as far as to within a few miles of Bala Murghab. Their intention of occupying Herat on the first opportunity is thought by the English to be evident from a mere recital of these historical facts. The British demand is, therefore, that "the Russians retire from the positions which they should never have entered." The English government, it is urged, "can never concur in the seizure of districts vitally necessary to the preservation of the Ameer's authority in his kingdom," inasmuch as to do so would be to weaken its Afghan allies, and cause them to be joined ultimately with Russia in any attack made on India.

## The Recent Appointments.

The Louisville Courier-Journal heartily indorses the appointments so far made by President Cleveland, and adds: "If the next Congress will devote itself as faithfully to fulfilling the promises made at Chicago concerning the legislative branch as Mr. Cleveland has striven to do in the pledges made for the executive departments, there will be no doubt of a long-continued democratic ascendancy. Congress has co-operated with the heads of the departments in reducing expenses and in introducing better methods of business, but it has also to see that the taxation taken from the people shall not exceed the requirements of an economical government so administered."

## Appointments by the President.

*Washington, D. C., March 30.*—The President sent the following nominations to the Senate today. To be consul general of the United States, Thomas M. Waller, of Connecticut, at London; Frederick Raine, of Maryland, at Berlin. To be ministers resident of the United States; Isaac Bell, Jr., of Rhode Island, to the Netherlands; Rufus McGee, of Indiana, to Sweden and Norway. To be ministers resident and consuls general of the United States, Edward Parke Custis Lewis, of New Jersey, to Portugal; Rufus B. Anderson, of Wisconsin, to Denmark. To be consul of the United States, A. Hailer Gross, of Pennsylvania, at Athens, Greece; Evan P. Howell, of Georgia, at Manchester, England; to be envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary of the United States, Thos. J. Jarvis, of North Carolina, to Brazil; Alexander R. Lawton, of Georgia, to Russia; Anthony M. Keiley, of Virginia, to Italy; to be minister resident of the United States, Geo. W. Merrill, of Nevada, to Hawaiian Islands; to be consul general of the United States, Edmund Jussen, of Illinois, at Vienna, Austria; Brown, Shipley & Co., of London, England, to be special fiscal agents of the navy department; to be collector of internal revenue, Nathan Gregg, of Tennessee, for the second district of Tennessee; Alexander McCue, of New York, to be solicitor of the treasury; David Settle, of North Carolina, to be marshal of the United States for the western district of North Carolina; Joseph E. Johnston, of Virginia, to be commissioner of railroads; Lucius Mullen, of New York, to be appraiser in the district of New York, State of New York; Clement Dowd, of North Carolina, to be collector of internal revenue for the sixth district of North Carolina; Capt. Wm. J. Volkmar, of the Fifth Cavalry, to be major and assistant adjutant general; Capt. Geo. H. Burton, of the Twenty-first Infantry, to be major and inspector general.

*Washington, March 31.*—The President today sent the following nominations to the Senate: To be envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary of the United States—William R. Roberts, of New York, to Chili; Charles W. Buck, of Kentucky, Peru; Charles T. Russell, of Connecticut, to be consul at Liverpool, England; Henry G. Pearson, to be postmaster at New York, N. Y.; Norman J. Colner, of Missouri, to be commissioner of agriculture; John T. McGraw, of West Virginia, to be collector of internal revenue for the district of West Virginia; Henry P. Kernahan, of Louisiana, to be naval officer at New Orleans; Andrew J. Boyd, of North Carolina, to be collector of internal revenue for the fifth district of North Carolina.

Richard B. Hubbard, of Texas, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Japan.  
Wm. W. Long, of Texas, to be the consul at Hamburg, Germany.

*Washington, March 31.*—A gentleman very near the President, and undoubtedly speaking from actual knowledge, reports that the reappointment of Mr. Pearson was made after the most patient examination of all the facts in connection with the charges against him and his answer to the same, which was yesterday submitted and read by the President. The appointment, therefore, may be considered a complete vindication of the postmaster. It is further stated that the reappointment of Mr. Pearson will constitute a notable exception to the course which the President may be expected to pursue. The New York post office is the largest and most important in the country and of interest to all people and especially to the vast business enterprise centered in the metropolis. It is today considered a complete illustration of the successful application of civil service reform principles to an immense governmental establishment. "This condition," added the gentleman above referred to, "has been brought about very largely by the intelligent effort of Mr. Pearson, and he is thus identified in the closest manner with this example of the success of reform. To retain him insures faith and confidence in the movement which would receive a shock from his removal. His retention was earnestly requested by a large number of business men of the city, both Democrats and Republicans, and very generally by Independent Republicans, who did such good service in support of the Democratic candidates in the late campaign."

It is further authoritatively learned that this act of the President must not be regarded as indicating that in other cases those opposed to the party of the President will neither be appointed or retained after expiration of their terms of office. The new minister to Brazil, Thomas Jordan Jarvis, was born in Currituck county, North Carolina, January 18th, 1838. In his youth he suffered the disadvantages of poverty, and followed the plough until his 18th year, when he entered Randolph Macon college, where he paid for tuition with money earned

by teaching in vacation. Graduating in 1860, he continued teaching school until the war opened, when he entered the army as a private. He attained the rank of captain and lost the use of his right arm by a wound received at Drury's Bluff. In 1865 he was elected to the convention called by President Andrew Johnson. In 1866 he obtained his license and began to practice law. He was one of the few Democrats elected to the legislature of 1868-'69, where he developed great skill as a parliamentarian, in consequence of which he was chosen speaker of the house in 1870-'71. In 1872 he was Democratic elector for the State at large. In 1876 he was elected Lieut. Governor, and succeeded Gov. Vance as Governor February 5th, 1879. In 1880 he was elected Governor by the people, his six years' service expiring February 21st, 1885.

His record as Governor is well known. Gov. Jarvis did not seek the position of minister to Brazil, and his nomination by the President is a surprise to him.  
Hon. Clement Dowd, who succeeds Col. Cooper as collector of the 6th internal revenue district is a native of Moore county, where he was born in 1832, graduated at the University in 1856, after the war removed to Charlotte, where he engaged in the practice of the law, and was president of the Farmers' & Mechanics' National Bank and later of the Commercial National at Charlotte. He was elected to Congress in 1880 and again in 1882. Mr. Dowd is a first-class business man, and he will administer his office strictly on business principles.

The marshal of the western district is Col. David Settle, a son of the late Judge Settle, brother of Hon. Thomas Settle, now judge of the Federal court in Florida, and one of the most active and uncompromising Democrats in the State. Marshal Settle is a man of fine intelligence, high character, undoubted spirit and sterling worth. The office of marshal in the western district will be administered by him strictly according to law.

## The French Troubles in Tonquin.

When two years ago the French undertook to dispossess the Emperor of Annam of his dominions and to create for themselves an eastern empire comparable to that of the English in India, it was supposed at Paris that little difficulty would be encountered. It was to be a holiday undertaking, and if mention was made of the relation of Annam and its dependency, Tonquin, to the Chinese empire, the remainder was scouted by the Paris press as a fiction from ancient history. China's rights of sovereignty over Annam were declared to have lapsed, but if the worst came to the worst, China was no match for France and must speedily acquiesce in whatever arrangement the latter country chose to make with the unfortunate Emperor Tu Duc. All went well at first. Hue, the capital of the empire, Ha-Noi, the capital of the province of Tonquin, were promptly occupied, and before the close of the year 1883 Santay, at the head of the Song-koi delta, had been captured. Resistance was now supposed to be at an end. But it turned out that the Black and Yellow Flags were being secretly supported by China, and after the principal points in the conquered country had been garrisoned it was found that a long and tedious diplomatic contest remained to be carried on with the Marquis Tseng. At length, however, in the treaty of Tientsin, China agreed to evacuate Tonquin by a given date, and again resistance seemed to be at an end, when the Lang-son incident occurred. Lang-son, which is situated near the Chinese frontier, occupies a position on the only practicable road between Ha-noi and China, and is a post of some importance. The French officer deputed to take possession of it was lacking in prudence and provoked a fight with its Chinese garrison, in which a number of French soldiers were killed. The French government straightway demanded a large indemnity, which the Chinese have until now refused, despite the "punishment" sought to be administered to them by Admiral Courbet on the river Nim and in Formosa, and by Generals Briere de l'Isle and Negrier in Tonquin. In the latter country there has been incessant fighting for months past, until the Chinese, emboldened by their successes, on Friday last attacked Lang-son, drove the French from their intrenchments and pursued them toward Dong-Dong, inflicting a loss stated by the French at 1,201 in killed and wounded. This disaster has been followed promptly at Paris by the downfall of the Ferry ministry, and in view of the excited condition of the public mind may lead possibly to other even more serious results. This much, however, seems to be assured, that war is now to be formally declared and a large army is to be sent to capture Peking. Thus step by step what was regarded at the outset as an easy undertaking has grown to a very large and enormously expensive proposition. Whether President Grey can find a successor for Premier Ferry, who will be able to hold office as many months as Ferry did years, remains to be seen.

## THE CAPTURE OF NEW ORLEANS.

*Baltimore Sun.*  
From the *Century* war papers we quote the following from the paper by George W. Cable, on "New Orleans before the Capture," in the April number: "What a gathering! The rif-raff of the wharves, the town, the gutters. Such women—such wrecks of women! And all the juvenile rag-tag. The lower steamboat landing, well covered with sugar, rice, and molasses, was being rifled. The men smashed; the women scooped up the smashings. The river was overflowing the top of the levee. A rain-storm began to threaten. 'Are the Yankee ships in sight?' I asked an idler. He pointed out the tops of their naked masts as they showed up across the huge bend of the river. They were engaging the batteries at Camp Chalmette—the old field of Jackson's renown. Presently that was over. Ah, me! I see them now as they come slowly round Slaughterhouse Point into full view, silent, so grim, and terrible; black with men, heavy with deadly portent; the long-banished Stars and Stripes flying against the frowning sky. Oh, for the Mississippi! the Mississippi! Just then here she came down upon them. But how! Drifting helplessly, a mass of flames.

"The crowds on the levee howled and screamed with rage. The swarming decks answered never a word; but one old tar on the Hartford, standing with lanyard in hand beside a great pivot-gun, so plain to view that you could see him smile, silently patted its big black breech and blandly grinned.

"And now the rain came down in sheets. About one or two o'clock in the afternoon (as I remember), I being again in the store with but one door ajar, came a roar of shoutings and imprecations and crowding feet down Common street. 'Hurrah for Jeff Davis! Hurrah for Jeff Davis! Shoot them! Kill them! Hang them!' I locked the door on the outside, and ran to the front of the mob, bawling with the rest, 'Hurrah for Jeff Davis!' About every third man there had a weapon upon him. Two officers of the United States Navy were walking abreast, unguarded and alone, looking not to right or left, never frowning, never finching, while the mob screamed in their ears, shook cocked pistols in their faces, cursed and crowded and gnashed upon them. So through the gates of death those men walked to the City Hall to demand the town's surrender. It was one of the bravest deeds I ever saw done.

## ADVANTAGES OF THE JERSEY.

*Richard Goodman in the Rural New-Yorker.*  
Let the Jerseys increase, because: 1. Jerseys make more butter annually compared with the food they eat, than any other breed. 2. Jerseys make better butter than any other breed—better grain and better flavor. 3. Jersey milk is the most profitable, because it contains more butter per quart than that of any other breed; its cream rises quicker and its butter comes quicker. 4. Jersey butter brings from 2 to 10 cents more per pound than any other, as a rule throughout the United States; hence on 90 farms out of 100 where butter is a specialty, the introduction of Jersey blood will change butter-making from a dead loss to a net profit. 5. Butter farming is more profitable and healthful and refining than truck-farming, beef-farming, poultry or pig-farming. 6. For every cent lost on account of the Jersey's smaller carcass, there are two cents gained on account of her better butter and her larger annual yield. We want Holsteins and Ayrshires for the general milk and cheese supply; we want Short-horns and Hertsford for their beef; but the country wants the Jersey for her butter—so let us have an end to the opposition which this breed has met with for 40 years. He who specializes wins. The "general-purpose cow" is an impossible animal. Let each farmer decide whether all circumstances point to a beef, a milk or a butter breed, and choose his stock accordingly.

Ex-Gov. Smith, of Georgia, slaughtered a lot of hogs lately of his own raising, aggregating in weight 32,000 pounds. Besides Mr. Smith killed 10,000 pounds of fat beefs raised by him.

## THE NEW YORK POSTMASTERSHIP.

*Baltimore Sun.*  
The term of office of Mr. Pearson, postmaster of New York, has expired, and his reappointment appears to be urged by a large and aggressive class of political debates. His reappointment is made, in fact, a test of the President's policy with regard to officials whose personal and official career presents no special ground of criticism. Shall tenure of office be made permanent in the service of the United States, at least during good behavior and efficiency, or shall the usage of many years past be continued? The term is fixed by law at four years, which circumstance in itself implies that the framers of the statute did not contemplate permanence or tenure. The office of postmaster of New York, being next in importance and influence, perhaps, to that of the Postmaster-General, it may be held to be to some extent a political office. So far as the new administration may desire to introduce in that office a new policy of management based on democratic ideas, that far it would find it expedient to exchange Mr. Pearson for another person more in sympathy with its purposes. If, however, it be absolutely true that the New York postoffice, with its multitude of employees, most of whom are of one political party, has not in recent years sought to exert an influence in national, State or municipal elections, but on the contrary has been a purely business organization, then most people will consider it desirable to continue that remarkable state of things, and, if Mr. Pearson is essential to its continuance, will desire to retain so valuable an officer. It may be disputed that these suppositions correspond with the facts. The contention that his retention must be decided upon, so as to make a striking display of the President's adoption of a policy of permanent tenure, proceeds of course upon the assumption that as at present organized and managed, there is nothing in the New York office inimical to the predominance of democratic doctrine in the conduct of national affairs. Otherwise that contention cannot be said to have much force. If "politics" has had anything to do with the action of that office or the organized action of its employees in recent elections, it will of course be impossible to keep the question of Mr. Pearson's reappointment upon the high ground it might otherwise occupy. A change is certainly justifiable if a change be necessary in order to correct undue political bias.

Assuming, however, as may be done, that the personnel of the office is all it should be, and that its perfection is due to Mr. Pearson's qualities, it is still an open question whether it is in this case incumbent on the President to inaugurate a new departure in the direction of permanency of official tenure not required by the civil-service law, but negatively, indeed, both by the statute affecting such offices as that of Mr. Pearson's and by the usage of over half a century. Democrats will probably deprecate such a new departure in this particular instance, on the ground that it is possible to find in the President's own party, or among the independent republicans who aided in electing him, plenty of men quite as capable as the present incumbent of the New York postmastership, whose vote was cast for Mr. Blaine, and that the proper occasion on which to exemplify the new doctrine of permanency of tenure during good behavior and efficiency will present itself when the term of office of some excellent democratic or independent republican official shall have expired.

## Light-House Burned.

*News and Observer.*  
On Saturday, the 21st inst., the light-house, located at the mouth of Roanoke river, was destroyed by fire, together with everything belonging to it. The fire was caused, it is thought, by a spark from a stove which ignited the woodwork between the ceiling and roof. The building was burned to the water in about thirty minutes, the light-house people barely escaping with their lives. Capt. Clifton, the keeper, was blistered about the face in trying to save some of the property. The Roanoke light-house was built about 1863 at a cost of \$25,000. The lantern was manufactured in Paris, France, and cost about \$1,400. In clear weather its light could be seen distinctly by navigators on the Albemarle a distance of eighteen miles. Until the light-house is rebuilt by the government we hear a vessel will be stationed there, to give notice by a light from its mast head off the entrance to Roanoke.

## A Valuable Find.

Mr. Rufus Fitzgerald, of Caswell county, N. C., died recently. A few days ago his brother was examining his papers, and on opening a small drawer in his secretary found \$4,600 in money, of the existence of which no member of the family had any knowledge before. There were \$3,200 in twenty dollar gold pieces, and some of the pieces had been there so long that they had begun to rust.

## Southern Items by Mail.

Already the colored people of Jacksonville, Fla., are quoting Gen. Grant as a warning against the use of tobacco. They are about to inaugurate an anti-tobacco society. Since the 1st of January there have been 159 additions to the Fifth Street Methodist Church in Wilmington, N. C. The revival meeting is still going on. Calvin Bright, who died in Spartanburg county, S. C., the other day, was a lunatic, and had been confined by his family in a small cabin since 1858.

The orange groves on the Halifax river, Fla., are late in coming into full bloom, but that fact is said to pressage a full crop.

The Langley Cotton Factory Co., of Augusta, Ga., has a surplus fund of \$150,000, and is doing a thriving business.

Egg shipments are now being made from Chattanooga, Tenn., to New York at the rate of over 14,000 dozen per week.

The South Carolina Congressmen have indorsed Hon. John E. Bacon, of that State, for a foreign mission.

The evident spirit of improvement at Athens, Ga., at present is a subject of congratulation.

The real estate men of Atlanta regard the outlook for the coming season as very encouraging.

It is beginning to be learned in Atlanta that meningitis has become epidemic in that city.

About thirty acres of LeConte pears have been set out in the vicinity of Perry, Ga.

The Methodist preachers in Atlanta, Ga., have joined the crusade against dancing.

Grading is progressing rapidly on the Florida Southern Railroad.

There is a general complaint of the over-production of peanuts. Richmond's new union depot, ground and all, will cost \$103,000.

The wheat crop in Georgia presents a promising appearance.

The mica mines near Clinton, Ala., are in full operation.

Prohibition has gone into effect at Greensboro, Ala.

## A Period of Disquiet.

Believers in peaceful methods of settling international differences derive little comfort from the bellicose aspect of affairs at present in many parts of the world. Gen. Graham is carrying on a bloody struggle with Osman Digna in Egypt; Barrios is marching an army of 15,000 into Salvador; the French are attacking the Chinese by sea and land; in South Africa Sir Charles Warren is chasing the Boers out of Bechuanaland; and in both England and India extensive preparations are being made for war with Russia. There is a temporary suspension of hostilities along the Nile, so far as the force under Gen. Wolseley's immediate command is concerned, and the French are at present not doing much in Madagascar, but no one believes that the operations will not be renewed with vigor in both quarters as soon as the weather permits. The period of universal peace seems still as remote among nations as among politicians.

## Mr. Zion, Wilkes County, N. C.

MARCH 25, 1885.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TOPIC:—I have recently taken a pleasure trip among friends whom I had not visited before in about fifteen years, and during this period, a great many changes have taken place. In passing those places once so familiar to me, what reminiscences of the past come crowding into my mind? What changes have taken place during that brief period! At many of the residences which I pass, happy families then resided; but where are they now? Scattered in different directions. Some married and rearing families of their own, some perhaps, gone to the far West, while others are gone to that bourne from which there is no return. On arriving at Elkville, in place of the man who was merchandising at that place fifteen years ago, I find Mr. J. E. Kerlee who seems to be quite a kind and obliging gentleman and he attends to the postoffice at that place so promptly, that we have never failed to receive THE TOPIC on time since he has been postmaster. Went to old Beaver Creek and had the pleasure of meeting many friends of my early youth and forming the acquaintance of a number of young persons with whom I had never before had the pleasure of meeting. The place looks quite familiar, yet many changes have taken place, since my school-boy days at the old academy—many of my school-mates and friends have passed away; but their places are now filled by the young and rising generation, who bid fair to become bright and shining lights in society. Long may they live and prosper. Ours.