

# The Lenoir Topic

VOLUME X.

LENOIR, N. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1885.

NUMBER 36.

Wallace  
Bros.,

STATESVILLE, N. C.

Wholesale Dealers

General Merchandise.

Largest Warehouse

and best facilities for handling

Dried Fruit, Ber-

ries, etc., in

the State.

RESPECTFULLY

Wallace  
Bros.

August 27th, 1884.

## THE LAND OF THE SKY.

BY A. M. D.

Have you been to Watauga, the land of the Sky?  
Where a banquet of glory is spread for the eye;  
Where the mountains do rear their summits above  
The storm and the cloud to the regions of love;  
Where scenes of enchantment enrapture the soul,  
And reason to rapture surrenders control?  
Where waters go dashing down rocky declines  
And the hills are covered with evergreen vines  
Woven in a wreath for the hills' rugged brow,  
Overhanging the dark, deep chasm below?  
Where boasting musicians are wont to retire  
When the bird of the mountain tunes up his lyre,  
And lends to his melody wings that can fly  
To scatter his song through the land of the Sky?  
Where the air is freighted with sweetest perfume  
Wafted from the flower when full in its bloom,  
And the breezes that float o'er mountain's tall peak  
Give back the invalid the rose to his cheek?  
And fountains are gushing from every hill-side  
All sparkling and cold, a health-giving tide,  
An elixir of health more tempting to sip  
Than the cup that presses the Bacchanal's lip.  
Ye seekers of pleasure, oppressed by the heat,  
Come to the mountains, 'tis a pleasant retreat.  
Ye ones that are feeble, why linger and die?  
Come up to this beautiful land of the Sky,  
Where activity is restored to the limb  
And lustre comes back to the eye that is dim.

## THE CAUSE NOT LOST.

Col. M. L. McGorkle's Memorial Address at Statesville.  
The history of the war will not be fully written. For a long time to come it cannot be impartially written. The world worships the conqueror. The vanquished often fail to get their just meed of praise. If the Confederates had succeeded the world would have called them patriots and heroes. Their praise would have been on every lip. Overcome by force of numbers they surrendered in good faith at Appomattox Court House. It is said that on that day the Confederate cause was lost. It is sometimes called "The Lost Cause." The cause for which they fought was not lost! I don't mean the doctrine of secession. I don't mean the institution of involuntary slavery. They were lost and lost forever. But I do mean the rights of the States as understood and explained by Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, Jackson and Henry Clay—the doctrine of local self-government; the doctrine that all power is reserved to the States, not expressly delegated, to the general government; that this government is not a nation, but a republic, and must be governed by the people of the States; that any tendency toward consolidation is dangerous and substitution must be held inviolable. These are some of the principles for which they fought. These are some of the principles for which the best blood of the South was shed.

## Didn't Turn Pale.

The court and the jury, as well as the general public, enjoy the scene when a lawyer, in an attempt to badger or browbeat a witness comes off second best in the encounter. A correspondent recalls an amusing incident of this sort which happened a few years ago in a court room. The plaintiff, who was a lady, was called upon to testify. She got along very well and made a favorable impression on the jury under the guidance of her counsel, until the opposing counsel subjected her to a sharp cross-examination. This so confused her that she became faint and fell to the floor in a swoon. In cross-examining the next witness the counsel asked:  
"Did you see the plaintiff faint a short time ago?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"People turn pale when they faint, don't they?"  
"No, not always."  
"Did you ever hear of a case of fainting where the party did not turn pale?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"Did you ever see such a case?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"When?"  
"About a year ago."  
"Where was it?"  
"In this city."  
"Who was it?"  
"Twas a negro, sir."  
"Peculiar! After peal shook the court room, in which the venerable Judge joined. The defendant's counsel lost his case, not to say his temper."

## NO CONTRADICTION.

Asheville Citizen.

A very intelligent gentleman, eminently respectable from his age, his experience, and his strong good sense, somewhat sharply written yesterday for the seeming contradictions in the conduct of the *Citizen* in its relations to Western North Carolina, now lauding it as the very treasure house of all that is valuable in natural production, again demonstrating its poverty by illustrations drawn from the importation of articles of prime necessity for the support of life and comfort. We feel the force of the rebuke, not as a reproach to our good judgment or veracity, but as a reproach to the population which gave point to the comment. It is no fault of nature that our claim for the fertility of Western Carolina is not sustained. That is the fault of the inhabitants, more from the force of circumstances than from any deficiency in richness of soil or capacity to high production. Only two or three years have passed since markets were opened up to this section. Before then there was no stimulus to the production of more than was necessary for the support of life or the supply of neighborhoods.

Richness of land, as well as its cheapness and unlimited extent, brought carelessness and waste. Thrift, care and economy were not considered, because not necessary. Since population has flowed in, since towns have come into being, demand has increased which has staggered old habits and systems to supply, and while we stand up stoutly to all we have said about the fertility, the advantages and the temptations of Western North Carolina, we are subject to the seeming humiliation of recording its dependence in part on other sections for necessary supplies. The humiliation is not real as it might be, because it is exonerated by causes which explain defects. A mountain country cannot compete with a plain country as a grain producer. There is a limit beyond which it is impossible to pass. Every accessible acre is in itself as productive as any or any other acre which is relatively few as applicable to the use of the small grains. Therefore an increase of population may compel, in unpropitious years, to resort beyond its own limits. The mountain country, as a rule, cannot be a grain exporter. It must be content if it can supply its own wants.

But it can be made emphatically a stock country. It can supply beef for export, as it does now to a moderate scale. It can infinitely enlarge its production of cattle. It can spare the mortification of sending to Knoxville for beef for our tables. It could spare us the shame of sending to New York for our butter and cheese. It could spare us the greater shame of sending to Maine for our hax. All the things are indeed the subject of shame, because this is so unmistakably a grass country, that it bespeaks its character to the most unpracticed eye. Whether in valley or on mountain side or top grass grows luxuriantly for the mere seeding. There is no limit to stock or dairy facilities if wisely applied. Nature and the country are not in fault. All rests with the people. Industry, thrift, good judgment in the people will vindicate a high opinion of Western North Carolina. Fruits, potatoes, grapes, the dairy, together with stock raising, combined with mineral and forest wealth, furnish material enough, properly utilized, to justify the most extravagant eulogiums on Western North Carolina. Our old friends must not abandon all hope because things do not work to suit his ideas. He must not give up all, and spend all his time musing sadly by the brink of a fish pond over the short comings of the present. Even he may live to see a better day.

## KILLED FOR A DOG.

LIBERTY, Va., May 17.—About 11 o'clock yesterday morning Thomas A. Jeter, of this place was shot and fatally wounded by H. W. Terry, of Richmond, son of Gen. W. R. Terry, superintendent of the Virginia penitentiary. Some time ago Terry gave Jeter a dog, and Jeter named it after Terry's sister, but no one knew that this had given offense. Terry was on a visit to his sister, Mrs. E. T. Walker, who lives a short distance from this place. He came to town yesterday to attend to some business, and went from the Windsor Hotel to Jeter's tobacco warehouse and was standing in the yard in front of the door, when Jeter came to the door and in a perfectly friendly manner asked how his father was. Terry's father, Gen. Terry, had been stricken with paralysis, and was one of Jeter's warm friends. Terry said he was dying. Mr. W. S. Jones, who went with Terry to the warehouse, said: "No, he is better." Terry said: "No, he is dying." Jeter then playfully said: "Why don't you come up to see your kinfolks?" Meaning, it is inferred, why he did not come up to see the dog which he had given him. Terry immediately drew his pistol and fired before Jones, who was standing near Terry, could interfere. The first shot took effect just below the

point of the breast bone and ranged upward. Jeter screamed and turned to go to the office in his warehouse, and the second shot was fired and took effect just above the left lung. Jeter did not speak after he was shot and only lived a few moments. Terry was "lured," but threatened to shoot Jones if he did not get out of his way.

Mr. Knight, who was standing near, says Terry said immediately after he did the shooting: "I have been up here a month to do that, and I have done it." To another person he said: "He (meaning Jeter) knows why I shot him," and to another, that it was because he named the dog after his sister. There is fear that the friends of Jeter will take Terry out of jail and lynch him. Terry's friends say his mind has been unbalanced for some time. He had two navy pistols, and it is said he has been practicing for some time, and was so expert that he could hit a ten-cent piece as a target. Terry afterwards expressed great sorrow at his deed, and wished it had been he that was killed instead of Jeter. The murdered man was about 40 years old, a widower, and leaves two children. Terry is about 22 or 23, and was educated at the Virginia Military Institute.

LYNCHBURG, Va., May 18.—The excitement caused by the unprovoked murder of T. A. Jeter by H. W. Terry, at Liberty, Saturday, received a fresh impulse at the funeral of Jeter at his home in another part of the county, and at 2 o'clock this morning a party of twenty disguised men gained possession of the jail by force and hanged the murderer. Jeter was the most popular man in the county and his funeral yesterday was very largely attended. Terry is a son of W. R. Terry, a prominent man in the State. The murderer is said to have been insane, but other cases recently tried in the State in which murderers were cleared on claims of insanity had the verdicts more determined. The lynchings are thought to be relatives of Jeter's.

## The Prospect for a Very Pretty Fight in Alexander.

Correspondence of the *Lantern*.  
At the meeting of the county commissioners to-day, H. W. Mays, ex-sheriff and ex-treasurer, filed his account against the county for commissions as county treasurer for the amount of \$1210. The county has had no county treasurer for the past five years or more, for the reason that the magistrates and people thought Sheriff Mays was to act as treasurer and charge no commissions. The claim was laid over until the regular meeting, first Monday in June, but I think the board intend to fight all the claim except for the past year, as they have had a final settlement at the end of every year before giving the tax books to Sheriff Mays. I will give your readers a full report of the next meeting. If the claim is allowed it will throw our little county badly in debt, and it will leave things in a bad shape for any one to be elected to an office in this county by promising to do a part of the work without pay. I think that it would have been much better for our county to have had a treasurer all the time, and then our claims would have been worth dollar for dollar, and you would not have earned them in collecting them. I think the people will stand by the commissioners in resisting the payment of all of this claim unless it is for the last year. If all reports be true there is a good prospect for a law suit between the ex-sheriff and the commissioners, as the ex-sheriff has already employed able counsel to press his claim.

TAYLORSVILLE, N. C., May 11, 1885.

## Seeding to Grass.

Our greatest need now is, to grow more grass; not more acres, but more to the acre, leaving a larger area of ground for fodder and other crops raised on a mixed farm. This can only be done by better preparation of the soil, and better seeding. Instead of throwing the seed in a haphazard way upon the hard, weather-beaten surface of the ground in the spring, the seeding should be postponed until the grain is cut and harvested. The soil is then to be plowed with a shallow furrow, thoroughly well harrowed, and made fine and compact. The seed must be sown, and immediately brushed with a smoothing and brush harrow, which is easily made. This levels and firms the soil, as well as spreads and covers the seed. It is well to use this harrow crosswise of the harrow marks, and across the line of sowing, so as to spread the seed more evenly. It is better still to sow the seed both ways, half each way, if the sower is not able to spread it quite evenly. The even sowing is very important, because bare spaces are a great injury in two ways; one, that the ground is vacant, and will produce weeds in the bare spots; the other, that the grass is too crowded where it is too thickly sown. Grass seed, if sown as here directed, will start up quickly and grow rapidly; if the seeding is done in July or early in August, the young grass will be strong enough to resist the winter safely, and a heavy crop will be the result.

## THE C. F. & Y. V. R. R.

Manufacturers' Record.

Of the many enterprises illustrating the progressive spirit of North Carolina, and promising great results, there is no one which attracts more attention than the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway, whose construction is being so vigorously pushed by the energetic president, Mr. Julius A. Gray, of Greensboro, N. C. Whether it is because the road is essentially a North Carolina road, running diagonally across the State, bringing into close relation sections far distant and totally different, and effecting an interchange of every product of North Carolina soil and waters; or whether it is because the people are rejoiced to see the approaching realization of an old idea and the success of an enterprise that, for thirty years, has been struggling with backsets and perverse fate; or whether it is because it is the only road in North Carolina which is owned, officered and controlled by individual North Carolinians, built by North Carolina money, and operated for the development solely of North Carolina towns; whether it is because of either or all of these facts, it is noticeably true that the people of the State are particularly interested in the building of this great work of internal improvement.

## Anecdote of Judge Thomas Ruffin.

Leaksville Echo.

About 43 years ago Judge Ruffin went to school at Shady Grove, in Rockingham county, to Mr. Samuel Smith. Across the river about a mile and a half from the academy in the rich bottoms of the Mayo, was a fine melon patch, to which the boys occasionally made clandestine visits. The widow who owned the patch had two pretty daughters, sprightly and lively and full of fun. Ruffin occasionally called on these young ladies, and on one occasion the theft of the melons was spoken of. The young ladies told young Ruffin that they thought the students of Mr. Smith were the robbers. Ruffin at once defended the "boys" from the unjust suspicion and promised that if it was so he would use his influence to stop it. A few days afterwards a negro girl came from the melon patch with a handkerchief which she had found there and gave it to the young ladies. In one corner was the name "Thomas Ruffin." The mother of the young ladies selected the finest melon she could find, tied it up in the handkerchief and sent it to Ruffin next day by one of her sons who attended the school. It cured Ruffin from molesting melon patches, and it is said he never could face the young ladies again.

## Naugally Major Yates.

Charlottesville Democrat.

Miss Endicott, the War Secretary's daughter, is said to be one of the most beautiful women in Washington. Her complexion is pure and white, her eyes large and brown and her figure so says a lady correspondent, "exquisite in rounded grace."—*Washington Society Paper*.  
Why, that's nothing for beauty compared to some of the backwoods girls. Mr. Sam Jones, of Pinch Gut township, has a girl who is one of the most beautiful women that never saw Washington. Her complexion is pure and red, her eyes large and just a little crossed to make her interesting, and her figure plump with no hollow in the back, and her feet—oh, they are lovely—long and flat and not pigeon-toed. But, to cap the climax, she wears high-neck dresses. Now let the Washington gals stand aside for a 170 pounder who can rock a cradle.

## Plowing Corn.

J. W. Vandiver in Asheville Citizen.

Our brawny armed farmers have very little to do with the government of the country, but a good deal to do with its support. Anything expediting their operations is a public benefit. Corn being a leading crop for these hills, I want to give my fancy and experience about its cultivation. These lands are active enough to make better yields than farmers generally gather; and the failure is attributable first, to leaving the plants too thick on the ground, and second, to excessive plowing. Rows five feet wide, and one plant every two feet in the row is sufficiently crowded. The most successful corn raisers on the continent intersperse the plants still more. The soil should be well broken, pulverized and cleaned, like men do for tobacco, before the corn is planted. Then one plowing with a very narrow plow is sufficient. Twelve days after the plowing a sharp-toothed one horse harrow should be run through the rows, and twelve or fifteen days thereafter a light one-horse cultivator run twice along each row concludes the plowing. Instead of "stirring the roots," as some say ought to be done, the delicate rootlets whose important function it is to absorb the nutriment that develops plant, should not be interrupted. The surface should be kept clean and periodically "stirred," so that a

crust should not prevent the circulation to the roots of certain atmospheric properties. Many of the very best planters now in the cotton-belt, furnish stock to their tenants until their fields are well plowed and planted, and then withdraw them and allow said tenants to complete the cultivation with the hoe.

I have seen men plowing corn for the fourth time in this country, when the plant was tasseling, and at the end of a row kick off his plow a bunch of white corn roots as large as a big ear of corn. Now if that can be done without injury to the forthcoming yield of corn, nature varies in her general operations.

## Bitter Milk—Cause and Prevention.

There are several causes for bitter milk. The most prevalent is the presence of ragweed or other bitter weeds in the hay. This is almost always the case when rowen or aftermath hay is fed, and at times when corn fodder from a weedy field is used. The flavor of ragweed is so persistent that it appears in the cream and butter and spoils the latter for use. This is to be expected, because the flavor of ragweed and other plants allied to it is due to an essential oil, which will naturally combine with the cream and remain in the butter. The flavor of it also affects the butter in the fall from cows pasturing in meadows. The only remedy for this defect is to avoid the cause. Another cause in which all seem to agree is that in certain conditions the milk of farrow cows will be bitter. This peculiar flavor is perhaps changed by some change in the character of the milk which indicates that the secretion is not pure, and that milking should cease. Other opinions are to the effect that the cow is not in good health and the products of some disorder are being discharged in the milk; an occurrence which frequently happens, and which shows how necessary it is to guard against any injurious use of the milk of diseased cows. Cows suffering from tuberculosis, or consumption of the lungs, will continue to give milk copiously, but its flavor is exceedingly disagreeable, and nauseous at times, being mawkish and bitter, and quite unfit for use.

It is certain that milk is made bitter by premature decomposition produced by the remains of stale milk in the crevices of the pans. In all these cases the remedies or the means of prevention are obvious. No wooden utensils should be used in milking or in setting milk. Wood absorbs the milk into its pores, and when the milk is scalded, this milk becomes soured, ferments and decomposes, and will surely injure the milk, by infecting it with a leaven of putridity. Tin pails and pans should first be washed with cold water, then with hot water and soap to remove the grease, then rinsed, and finally scalded with boiling hot water, wiped with clean dry towels, and afterwards placed out of doors to air in the sunshine.

## Interesting Account of a Mountain Trip.

Mr. Zion, May 15.

To the Editor of *The Lenoir Topic*:

Since my last items to your interesting paper, I have been on a visit to friends "beyond the mountains." Spent a night quite pleasantly with Maj. W. W. Vannoy and enjoyed myself finely conversing with him and his estimable lady and family. Went to the city of Boone, where I had the pleasure of meeting and conversing with many friends whom I had not before met for over fifteen years, among whom was your able correspondent, "Hal," who is looking well and is about as large and fleshy as ever. Here I also met D. F. Baird, Watauga's popular and enterprising sheriff, who has grown considerably since I parted with him on my way to Oregon over fifteen years ago. He is now a fine, portly looking gentleman.

Here I met your Sugar Grove correspondent, "N. N." and accompanied him to his home and spent the night quite pleasantly with him and his estimable family. I next visited the interesting family of Sheriff Baird on Watauga river and spent a day or two quite pleasantly and was kindly entertained by them. Visited Jacob F. Wagner and his estimable family and spent a few days and nights with them quite pleasantly. While in this locality I think I met your interesting correspondent, "Aunt Peggy," though I am not sure of it; but there is one thing of which I am sure, and that is, I would like very much to occasionally hear from her through *THE TOPIC*.

Visited my friends, Joel Norris and W. H. Norris, of Soda Hill, and spent part of a day and night with my old friend and comrade in arms, J. H. Taylor, at the mouth of Meat Camp, and passed the time quite agreeably with him and his estimable family. During my stay "beyond the mountains," the weather was quite cool, so much so, that trout fishing was out of the question, but cool as it was, the farmers were busily engaged in putting in their crops of corn, which I presume will be larger than usual, owing to the poor prospect for a bountiful harvest of small grain.

*THE TOPIC* still continues to reach us in due time, and is quite a welcome visitor. T. C. L.

## THE END OF THE WORLD.

N. N. Explains that He does not Complain at the Dispensations of Providence.

SUGAR GROVE, N. C., May 4.

To the Editor of *The Lenoir Topic*:

I was surprised, when I read *THE TOPIC* of April 23, of "Old Hal's" reflections on my musings in my correspondence to *THE TOPIC*, March 25. It does seem passing strange, that a correspondent of "Old Hal's" intelligence, should so readily jump to a conclusion that missed the mark so far as to misrepresent the motives, that prompted the ideas set forth in the aforesaid correspondence.

First Hal says: "He has lived in Watauga 20 years, and his neighbors have sung the same old song every spring, 'there will be nothing made this year.'" We'll say I have lived in Watauga 65 years. Don't remember that I or my neighbors have sung Hal's old song oftener than every passing decade of years. Then he seems to put me in false colors and ascribes to me the spirit of muttering against the will and Providence of God. He should remember we read in Romans, "O man, who art thou that repliest against God?" Therefore why, should we murmur, but rather rejoice in the sure word of promise of the Lord, for we read in 2nd Peter, "the Lord is not slack concerning his promises as some men count slackness." &c.

Again Hal says, "N. N. predicts that the time of mundane affairs is about to collapse." Now he misunderstands my meaning; in fact I did not say I knew or even thought the end would be today, next week, next year, or when. Why should I or any one, for we read Mark, "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, not the angels which are in heaven. Neither the Son, but the Father." But we read in 2nd Peter "hat one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

Again Hal says I bring to bear on this serious subject the redness of the sunset (hazy veil); says he can't see why this should prove the end. We read in Luke, "And there shall be signs in the sun and in the moon and in the stars." Then we read in Matthew, "And as He sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto Him privately, saying tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? and Jesus answered and said unto them, 'Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ, and shall deceive many, and ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars. Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places.'

Again Hal says, "suppose it (the end of time) comes, and time and earth shall be no more, who can prevent it? why be alarmed." Oh! how absurd are such remarks, "who can prevent it? why be alarmed," as much as to say I resist God, and am awfully alarmed at "the fullness of time," when I only meant that the signs of the times do begin to show forth the close of this "dispensation" and we should heed the warnings and admonitions of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He says, "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." and "The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night. Watch therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come, therefore be ye also ready for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh and this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come. These blessed, glorious and divine admonitions teach us this grand and important lesson, "be ye also ready."

In conclusion I will add that I am waiting and trusting that the Lord in his own time as it seemeth good to him, will fulfill all his precious promises according to his own good will and pleasure, and that I am glad that I live in the end of the nineteenth century, that when I die I will be nearly six thousand years nearer the general resurrection than the days of Adam when he was created and put in the garden of Eden. We read in Matthew that Jesus says "Watch therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord, when he cometh, shall find so doing." In the words of an old Mother of Israel, "Blessed is the Lord, unto Him be all the power and glory of earth and heaven, time and eternity, now and forever, Amen."

Having written my defense and given as full and plain an explanation as I can I hope that I will be fully understood and not misrepresented, and as I had not the least idea or thought that the thoughts expressed in my correspondence of March 25, would lead to this discussion and as I have no desire to continue this discussion, this will close my side of the question.

N. N.

The wife's pathway in life is generally a buy way.

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,  
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HICKORY, N. C.  
EDMUND JONES,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
LENOIR, N. C.  
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Attorney-At-Law,  
Lenoir, N. C.  
Practice in All The Courts.