

THE LENOIR TOPIC.

W. W. SCOTT, Jr., Editor and Publisher

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12, 1885.

Entered at the Post-office at Lenoir as second-class matter.

Subscription price, \$1.00.

Advertising rates reasonable.
All bills for advertising payable weekly.

THE death of Capt. Shotwell called forth a general expression of regret from all portions of the State and North Carolina mourns in him one of her most devoted sons. We were mistaken in stating that he was a native of Pennsylvania. He was born in Virginia and was at school in Pennsylvania at the beginning of the war and ran the blockade to join the Confederate army. He was a member of the 8th Va. volunteers and made a gallant soldier. He came to North Carolina and in 1866 started the New Berne *Journal of Commerce* and in 1868 the *Rutherfordton Visitor*. In 1870 he established the *Asheville Citizen* and a few weeks later, was shot in the street by U. S. Attorney Virgil S. Lusk whom he was causing for an insulting reply to editorial strictures. In October 1870 he went to Rutherfordton and began studying law. He strongly denounced the Red Strings and, in March, joined the "Invisible Empire," a secret, mutual protective association rendered necessary by Loyal League lawlessness, but had never attended meetings, worn disguise or ridden on a raid. On the 5th of July he was arrested, without warrant or capias, and thrust into a cage with negro murderers and kept there two months when he was removed, hand cuffed, to the Marion jail. He was carried to Raleigh and tried before Judge Bond, the infamous Radical Jeffrey, in a general court with 11 others who were entire strangers to him by a jury of ten whites and two negroes, all Republicans, selected to suit the prosecution. As soon as the verdict was rendered, Marshal S. T. Carrow made haste to tie Mr. Shotwell's arms with ropes in the presence of a large assemblage in the court house. On October 5th he was carried, handcuffed to Albany penitentiary, under a sentence of six years hard labor and \$5,000 fine. En route to Albany and while there offers of freedom were made to him upon condition that he would betray his associates, but he spurned the base proposals. After Grant's election Shotwell was pardoned and came to North Carolina. His later history is too well known to repeat. We happened in Raleigh on the morning when Shotwell arrived from Albany. We saw on the *Yarborough register*, "Randolph A. Shotwell, Albany Penitentiary," and in the rear of the hall, a tall, thin, pale-faced man, with a touch of sternness in his features, standing in the midst of Raleigh's best citizens, receiving their congratulations and shaking by the hands the crowd of hero-worshippers who fied past him to give him an ovation. This was a slight but incomplete compensation for his sufferings in prison. Now, after that, who can wonder that Randolph Shotwell was bitter and that he could never be reconstructed? For one we did not expect it of him and we honored him for not bending the suppliant knee.

As MAJOR S. M. FINGER, Superintendent of public instruction in this State, will deliver an address to the people of Caldwell in the court house tomorrow, (Thursday), it is to be hoped that there will be a good turnout to hear him. He will doubtless have much of interest to say upon the most important public subject with which we have to do. All classes, teachers, school committeemen and citizens generally, especially parents, are in need of all the light to be obtained upon this vital matter. The Normal schools, designed for the benefit of teachers, have closed, the public school season is about to begin and it is important that the teachers should profit by any concluding information the Superintendent may give; that the committeemen should be enlightened upon many portions of their duty which they do not fully comprehend and that the patrons of the school may learn that the Superintendent is earnestly endeavoring to make the schools more worthy of their hearty support. Let us lose one day from the fields and hear the speaking.

The old Bancombe jail has been bought by the town of Asheville, and will be used for city offices, calaboose and fire engine room.

A LUDICROUS feature of what the *New York Nation* calls the "great National wake" was the queer conduct of a Mr. Squire, Commissioner of Public Works for New York city. No one would suspect a man by the name of Squire to have any of the *affatus* about him nor would the office of public works—superintendence of sewers and the like—appear conducive to poetical inspiration. But Mr. Squire thought he was a poet and straightway "indited of a poem" upon Grant, which was a very unkind advantage to take of a deceased person, and tacked it up, in the very midst of the funeral decorations and habiliments of woe, on the City Hall door. The verses were very, very poor, and, although they lauded the dead General to the skies, the New Yorkers laughed at them, and then got mad. They were indignant that such doggerel should be so publicly placed in view and, at last, Mayor Grace had to order Mr. Squire to remove his elegiac verses.

STATE TOPICS.

Cleveland Springs are offered for sale at \$50,000.

Revenue collections in the 6th district for July \$20,240.48.

Winston's town tax is 65 cents on the \$100 and a poll of \$3.45.

The State fruit fair is held at Greensboro today and tomorrow.

Salisbury is red-hot for the Yadkin railroad from Stanley county.

Mr. D. C. Pearson, of Morganton, is traveling salesman for a Baltimore shoe house.

Rev. L. H. McKinnon, of Columbia, S. C., has been elected President of Davidson College.

Rev. W. W. Moore, D. D., has declined the call to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church, Wilmington.

THE *Topic* has a name-sake—the Sunday *Topic*, just started in Knoxville, Tenn., by J. H. Atkins, an Asheville boy.

The stock law carried at the election in Catawba county last Thursday, by a majority of 175. The law goes into effect on the 1st of Jan.

Died at Laurel Hill, Lincoln county, July 29, Mrs. P. W. Ransom, aged 55 years. She was a sister of Mrs. P. A. Warlick, of Caldwell.

Died in Fayetteville on the 5th, in the 89th year of his age, W. H. Hardin, Esq., father of Major W. L. Hardin, well known in this section.

Mr. Walter B. Gwyn, of Asheville, lost by death, last Thursday, his little son, Alexander Cunningham, aged 5 years; a grandson of James Gwyn, Esq., of Elkin.

On Monday morning of last week the Western train ran over and killed Lock Hall, colored, aged 80, at Bostain's bridge across Third creek, a mile and a half from Statesville.

Bishop A. W. Wilson has appointed Rev. R. A. Willis, of Pittsboro, to fill out the unexpired term of Rev. L. L. Hendren, D. D., as presiding elder of Statesville district.

John L. Gwaltney was made referee at the last term of Alexander court, to take an account in the case of the county commissioners vs. H. W. Mays, ex-sheriff, to recover commissions not allowed.

The Baptist Orphanage Association met at Thomasville on the 5th and Rev. C. Durham preached the sermon. The corner stone of the Orphan house was laid, a collection of \$1,278 taken up and adjournment made till the last Wednesday in July.

On the Air-Line railroad near Spartanburg, a terrible railroad accident happened Wednesday. The train left Charlotte late and was making up lost time. At this point a rail turned and four cars were thrown from the track. The conductor, Capt. Ransom, was killed, two passengers seriously injured and eight or ten wounded.

The Asheville *Citizen* has been in a peck of trouble and we are glad to know it is out of it. It became heavily indebted to Mr. Richmond Pearson, the richest man in the West, and he unkindly pushed it to the wall and forced a sale. Its friends rallied to the rescue and bought the paper in for the editors. When Mr. Pearson begins to make eyes at the Legislature or a seat in Congress, the *Citizen* might be a valuable friend.

The Statesville District Conference, which met at Catawba Station a few weeks ago, appointed a committee composed of Revs. W. H. Bobbitt, D. D., M. V. Sherrill, P. F. W. Stamey, J. T. Abernethy, G. W. Calahan, L. W. Crawford and Joseph W. Wheeler, to investigate charges of "grossly improper conduct" against Rev. L. L. Hendren, D. D., late presiding elder. The committee met at Mooresville Wednesday, and Dr. Bobbitt was made chairman. Rev. Dr. W. M. Robey appears for the defense and Rev. G. W. Ivey for the prosecution. Upon motion of Dr. Robey, the case was postponed until the 19th.

Last Friday in an old field about a mile from Fayetteville three men were charged for murder. Joe Howard, white, and Tom Goe and Tom McNeil, colored. Two companies of the State Guard were on duty and 5,000 persons were present.

TIMELY TOPICS.

5,246 postmasters have been removed since the 4th of March.

For the year ending July 1, 1885, internal revenue collections amounted to \$112,420,111 at a cost of \$4,480,000 or 3.9 per cent, being \$600,000 less than the collection cost the year before.

On Tuesday, the day Gen Grant's remains were taken from Mount McGregor, a meritorious service was held in Westminster Abbey at which a distinguished audience was present. Canon Farrar delivered an eloquent and truly tribute to the lamented soldier.

Concord had a blaze Sunday morning by which four or five stores were burned, causing a loss of from \$25,000 to \$30,000. From a letter written by Register of Deeds John K. Patrick to his wife, who is in Lenoir, we learn that there was much excitement in the town, but the citizens worked hard and at last kept the flames from going further.

The burial of General Grant was such a grand pageant as to be far out of the reach of THE *Topic's* descriptive powers. His body was brought to New York on Thursday, and lay in state in the City Hall till Saturday. In the meantime a continual stream of people passed by his casket to view his face. So large was this crowd that the police were forced to not allow any one to stop, but kept the stream of people marching past in a lock-step. At 10:10 a. m., Saturday, the grand procession passed the Fifth Avenue Hotel and at 5:18 p. m. Riverside Park was reached and the General was left in his last resting place with appropriate ceremonies.

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The corn is generally "laid by," and the rye is about all harvested. Blackberries, which will be abundant, are not yet ripe. Potatoes are excellent and plentiful, while bread stuffs and meat are very scarce. I am a "newcomer" in these regions, and have been used to good roads and bridges over every stream away up in "old" New England, all my life, and to come down here and see how patiently people endure such horrid roads and the want of bridges is inexplicable. Even the foot logs for pedestrians to cross streams on are the frailest things imaginable. Sometimes no more than a single pole, which, when the water is the least up, bends and lets the cropper's feet into the water. Such was the accommodation afforded foot passengers across the nearest ford over Linville river. But now we are much better accommodated. James A. Aldridge and David F. Richie, who live on either side of said river, resolved that they would no longer wait on the over-seer, whose duty it was to put a good, substantial foot log across the stream, so they turned out with men and teams, went into the woods, cut down and hewed a large poplar, brought it to the ford and placed it across the river, in excellent shape, so that now a poor woman, with "great box, little box, band box and bundle," and three little children, can cross quite safely. Thanks to all concerned, not even forgetting what the two yokes of oxen did.

Not three miles from here I crossed over Kentucky creek on a 2-inch plank turned up edgewise. That ford needs looking after on the part of the overseer. Will he take this gentle hint?

We have not had a school in this district for two seasons, or what ought to have been sessions. And this, in the face of the statutes of North Carolina made and provided, which say:

"If the tax levied in this chapter for the support of the public schools shall be insufficient to maintain one or more schools in each school district for the period of four months, then the board of county commissioners of each county shall [not may] levy annually a special tax to supply the deficiency for the support and maintenance of said schools for the said period of four months."

Why, I ask, is not this provision of the public school law more generally enforced by the county commissioners? There is urgent need of it.

This district is not provided with a school house. But I understand one is to be built for the coming fall session. Yet there is not enough school money to keep the school four months, after putting two years' money into one session, and building the house by private enterprise! I do hope our roads will be improved, for good roads enable more children to attend school, and good schools allow the children to be better taught, and thus fit them, as they become men and women, to take a higher stand in society.

Another source of education is that of increased mail facilities. The citizens living along the mail route 13,176 from Plum Tree, by Lineback, Linville Cove, Clay, Shull's Mills to Boone, have petitioned the Postmaster General for a tri-weekly mail instead of semi-weekly.

We live in Linville township and are entitled to five justices of the peace. There are two vacancies. Today A. G. Lewis, chairman, Geo. H. Weld and D. F. Richie met at Hughes' store as road supervisors. They appointed Wesley Sumner overseer is this (third) section, on Linville road; Joseph L. Estes on the Grandmother road. Matthias Braswell on the Banner Elk road, section one. Fredrick Ledford was overseer on this (second) section, last year, and as his road was not in good repair, on account of recent rains, he is compelled to act another year. I have not learned the names of other overseers.

I do not hear of any machines coming into this section to thresh the rye, which is abundant, what very little wheat there may be, and oats. So our farmers will have to resort to the old-fashioned "low crowned, broad brimmed, double

IRREDELL COURT THIS WEEK.

Judge Montgomery.
Robert Gibson, of Macon county, Missouri, is 119 years old and a native of Randolph county, N. C. He walks about and attends to all of his wants but is nearly blind.

Dr Whittier has purchased 60,000 acres of land in Swain county and will start extensive glass works. He has also purchased 6,000 acres, for \$6,000, near Quallatown and will establish a town on the Ducktown branch.

Ephraim C. Queen.

W. J. Hicks, Warden of the Penitentiary, in obedience to a writ of habeas corpus, brought Ephraim Queen before Judge Walter Clarke, here. The case is singular. Queen was indicted in Watauga county for burglary, with intent to kill. There being a mistrial, defendant consented to plead guilty of larceny, though larceny was not charged in the bill, and he was sent to the penitentiary for ten years. The Supreme Court said that Queen would be entitled to a discharge by habeas corpus but for the pending of the original indictment in Watauga. Two terms of Watauga court have since been held, and at the hearing today a certificate of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Watauga was produced that no indictment of any kind is pending in the court against Queen. Judge Clark ordered Queen's release. He has been in the penitentiary over two years.

A Sensible Dissertation from Mitchell.

CLAY, August 1.

To the Editor of the *Lenoir Topic*:

Mr. and Mrs. Paett left their mountain home for their legal residence at Gamewell on Saturday, a week ago today.

The "oldest inhabitant" in all these regions says this has been the warmest summer remembered. It has been blessed with abundant rains, which would seem to argue a cool season. But I am told that last year, manure the drouth, was cooler than this season.

Corn is generally "laid by," and the rye is about all harvested. Blackberries, which will be abundant, are not yet ripe. Potatoes are excellent and plentiful, while bread stuffs and meat are very scarce.

I am a "newcomer" in these regions, and have been used to good roads and bridges over every stream away up in "old" New England, all my life, and to come down here and see how patiently people endure such horrid roads and the want of bridges is inexplicable. Even the foot logs for pedestrians to cross streams on are the frailest things imaginable. Sometimes no more than a single pole, which, when the water is the least up, bends and lets the cropper's feet into the water. Such was the accommodation afforded foot passengers across the nearest ford over Linville river. But now we are much better accommodated. James A. Aldridge and David F. Richie, who live on either side of said river, resolved that they would no longer wait on the overseer, whose duty it was to put a good, substantial foot log across the stream, so they turned out with men and teams, went into the woods, cut down and hewed a large poplar, brought it to the ford and placed it across the river, in excellent shape, so that now a poor woman, with "great box, little box, band box and bundle," and three little children, can cross quite safely. Thanks to all concerned, not even forgetting what the two yokes of oxen did.

SCALPS AT COL. COWLES' BELT.

The Result of our Congressman's Recent Trip to Washington.

Col. Cowles has returned from Washington and we derive from him the result of his work in the post-office line in the District. It is a creditable budget and we may look for some good work. This is all in addition to the displacement of the Republican p. m.'s at Jefferson, Wilkesboro, Lincolnton, Shelby &c, which was done before.

The Colonel is very much pleased with the courtesy of Postmaster General Vilas and of his first-assistent, Adlai E. Stevenson, of Ill., who is of the old Irredell and Alexander stock, and of course could not resist the blandishments of a fellow-tar-head.

Trap Hill, Wilkes county, Noah E. Robinett appointed, vice J. S. Kilby removed.

Wilbar, Wilkes county, site of office removed to R. W. Colvard's at foot of the mountain and Mrs. Nancy E. Colvard appointed p. m. vice Adam Staley resigned.

Ronning River, Wilkes county, James F. Parks appointed, vice W. H. Reeves removed.

Dockery, Wilkes county, site of office moved back to its original place, W. M. Absher's Store, and Mrs. N. J. Absher appointed, vice Eli Grimes removed.

York, short distance from Dockery, discontinued, and new office established at Smoot's Mills, half way between Trap Hill and Dockery by name of Afton, with Elisha L. Smoot appointed p. m.

Alonzo Tubert appointed p m at Goshen, vice Calvin Triplett.

New office established by name of John's River, Burke county, with J L Kincaid postmaster.

New office by name of Phoenix, Ashe county, Leroy Blevins p. m.

New office by name of Crumpler, Ashe county, at the residence of J C Plummer, on New River, with Miss Lula Plummer p. m.

New office in Wilkes county, five miles from Elkin, by name of Benham, — Gambill p. m.

Dallas, Gaston county, made a money order office, and Mrs S A Moore appointed p. m, vice Mrs Pasour removed.

Garibaldi, Gaston county, J N Mellon appointed p. m. vice Miss Sarah McKee removed.

Mount Holly, Gaston county, site of office changed to new depot.

Seagle's Store, Lincoln county, Henry Rhodes appointed, vice Jas L Goodman resigned.

Denver, Lincoln county, T H Proctor appointed p. m.

New office by name of Grover, Cleveland county, J F Williams p. m.

New office by name of McKinney, Cleveland county, B M McKinney p. m.

New office by name of Council, Watauga county, J P Council p. m. Bamboo, Watauga county, Thos L Critcher appointed p. m, vice Wm Critcher removed.

spring, back action, stem winding, self feeding" crippled hickory.
We have had rain here every day except Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, for the last fortnight. The air was very cold, last night, but the wind blowed and the sky was overcast with clouds; so we had no frost. Today is bright and we feel in hopes that we may have a few days of good haying weather.

NOTICE.

The notes and bonds taken by me in the fall of 1884, for Star Brand Guano are now due and in my hands for collection. Come forward and settle up without further notice, as I have to make settlement with the Company the 1st day of September. Some have failed to pay up for 1883. I hope they will pay up at once as further indulgence cannot be given.
R. R. WAKEFIELD.
August 10, 1885.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—All persons owing me by account will please come forward and make prompt settlement. In the future, my rule of "no credit" will be strictly adhered to and, under no circumstances, will any exceptions to the rule be made. My time, knowledge and medicine constitute my capital in trade, and for these, I must have an equivalent. To conclude, all people must come prepared to pay.
Very Res'ly,
PENROSE BALDWIN.

TO THE PUBLIC!

I am still at my old stand, next door to S. W. Hamilton's. All persons wanting either

Sheet Iron or Tin Work Done, can have it done on short notice and in good style, and all new work GUARANTEED. Tobacco flues and stove piping to be had at

SUGAR AND COFFEE and other groceries and notions and bread and cakes always on hand. With thanks for past favors I humbly solicit a continuance of the same, promising to sell as cheap as any of the rest can sell.

J. S. P. HAMILTON.

SHERIFF'S SALES.
I will offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash at the court house door in Lenoir, on Monday, Sept. 7th, 1885, the interest of Caldwell Superior Court, Andrew Sudderth's interest in one house and lot in the town of Freedom, adjoining land of Isaac Harper, Sol. Dula, et al. to satisfy his taxes for the years 1883-'84.
M. H. TUTTLE, Sheriff.

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M. H. TUTTLE, Sheriff.

LAND SALE.
I will sell at the court house door in Lenoir, on Monday, the 7th of September, 1885, to satisfy an execution now in my hands in favor of Dr. A. F. Houck, the interest of Jackson Miller in a certain piece of land situated in Layton, adjoining the lands of Lorenzo Triplett, Calvin Triplett and others.
M. H. TUTTLE, Sheriff.

DAVENPORT COLLEGE.

A High Grade Home School for Girls.
LENOIR, CALDWELL COUNTY, N. C.

Term Opens Thursday, Sept. 3rd, 1885, with a full corps of Teachers.

Charges for Day Scholars.

Kindergarten alone, per term, \$ 5
Primary and Kindergarten, " 10
Preparatory room " 12 to 18
Music from " 15 to 30
Art from " 10 to 25
Higher English, " 15

The charges for the next session have been reduced and the advantages increased. This school is

Pre-eminent in Point of Location, in Higher English, Music, Art, and in

Refining Influences and Home Life.

A new Chapel is in process of erection and the equipment and outfit will be largely increased.

Will H. Sanborn, Pres't.

KIRKWOOD SCHOOL for Girls.

From 12 years and upwards, will reopen Sept. 1st, and close Dec. 8th. Tuition for session of sixteen weeks, from \$12 to \$16; Music, on Piano, \$16; Use of Instrument, \$2.50; Drawing, \$8.
Number of pupils limited to 50.
Payment half in advance.
The session of the next year will be of the usual length—20 weeks each—beginning Jan. 25 and Aug. 2nd.
E. L. RANKIN, Prin.

Oak Forest Academy.

S. P. WILSON, Principal.
(University, N. C.)
Y. D. MOORE, First Assistant.
(University, N. C.)

LOCATION—4 1/2 miles N. E. from Lenoir, Caldwell county, N. C.
TUITION—\$1, \$1.75, \$2.50 and \$3.00 per month.
Students will be thoroughly prepared for a Collegiate course.
Board may be obtained at low rates, convenient to the Academy.
Fall term will open Aug. 31, 1885.

Address the Principal, Lenoir, N. C.

GLAD TIDINGS

—FROM THE—
Furniture Store!

The New Enterprise Boomed!

Our business is steadily increasing!

We Move Onward and Upward

By our ever watchfulness of our patrons' interests, our honest treatment, our low prices and reliable goods.

Lookers become Purchasers,

Purchasers become Friends, Friends, our Best Advertisement.

Our Facilities are Unequaled.

If you want to see or buy anything in the

Furniture

Line, Call on

J. B. ERVIN,

Lenoir, N. C., June 23.

Read & Remember!

—That we want all the—

Blackberries

We can buy this Season

And will pay the very

Highest

Prices

For the same that the market will allow.

Owing to the "hard times" we

are now selling our

LARGE STOCK

General Merchandise

At Extremely

Low Prices

Either for cash, or good merchantable produce.

Special attention is called to the following seasonable goods:

Grass Scythes,

Mason's Improved

Fruit Jars,

"Oriole" and "Gold Medal"

Apple Peelers,

Corers and Slicers.

Bear in mind we offer no "bates" to catch trade, but sell each article for what it is worth and pledge ourselves to give our customers both in

Buying and Selling

Every legitimate advantage of the market.

Hoping by honest effort and fair Dealing to merit your

continued patronage, we are,

Respectfully,

F. Wiesenfeld.

Always on Hand.

Respectfully,

Buying and Selling

Every legitimate advantage of the market.

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