

THE LENOIR TOPIC.

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

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POOR OLD COMMISSIONERS.

If anything goes wrong in the body politic, if any screws are loose or any hinges need greasing, metaphorically speaking, at once the blame is saddled on that old pack horse, the county commissioners. Of course county commissioners, being mortal, make many mistakes and we have no doubt that there are many bad and incompetent men who occupy that dignified position in North Carolina. But they are not responsible for all the ills that flesh is heir to, which, we suppose, includes hog cholera. The sad fact that there are any corrupt and weak juries, juries that can be swayed in their verdicts by the potent forces of fear, favor and affection, has been laid at their door and the cause has been alleged that they are not careful enough to select on the jury list good men, "moral character" men, Judge Cloud would call them. This is not the only reason, however, that we have bad juries. The Judges themselves often excuse lightly good men who have been drawn and the lawyers, when they have a serious case, very frequently are not anxious to get good men on their juries, object to all the names that are regularly drawn on the jury and have the Sheriff to go outside and pick up Tom, Dick and Harry for jurors. Bad juries are sometimes composed of just such material. This is how it worked in Craven last week, as will be seen by the following from the New Berne Journal:

"That the county commissioners are not in any degree responsible for incompetent and corrupt men being allowed to serve as jurors was clearly illustrated yesterday. After the grand jury had been drawn there were but eight of the regularly drawn jurors left for the petit jury. Of course the sheriff had to resort at once to the bystanders. The commissioners might put the names of none but saints in the box, but if they are not drawn out and summoned to serve as jurors, the incompetent and corrupt, about which there is so much complained by newspapers, will continue to discharge the functions of that important element of the court. A larger number should be drawn from the box and summoned as regular jurors."

CARRY OUT THE LAW. A correspondent of THE TOPIC, writing from a neighboring county, complains that in his school district the law is not carried out in that provision is not made, as ordered in the Constitution and statutes, for levying an extra tax so as to have sufficient school money to run the schools each year for the legal term of four months. He intimates that the grand jury will take the matter in hand and, as required by law, present all county commissioners who neglect this law. Our correspondent has a just cause of complaint that applies not only to the commissioners of his county but to those of a majority of the counties of the State. He may remember that Superintendent Finger dwelt at length upon this subject in his addresses made in this section, last summer. The commissioners of all the counties have not been willing to carry out this law until the people are "ripe" for it. The people are "ripe" for it now and demand it and we think that, next year, the matter will be attended to. This matter calls to mind the number of laws that are on the statute books that are "dead letters." It is abominable. All good laws should be carried out and none but bad laws should be "dead letters" and, more than that, no bad laws should be on the statute book. If laws are not to be executed let them be repealed at once.

THE burglary question—don't jump, we are not going to discuss it again—has been pretty fully ventilated by several of the State papers. Among them the esteemed Greensboro Patriot announces with commendable zeal that it will "vindicate the rights of our noble women and the tens of thousands of little children who are scattered pell mell all over the country, and daily subjugated to the will of the felonious burglars." It very properly thinks that, if the "unfortunate victims, now under sentence of death \*\*\* should be commuted," a bad precedent would be set.

We confess that we were in favor of the President's going to Indianapolis to attend the Vice-President's funeral and we hoped that he would not listen to the suggestions of those solicitous and well-meaning, though mistaken, friends, who dissuaded him from it. That the President allowed himself to be argued out of his purpose indicates that he is not the bull-headed, obstinate man he has been described by some and that he is willing to curb his own inclinations rather than appear in the role of a mock-heroic and dramatic poser who unconcernedly braves all dangers. His sensible reasons, given on the first page of THE TOPIC, for not going show that his regard for public interests and not personal considerations kept him at the Capital.

STATE TOPICS.

A prohibition convention will meet at Greensboro on the 10th and 11th.

The Governor refuses to commute the sentence of the Charlotte burglars and they will hang today.

In Graham, Dare and Swain counties land is assessed at 85 cents per acre, while it rates at \$9 in Mecklenburg.

The stock law was lost in Morganton township, Burke county, last week. 90 votes for it and 198 against it.

A party of Michigan capitalists will have the Virginia Legislature to incorporate a railroad to run from Roanoke City to Mount Airy, N. C.

Two Norfolk divers are at work on the French Broad railroad wreck trying to raise the engine and endeavoring to find the body of fireman Whitley.

The negro captured at Monroe by a South Carolina sheriff last week, turns out not to be Ford Knox after all, but he is utilized all the same, being an escaped convict.

A half-breed negro named Lee, who murdered a man in Richmond county, has taken to the swamps, defies capture and is essaying the role of Henry Berry Lowry.

The Lincoln Press says that collectors F. M. Williams and Geo. W. Means made a raid in Watauga, last week, on the lookout for moonshiners and were shot at by persons in ambush.

Near Dobson, N. C., a few days ago, Samuel Simpson attacked Stephen Haynes, a school teacher, who had chased his son, and during the fight which followed Simpson was seriously stabbed.

James Owen, Esq., of Guilford, was murdered one day last week and put on the R. & D. R. R. track a train of which ran over him. A reward of \$500 is offered by the county authorities for the murderer.

The famous McElwee-Blackwell suit, in which the former sued the latter for damages in using the trade mark of the "Bull" on smoking tobacco, resulted last week at Rowan court in a non-suit for the plaintiff.

There is great excitement in Buncombe over the stock law which has been put in operation in that county. A public meeting was held at Cooper's, last week, in which resolutions were passed pledging the members of the meeting to resist the enforcement of the law at all hazards.

The Shelby Aurora tells of a young man named John Webster, at Gaffney's, who went to his room at the hotel and, entering, found the landlady had given it to three young ladies. Two of the fair intruders were disrobed. Webster was so mortified, being a bashful man, that he went off and shot himself.

Martin Dover, aged 74, of Cleveland county, met with a singular death last week. He was driving a blind mule home from Shelby and overturned his wagon in Buffalo creek. The mule was extricated and he started home on its back. At a point near his home he lost the road in the darkness and rode down a steep embankment 20 feet high. His neck was broken. The mule was crippled.

The Mecklenburg road law, passed by the last Legislature, provides for the collection of 10 cents road tax on the \$100 worth of property from all property owners in city and country alike and motion for a restraining order was made before Judge Shipp, last week, upon the grounds that the law is "burdensome, inequitable and unconstitutional." The order was issued and the case will be tried on the 12th instant.

TOWN TALK TOPICS.

Trivial Incidents and Idle Gossip from the Outlying Hamlets. A \$50,000 cotton factory is to go up in Salisbury.

Marion is to have street lamps which will be kept lighted from 6 to 9 o'clock nightly when the moon is not on guard.

It is said that congressman Bennett has not interfered with the Republican postmaster of Concord because the town was divided into two factions, one wanting Rev. Thomas W. Smith to have the place and the other favoring James N. Brown, Esq. As the Methodist Conference has sent the former gentleman to the Salisbury station, it is probable that Miss Dusenbury will soon step down and out.

97,000 letters were handled in the Salisbury postoffice in November.

The electric light has at last been established in Raleigh and the Capital shined.

Asheville's Battery Porter hotel is to cost \$100,000 and will be supplied with all modern conveniences. There is a new jailer in Morganton and the cause of the turning out of the old one is, we are informed, that he was in the habit of granting permission to some of the occupants of the cells license to go home into the country frequently to spend the night. As soon as Sheriff Lackey learned of this queer practice he incessantly bonned the gentleman.

TIMELY TOPICS.

Albert A. Wilson has been appointed marshal of the District of Columbia, vice Clayton McMichael resigned.

A revolution has broken out in some of the Mexican States in preparation for the Presidential election which comes off next year.

Vice President Hendricks left all of his property to his wife in a will dated August 8, 1866. His estate is valued at about \$100,000.

The funeral of the late vice-President Hendricks was a most imposing affair, Tuesday of last week, at Indianapolis and the city was crowded with people from all over the country. It was a striking tribute to the worth of our great chief. Senator Vance attended.

News of a scandal that ended in a tragedy and which involves two former North Carolinians comes from Sioux Falls, Dakota. In 1884 Prof. Perry and wife left Raleigh and went to Dakota and Perry was made President of Sioux Falls University. One night last week his wife missed him from her room and found him in that of a female visitor. Upon the discovery she swooned and has since died of hysteria.

Since the close of the Chili-Peruvian war, about two years ago, in which Peru was most ingloriously whipped, Gen. Iglesias has been President of Peru. For fifteen months Gen. Carceres has carried on a guerrilla warfare against Iglesias and, week before last, appeared in front of the walls of Lima with such a formidable force that Iglesias capitulated. The American minister has effected a compromise and an election will be held.

In the Republican caucus of Senators held Saturday, Senator Edmunds offered the name of Senator Logan for the caucus nominee for the Presidency of the Senate. Logan declined. Then Sherman was nominated and chosen. So he probably has been elected. The Democratic caucus decided to vote for Senator Harris, of Tennessee. The Democratic House caucus chose Carlisle for Speaker. The Republican caucus decided to throw away their votes on Reid of Maine. The Republican Senatorial caucus decided to support the Presidential succession bill spoken of in last week's Topic—allowing the Secretary of State to succeed the Vice-President and so on through the cabinet.

PERSONAL TOPICS.

Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Skinner has tendered his resignation as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Raleigh.

Aquilla Jones, the famous Democratic postmaster of Indianapolis, Ind., was born in Stokes county, N. C., July 8, 1811.

Married in Rowan county, last Wednesday, Henry L. Ford, Esq., and Miss Annie Lindsay. Miss Lindsay was once a member of Kirkwood school.

Prof. P. P. Claxton, of Tennessee, lately one of the owners of the Blowing Rock Hotel, was married to Miss Rena Moore, of Goldsboro, last Wednesday. They will take a bridal trip to Germany and be absent a year.

Globe Academy.

GLOBE, N. C., Nov. 28. To the Editor of The Lenoir Topic:

One descending from Blowing Rock at almost the angle of 45 degrees is quickly landed in the beautiful valley of John's River. Here beside its sparkling waters is situated the Globe Academy.

One of the best schools for boys and girls in W. N. C. for cheapness, refinement, healthfulness and religious training.

A large boarding house has been erected for the girls and is superintended by the principal and his wife and also table fare for the boys who stay in those nice offices back of the academy, built for the special use of the students.

Parents should not hesitate on sending their boys here for they can rest assured that no drinking, playing cards or the like will be permitted.

No pains has or will be spared to make it a first-class school in every respect. It now has 80 students from various counties of the State. Watauga, as in everything else, leads them with her 25 students.

HARD TIMES.

George Washington as a Conductor. Lenoir, (S. C.) Ledger.

One of our Narrow Gauge conductors claims to have moved from Lenoir 49,999 pounds of fruit on one trip. Some of the boys tried to get him to make it 50,000 pounds but he said he wouldn't tell a lie for one pound of fruit.

THE APPOINTMENTS.

The List as Read by the Bishop at the Close of Conference—Disposition of the Preachers for the Next Year.

Charlotte Observer. At the close of the 46th session of the annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in this city yesterday, Bishop Keener announced the appointments as follows:

RALEIGH DISTRICT. N H D Wilson, presiding elder. Edenton street, W C Norman. Person street, W L Cunningham. Brooklyn and Macedonia, to be supplied by J F Butt. Cary circuit, J B Martin. Rolesville circuit, Phillip Greening. Smithfield circuit, Solomon Pool. Clayton circuit, A E Wiley. Tar River circuit, J J Rena. Youngville circuit, B C Allred. Louisburg station, Alpheus McCullen. Oxford station, T A Boone. Oxford circuit, N E Coltrane. Henderson station, J D Arnold. Buckhorn circuit, J E Thomson. I W Avent. Earpsboro mission, D A Watkins. Newton Grove mission, E Pope and one to be supplied. Raleigh Christian Advocate, F L Reid.

DURHAM DISTRICT. W S Black, presiding elder. Durham station, W S Creasy. Durham circuit, W S Davis. West and East End mission, Amos Gregson. Hillsboro circuit, L E Thompson. Chapel Hill, R B John. Person circuit, J R Griffith. Leasboro circuit, L L Nash. Alamance circuit, L L Johnson. Haw River circuit, B R Hall. Pitsboro circuit, R T N Stephenson. Granville circuit, J E Underwood. University of North Carolina, Prof. W Mangum. Missionary to China, Charles Jones Soon.

GREENSBORO DISTRICT. J A Cunningham, presiding elder. Greensboro station, J E Mann. Guilford circuit, T H Peggam. East Guilford circuit, J A Bowles. Pleasant Garden circuit, John Tillet. Winston station, J T Bagwell. Forsyth circuit, M J Hunt. Stokes circuit, J R Scroggs, S H Halsebeck. Madison circuit, R P Troy. Ruffin circuit, R G Barrett. Reidsville station, D R Bruton. Yanceyville circuit, J D Baie. Major T Best. Kernersville circuit, J C Thomas.

SALISBURY DISTRICT. W H Bobbitt, presiding elder. Salisbury station, T W Smith. Salisbury circuit, T A Stone. Mocksville circuit, G F Round. Rowan circuit, H M Blair. Farmington circuit, W C Wilson. Concord station, Joseph Wheeler. Concord circuit, W L Grissom. Mount Pleasant circuit, G A Olesby. Albemarle circuit, P F Stamey. Stanly circuit, Zebedee Rush. Big Lick mission, J A Green. Mt Zion station, J W North. Enochville circuit, C W Smith.

STATESVILLE DISTRICT. R A Willis, presiding elder. Statesville station, James H Corndon, James Wilson, sup'n; Statesville circuit, W M Bagby; Mooresville circuit, A P Tyer; Iredell circuit, Geo W Irey; Rock Spring circuit, M V Sherrill; Newton circuit, O M Gentry; Catawba circuit, A M Lowe; Alexander circuit, J T Abernathy; Caldwell circuit, Robert M Taylor; Lenoir circuit, J O Rowe; Wilkes circuit, G W Fisher, E J Eudally, sup'n; Roaring River mission, J F Craven; Elkin and Jonesville, J M Ashby; Mt Airy station, W H Townsend; Mt Airy circuit, C P Snow; Dobson circuit, B A York; Yadkinville circuit, J W Puet; Oak Institute, H Triplett, principal.

SHELBY DISTRICT. M L Wood, presiding elder. Shelby station, W S Rone; Shelby circuit, M D Giles; King's Mountain circuit, J W Wheeler; Dallas circuit, J M Lumly; Gaston circuit, J C Hartsel; Island Mountain station, J B Betsy; Lincoln station, J B Bailey; South Fork circuit, H M Hoyle; Hickory station, J E Bristowe; Happy Home circuit, J B Carpenter; Morganton circuit, G A Callahan; Table Rock circuit, C A Gault; McDowell circuit, C G Little; Double Shoals circuit, J F England; Forest City circuit, J A Lee; Rutherfordton circuit, T J Daily; Antioch mission, C W King; Columbus mission, H Edwards.

CHARLOTTE DISTRICT. T W Guthrie, presiding elder. Charlotte, Tryon street, W M Robey; Charlotte, Church street, J B Hurley; Charlotte circuit, W F Coffin; Matthew's circuit, M H Hoyle, S M Davis, sup'n; Clear Creek circuit, F B McCall; Pineville circuit, J Ed Thompson; Pleasant Grove circuit, Oliver Byder; Monroe station, F D Swindell; Monroe circuit, T S Ellington; Wadesboro station, W C Gannon; Wadesboro circuit, R S Webb; Ansonville circuit, W H Moore; Lilesville circuit, G W Hardison.

FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT. S D Adams, presiding elder. Fayetteville, J T Gibbs; Campbellton mission, J J Grigg; Cumberland circuit, W S Hales; Lumberton circuit, J P Finlayson; Roberson circuit, Jonathan Sandford; Ashpole mission, John A Hornaday; Laurinburg circuit, J T Lyon; St John station, L E Stacey; Rockingham circuit, J H Page; Rockingham circuit, F L Townsend; Manly mission, M A Smith; Carthage circuit, W B Doub; Jonesboro circuit, W

Oscar Hightower; Cape Fear circuit, W S Chaffin; Lillington circuit, J H Hall.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT. P J Carraway, presiding elder. Wilmington, Front street, E A Yates; Wilmington, Fifth street, D H Tuttle; Topsail circuit, Isaac A White; Duplin circuit, A G Gantt; Maguolia circuit, W A Forbes; Clinton circuit, J T Kendall, R L Warlick; Cokesbury circuit, J L Keen; Bladen circuit, C P Jerome; Elizabeth circuit, Daniel May; Whiteville circuit, J M Downum; Carver's Creek circuit, S R Belk; Waccamaw circuit, C W Godwin; Smithville station, M M McFarland; Brunswick circuit, Thomas C Lovin; Onslow circuit, to be supplied by Z Paris; Rocky Point High School, J C Crisp, principal.

NEW BERNE DISTRICT. J T Harris, presiding elder. New Berne station, L W Crawford; Goldsboro station, L S Burkhead; Goldsboro circuit, J F Washburn; Wayne circuit, R C Beaman; Mt Olive circuit, P L Groome; Kinross station, N M Jurne; Snow Hill circuit, P L Herman; La Grange circuit, W W Rose; Lenoir mission, N A Hooker; Craven circuit, W J Crowson; Jones circuit, A D Betts; Morehead station, C W Yrd; Beaufort station, J W Jones; Carteret circuit, to be supplied by W H Puckett; Neuse mission, to be supplied by S F B cton; Pamlico circuit, James Mahoney; Straits mission, to be supplied by J T Hoover; Cove Sound mission, T J Browning.

WARRENTON DISTRICT. J S Nelson, presiding elder. Warrenton circuit, R O Burton; Warren circuit, L J Holden; Ridge-way circuit, Jno N Cole; Rannoke circuit, T P Bonner; Weldon and Halifax station, W B North; Halifax circuit, T B Reeks; Scotland Neck mission, J G Nelson; Wilson station, J R Brooks; Wilson mission, B B Holder; Nashville circuit, Z T Harrison; Edgecombe circuit, A R Raven; Jas Wilson; supernumerary; Central Institute for Young Ladies, J M Rhodes, principal.

WASHINGTON DISTRICT. W H Moore, presiding elder. Washington station, T P Ricard; W H Call supernumerary. South Edgecombe circuit, B B Culbreth; Tarboro and Bethel, T J Gattis; Williamson circuit, T O Guthrie; Greenville station, F A Swift; Pitt mission, R B Gilliam; Bishop Creek mission, L O Wyche; Anrora circuit, to be supplied; Bath circuit, N H Gayton; Plymouth station, William R Ware; Columbus circuit, C C Brothers; Mattamuskeet circuit, J D Carpenter; Fairfield station, E L Pell; Swan Quarter circuit, to be supplied by William Lowe; Hatteras mission, J Y Peggam; Portsmouth and Ocracoke, Valance G Rollins.

TRINITY COLLEGE DISTRICT. V A Sharpe, presiding elder. Randolph circuit, F H Wood, C O Durant; J F Keeran, sup; Thomasville and High Point, S V Hoyle; Davidson circuit, D L Earnhardt; Lexington station, J E Gay; Abbott's Creek mission, S D Peeler; Randleman station, R F Bumpass; Franklinsville circuit, D A Furell; Deep River circuit, W F Cutchin; T C Moses, supernumerary; Uwharrie circuit, G B Perry; Jackson Hill circuit, to be supplied; Montgomery circuit, J E Woosley; Pekin circuit, F M Shamberger; Mount Gilead circuit, M W Boyles; Prof J F Heitman, Trinity College. Transferred—J B Bobbitt, to Baltimore Conference; James D Forkne, to Virginia Conference, and appointed to Patrick circuit; Hugh F Wiley, to Holston Conference, and appointed to Waynesville.

An Entertaining Young School Teacher. PATTERSON, Dec. 3.

Miss Anna Pennell has just closed a prosperous and interesting school in Richlands, which, it is said by some who sent, has been one of the best ever taught at that place. Miss Anna commenced free school work last fall and taught about five months three miles above Patterson, closing in February, and beginning the following May in the Richlands. And though she gets a first grade certificate, she sought improvement by attending the Boone Normal, after which she resumed her school, and has now finished with the good opinion of all her patrons, the two schools making her over \$150. How many men there are with greater advantages than she, that have made less in the last 12 months! This is an example, girls, that you will do well to follow. J. N.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. That undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the late L. P. Patrick, do hereby notify all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make prompt settlement. And all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them, properly approved, for payment within the time required by law, or this notice will be filed in bar of their recovery. J. B. CLARKE, Adm'r. Rocks, N. C., Nov. 21, 1885.

LAST CALL FOR TAX. Kelley's Store, Tuesday, Dec 1; Lovelady, Wednesday, 2; Peas Mills, Thursday, 3; Oxford, Friday, 4; King's Creek, Saturday, 5; Elkin Grove, Tuesday, 6; Patterson, Wednesday, 7; Globe, Thursday, 8; John's River, Friday, 9; Hartland, Saturday, 10; Lenoir, Monday and Tuesday, 11. All persons who have not paid their taxes for the year 1885, are notified to attend promptly, to take up their receipts, and save cost. M. H. TURLEY, Sheriff.

Bethesda Healing Springs, Bethesda, N. C. WANTED—to form a Joint Stock Co. for improving above named property. Attention of capitalists is called to this good and safe investment. Interest on shares is invited to examine the property and correspond with H. V. THOMPSON, Owner and Proprietor, Glade Spring, Va.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. North Carolina, Caldwell County. Having qualified as administrator on the estate of the late J. D. Torrence, on the 5th day of November, 1885, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to the estate of the said J. D. Torrence, to make immediate payment and settlement, and all persons having claims against said estate will present them on or before the 5th day of November, 1886, or this notice will be filed in bar of their recovery. This 5th day of November, 1885. F. S. HANNA, Adm'r.

New Goods

Extremely Low Prices!

500 bushels Red Fall Apples, 500 bushels Green Skin Apples, 500 bushels Limbertwig Apples.

We are now receiving a Large and Complete Stock of

CASH.

Cash paid for cabbage, white kraut and all kinds of mountain produce. We want everything in the

Produce Line,

And pay highest CASH prices for it. Call and see us.

Moore & Ervin.

Of Interest to All.

The way to save money is to buy your goods where you can get the best article for the least money. To do this we invite you to our house as

HEADQUARTERS.

"Proof of the pudding is in the eating." So don't fail to give us a trial before buying elsewhere.

OUR STOCK OF

General Merchandise IS COMPLETE,

Embracing a Variety of Notions, Ladies' Dress Goods, Worsteds, Calicoes, Vel-

veteens, Water Proof Goods, Silk Trimmings, Mens Piece Goods for both Pants and Suits.

Tickings, Brown and Blacked Domestic, Alamance

Plaids, Hickory Shirting, Canton Flannels, Blankets, Ladies' Wraps and Jersey Jackets, Shawls,

Ready Made Clothing,

Overcoats, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Underwear, &c., &c.

A complete line of Boots & Shoes, embracing the celebrated Zeigler Shoes for both ladies & gentlemen.

Hats, Caps, Trunks and Valises. First class Raw and

Roasted Coffee, Teas, Sugars, Syrups, Bacon, Lard, Upper and Sole Leather, &c., &c., &c.

Full Line of Hardware Always On Hand. Special Attention is called to the

New Home Sewing Machine,

IRON KING & ELMO Cooking Stoves,

Best on the Market.

Thanking our friends for past favors and soliciting future ones we are

R. S. Reinhardt & Co.

LENOIR, N. C., Oct. 21. CLOYD AND NELSON.