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THE FATES AGAINST US.

We have before us a letter written Jan. 25, from New Jersey to a gentleman in Lenoir. The writer of the letter has the management of a large area of timber and mineral lands in Caldwell and in some of the adjoining counties. He has had the property surveyed and examined by a practical woodsman and mine-geologist and has received a report in which its resources are itemized according to the judgment of the surveyor. Knowing the lands of this country we can form some idea of what that report is and we can be sure that the timber and mineral resources are sufficient, under ordinary circumstances, to induce a man with idle capital to embark in a scheme to develop them. From this letter we find that, notwithstanding the favorable showing made by the report of the resources of the land, Northern business men who have money to invest still fight shy of the South. He gives two reasons for this still prevalent objection to the South entertained by Northern capitalists:

I. "They read a class of newspaper articles published in the interest of politicians and listen to the talk of demagogues and are foolish enough to believe what they hear and to doubt the security of money invested in the South." The writer of the letter is a sensible man and he seems to have gotten over the great bugaboo of "insecurity of Southern investment" which he says is generally current at the North. Gradually, slowly, even as he was converted—for we take it that he, too, was once on the other side—must the whole North be changed in its way of looking at things in the South. Indeed, things are improving, we hope—at any rate we are told so—and people of both sections are traveling about, "passing and repassing," visiting all parts of the country and seeing with their own eyes the condition of every section. The "era of good feeling" has come and we look expectantly for all distrust of the South to be rapidly dissipated in the North. We know that this bloody shirt talk is still being printed in some Northern newspapers and it would not be printed if it did not meet with the approbation of a large class of readers. That this class is much smaller than it was, we know, and that it may speedily grow smaller and smaller, we can only hope. While there is a large class of intelligent men in the North who have thrown off the old bitterness and refuse to believe this stuff dashed out by the New York Tribune and other incendiary papers, the number of people who implicitly believe all they read in such papers is much greater than we have any idea of. This New Jersey gentleman did a very sensible thing: Knowing that Judge C. A. Cilley, an ex-Federal Colonel from New Hampshire, and Prof. Sanborn, late of Maine, had thrown in their fortunes with us, he asked them to write him letters about the state of society, &c. They very promptly wrote to him that they had been received in the most friendly and hospitable manner by the people here and that there is no ostracism—social, political or mercantile here on account of a man's birth-place. This, it is to be hoped, will have some effect in renewing the above mentioned prejudice as far as it applies to this locality.

II. Another drawback to our development mentioned in this letter is the work done by the great Western Railroad companies antagonistic to Southern immigration. These Railroads all go West and along the lines of their roads they have millions of acres of public lands which were just given to them by Republican Congresses and "grabbed" without warrant of law. (These are the gentry that Commissioner Sparks is after, now, with such a sharp stick.) These lands they are anxious to settle and they keep the current of immigration going in their direction and they take every means possible to decry the South. The only thing we can see possible to be done in this direction is to fire against them. This North Carolina is doing with her Immigration Bureau. It ought to be perfected so as to show as bold

a front as possible to those grinding monopolies—that is, if we conclude that immigration to North Carolina is desirable. Is it?

STATE TOPICS.

In Cleveland county the school children get \$1.11 of public school money.

There are 51 distillers in this, the 6th Internal Revenue district, more than any other district in the Union has.

There were only 15 applicants to practice law before the Supreme Court last week. Twelve were successful.

The Lincoln county commissioners have decided to build a \$3,500 iron bridge across the South Fork in Lincoln.

The Burke Blade says that Col. W. S. Pearson, of Burke, one of the West's most brilliant sons, will soon take editorial control of the Durham Reporter.

Senator Ransom and Congressman Cowles, says the Appalachian Philosopher, are endeavoring to get a daily mail route established between Jefferson and Marion, Va.

Last Sunday morning week, at 2 o'clock, Alexander Heinowsky, aged 23, a German painter in Charlotte, came to his boarding place, the Charlotte Hotel and, going to his room, lay down without undressing upon the bed upon which his bed-fellow, Adolf Ulrich, was asleep. Sometime afterwards Ulrich and Heinowsky's brother, who was also in the room, were awakened by the smell of smoke and they found the painter almost buried in a cinder. He hurriedly got up and, going to the door, he is supposed to have ignited matches in his pocket by lying on them and, as his clothing was full of turpentine and paint, it burned like tinder.

TIMELY TOPICS.

The Senate is debating whether Dakota shall be admitted as a State.

Maryland Legislature is discussing the propriety of calling a constitutional convention.

Mr. Gladstone, the "grand old man," has formed a cabinet. It is not thought that his lease on power will last long.

The Senate committee has reported favorably an appropriation of \$200,000 for a public building at Wilmington.

The East Tennessee Democrats think the Governorship belongs to them next trip and they are all solid for Bob Taylor.

Senator Blair has reported favorably from the committee on woman's suffrage a joint resolution to amend the constitution so as to extend the voting privilege to women.

Surveyor-General Dement, of Utah, has been contradicted in his denial of an alleged newspaper interview by two newspaper correspondents who heard him tell what is published on the first page of THE TOPIC. It is doubtless all true.

Next week we will give a full account of the New York World's mare's nest, the "Pan-electric telephone scandal," by which it attempted to slander Attorney-General Garland, Senator Vance and others. Senator Vance proved that he had nothing to do with the affair and we have seen nothing that reflects on Mr. Garland in his connection with it.

Grover stood straight up when the Republican Senators made their demands upon him to explain his reasons for removal of Republican office-holders and the Republican Senators were afraid of his backbone and they were afraid of the people who are behind Grover and of the Democratic Senators who stood around their chief. The Republican Senators backed and didn't want to know as much as they thought they did.

Joe Caldwell, of the Statesville Landmark, has been to Washington and shaken Grover by the hand and looked critically at the big bugs in the Senate and House. He thinks a great deal of Grover as well as of lots of the Congressmen,—but he thinks mighty little of some of them. North Carolina shows off well in Senators, Ransom and Vance being the two best looking. The last seen of "Billy" Cowles, he and his clerk were mailing 2,000 public documents to his constituents. (And the Colonel's fee-bill has been favorably reported by the committee and stands a fighting chance of being passed.) Col. Edmund Jones likes his position in the Treasury Department, but the climate is not agreeing with either him or Hussey.

TOWN TALK TOPICS.

Trivial Incidents and Idle Gossip from the Outlying Hamlets.

Charlotte is to have its census taken.

There are over 100 cases of measles in Lincoln.

The Winston Sentinel will soon be published semi-weekly.

Salisbury has organized a building and loan association.

39 deaths in Wilmington during January—7 whites and 32 blacks.

During January 29 vessels with a combined tonnage of 15,346 entered the port of Wilmington.

Major Wilson and Col. Tate have sold a marble quarry in Mitchell for \$95,000.

The Winston Sentinel of last week published a good picture of our handsome Congressman, Col. Cowles.

The R. & D. R. Co. will replace the burnt freight depot at Salisbury by a 170x50 feet brick structure with a slate roof that is to cost \$6,000.

Asheville papers are making a great noise over the tobacco market which is on a boom and the good mail facilities from Tennessee.—Knoxville papers reaching Asheville at 11 a. m. on the day of publication.

"Dr." W. F. G. Young, who came to Winston in November, bought out the Independent newspaper and began to cut a big swell, has skipped the town and turns out to be a consummate swindler. He was passing off as his "wife" a common prostitute of Raleigh.

The Shelby Aurora speaks with commendable pride of having a circulation each week of 1,500. This is indeed a large circulation and the Aurora shows itself worthy of it. The Topick now has a circulation of 1,680. In the latter part of 1885 its circulation went up as high as 1,776 but was brought down to 1,680 by the cutting off of certain "reprobates" who were a load to carry rather than a profit. Now, relieved of a large incubus, THE TOPIC's circulation is rapidly increasing and can, by honest work, be raised to 2,000 during the spring campaign and all of them will be good subscribers, too, with no "reprobates."

PERSONAL TOPICS.

Mr. F. Lee Cline and Miss Novelia, daughter of Mr. J. M. Lawrence, the Hickory jeweler, are to be married today, the 10th.

Married in Tallego county, Ala. on the 20th of Jan., Mr. Thomas Edward McClure, of Chester, S. C., and Miss Maude Reynolds, of Ala.

Mr. Walter L. Rankin, who has for several years been express agent at Salisbury, has gone up higher to a more lucrative place at Charleston, S. C.

Died in Mecklinburg county, Jan. 14, Mrs. Caroline Hanna, aged 72 years. She was an estimable woman and the mother of our countryman, F. S. Hanna, Esq.

Died, Feb. 3, in Morganton, Mrs. Eliza Walton, aged 67, wife of Col. T. G. Walton. She was taken suddenly ill on the Saturday before while attending the funeral services of the late Mrs. Pearson.

Surveyor-General Dement's Denial. WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Surveyor-General Dement, of Utah, was examined by the Senate committee on public lands today with reference to recent publications which embodied alleged utterances of his implicating Senators, members of Congress and high executive officials of Washington and in Utah in extensive conspiracies to misappropriate public lands for their own benefit, and in conspiracies to influence, by bribery, legislation affecting the Mormons. Mr. Dement denied the statements attributed to him one by one, and without reservation. The newspaper which he repudiated, will ask to be heard, that they may give the source of their information.

Sundries from Wilkes. MORAVIAN FALLS, Feb. 4. To the Editor of The Lenoir Topic: AN OLD LADY.

Last week Miss Patsy Parlier died near Moravian Falls, was buried in the old grave yard a mile on the Lenoir road. She lacked only a few weeks of being 102 years old. Only two weeks before had I ever conducted services at the burial of persons who lived past 80, and it is an event of a lifetime to witness the burial of a person who was past 100. Mr. John Steelman, Sr., who lives near here, lacks two or three years of being 100. When he feels like it, he takes his cane and walks two or three miles, stopping at the store to rest and chat a while. Mr. D. A. Leach, one of our best citizens, tells me that his father will be 102 in May. He lives in Montgomery county and continued quite active till about a year ago. He came from Scotland in his youth, landing at Wilmington in 1804.

During the extremely cold weather, there was buried at Cub Creek church, a little daughter of William Smith, about 3 years old.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS. High waters prevented the meeting of the Board of Education of Wilkes county the first Monday in January. Two calls were made during the month, but the ice sometimes hindered the members from attending, and at others the same cause delayed the notice of the meeting, so that it was not held till the first Monday in February. The board originally consisted of Wesley Joins, C. C. Wright and G. W. Greene, but Mr. Wright having resigned, there are now only two. It was expected that the Board of Commissioners would fill the vacancy at their February meeting, but at this writing the result of the election has not been made known.

The returns from 89 districts for white children show a total of 6511 pupils of school age, while 17 colored districts report 763 children, making 7274 children of school age

in the county. After reserving a sufficient amount for general expenses, the board distributed \$4,294.26, giving 40 cents per capita and \$13.10 to each district in addition to the per capita.

An appropriation was also made for holding a Teacher's Institute at some time this summer.

Most of the schools in the county are now in session, or are just about expiring. Mr. J. F. Hayes, one of the best teachers in the county, has just closed the school at New Hope on Lewis' Fork, and is expected to return to Moravian Falls in a few days. Mr. T. A. Whittington, who returned in the fall from Allegheny where he had been teaching, will close a school on Reddick's River the last of this week. He has invited several speakers to make addresses on the occasion.

TIMELY GIFTS. The citizens of Wilkesboro early in January forwarded a box of quilts, comforts, dresses and other appropriate articles to the Baptist Orphanage, recently established at Thomasville. One of the young merchants who is not known to be a married man as yet, assisted in filling the box; but the authorities of the Orphanage, in making acknowledgment of the articles in the papers, credit this gift to Mrs. ———. Some are very curious to see the good lady.

The citizens of Moravian Falls last week started a similar box for the same destination.

Last Saturday I was sent for to come to the Academy on some unimportant business of importance. On arriving I found some ladies who desired to know where to put up a large clock just purchased for the Academy, a gift from the students and neighbors, under the leadership of the Music Teacher. Those who have been troubled by the recent irregularity of the ringing of the bell, think this the "finest" gift of all. Those who wish to regulate their time-pieces, need not wait for the sun to shine, just wait till Bruce rings the bell and set them thereby. G. W. G.

According to Salisbury Herald. This bad weather must have been bad on some of Salisbury's citizens, such as the Aching-backs and Coughn-hours.—Lenoir Topic.

We Judge Cilley such allusions as the above. We never heard until lately that Lenoir could boast of such a curiosity as a Living stone, yet we beg for Mercy and hope to get off Scott-free.

Letter from Boone. FRIDAY MORNING, Feb. 5. To the Editor of the Lenoir Topic:

The county commissioners, J. E. Finley, H. H. Farthing and B. L. Holsclaw, met in the court house on Monday last, and transacted some business, and adjourned on Tuesday.

They drew the following named persons for jurors: James M. Cook, W. Austin Miller, J. B. McGuire, J. Watt Farthing, W. W. Green, Isaac Eggers, Zack Adams, J. M. Payne, Wm H. Calloway, Harman Pressnell, W. J. Hagaman, Wm D. Cook, J. B. Miller, J. E. Farthing, Jno. Wilson, Sr., Geo W. Moody, J. C. McGhee, Jesse Green, J. A. Shook, Thomas Bigham, Eliza Green, J. J. Day, S. M. Dugger, Thos C. Miller, Alexander Thomas, W. S. Ford, W. H. Harbin, Thos L. Ward, S. H. Banner, Jno C. Brown, Sidney H. Phillips, G. W. Canter, Jno E. Green, J. C. Davis, W. C. L. Hulcher.

Sheriff D. F. Baird has paid to the county treasurer, John Ruggan, about \$2,100 on school taxes for 1885, all of which has been paid to the school teachers, and \$1,474.11 on the general county tax for 1885, of which amount \$1,374.11 was in county claims, which were cancelled by the board and county treasurer.

Wm. Fisher, in Boone township, living about five miles from town, is very low with typhoid fever.

Silas Holsclaw, living in the same neighborhood, was very near death's door, but is now thought to be on the mending order.

Thomas Farthing, son of Rev. Reuben Farthing, of Laurel Creek township, near Antioch church, this county, fell dead on Tuesday, the 2nd instant, aged about 50 years. He was a member of the First North Carolina cavalry regiment, and was wounded at Brandy Station, Va., which wound affected his mind, and he never recovered.

Miss Mary Tatum, near Elk X Roads, died of colic a few days ago. She was, probably, about 20 years of age.

We are having another cold wave. This morning the thermometer indicates seven degrees below zero. The sun is shining.

I have counted 37 days on which snow has fallen the past fall and present winter.

"PLAYING POOL." Our Catawba Court Correspondent Stirred up a Hornet's Nest, Last Week.

The esteemed correspondent of THE TOPIC who wrote from Catawba Court, last week, only proposed, from his goodness of heart, to furnish THE TOPIC with a batch of interesting news and we do not suppose that he knew personally a single individual connected with any of the cases he reported. It seems to have waked up a hornet's nest. The first intimation we had of it was a letter received, Thursday, from a Hickory saloon keeper who said that the 15-year old witness was her clerk and that his place was where Kerr played pool. He further stated that the boy's character and his own were good and demanded the name of the author of the communication. If

the editor refused to disclose the name of his correspondent then he, the saloon keeper, would hold him, the editor, responsible for all that was said. As the right to know the names of THE TOPIC correspondents is not a public right and belongs only to the editor of THE TOPIC, this latter individual very properly declined to divulge the secret which the saloon keeper demanded to know.

Later we received a communication from the lawyer of the young man, who testified in the case of State vs. Kerr. We publish the letter below. We can only state that if our correspondent was mistaken, he committed an error of the head and not of the heart:

HICKORY, N. C., Feb. 5, '85. To the Editor of the Lenoir Topic:

In the issue of THE TOPIC of Feb. 2 your correspondent in his communication of the proceedings of Catawba court, has been by some means misled as to the testimony in the case of State vs. Ed Kerr, for Lenoir. Your correspondent says "that a youth, 15-years old appeared as a witness against Kerr. He was bloated with drink. He saw Kerr bet a dollar last March on a game called pool, kept in a drinking saloon where he was clerk," and while I have no desire to be held into a newspaper controversy, yet the above is so manifestly unjust to the young man referred to and I assisted in the prosecution of Kerr I cannot give the testimony as it was. There was no evidence that the witness ever drank a drop of liquor and to the contrary his good character, for not only truth and honesty, but also for sobriety, can be established by the most reputable citizens of this town. The witness did not state that he saw Kerr bet a dollar on a game of pool but that Kerr played four games of pool and in payment handed witness a silver dollar, of which witness took forty cents in payment for the games and handed sixty cents to Kerr in change. This is the testimony as I distinctly recollect it. I only ask that this correction be made in justice to the young man. Because he clerks in a bar room it does not necessarily follow that he is a drunkard. Knowing as I do that the editor of THE TOPIC is always more than willing to correct an error, I trust that he will give this space in his columns. C.

Later still the Hickory Press contains the following: "A correspondent of THE LENOIR TOPIC of the 3rd inst., in reporting the proceedings of Catawba Superior Court, makes some mistakes concerning the evidence given in the case of the State vs. Ed Kerr. The report does one of the witnesses great injustice, and contains a reflection on the town of Hickory, not justified by the facts of the case."

Great injustice may have been done the witness but we have re-read our correspondent's letter several times and we fail to see any "reflection on the town of Hickory" in it. We doubt if many people in that town saw it either.

Fertilizer Notice. The company for which we are agents insist on having their names on all persons who have bought fertilizers of us must pay by the 10th of February. In case of non-payment, we will have to sell out the stockages. AGENTS: H. & H. BARTLEY.

LAND POSTED. My plantation on the waters of Lower creek, joining the lands of A. P. Platt and others, is posted and limited, traps and other traps are set and hereby warned not to trespass on the same. MISS S. E. HARTLEY.

NOTICE. In the Superior Court, Catawba county, before the clerk. Thos. J. Coffey and J. A. Elliott, administrators of the estate of M. J. Coffey, deceased, against M. J. Coffey, Martha Elliott, John J. Coffey and wife, heirs and others. Petition to set real estate for assets.—Notice.

The defendant, John T. Lippard will take notice to appear at the office of the Superior Court for the county of Catawba on the 22nd day of February, 1886, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff, and of which will be deposited in the office of the clerk of the Superior Court, of this county, and in the office of the clerk of the court in answer to a point at that time, the plaintiff will appear at that time, at the office of the plaintiff. W. E. COUSHELL, JR., ATT'Y at LAW, Salisbury, S. C., January 26th, 1886.

SHERIFF'S SALE. John J. Bailey vs. James H. Bennett. To satisfy an execution in my hands for a debt in favor of said J. J. Bailey and against said James H. Bennett, I will offer for sale, to the highest bidder for cash, at the court house door in Lenoir, on Monday, the 1st day of March 1886, said Bennett's interest in thirty acres of land, more or less, lying on the waters of Little Mulberry, adjoining lands of John Nosen, Joseph Fox, et al. M. H. TUTTLE, Sheriff.

Notice of Incorporation. NORTH CAROLINA. In Office Clerk Superior Court. Notice is hereby given of the incorporation of "The Owen, Harper Manufacturing Company," and the names of the incorporators are S. F. Harper, N. H. Owen, B. T. Lenoir, Hugh Owen, James Leard, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 2681, 2682, 2683, 2684, 2685, 2686, 2687, 2688, 2689, 2690, 2691, 2692, 2693, 2694, 2695, 2696, 2697, 2698, 2699, 2700.

W. C. ERVIN, Attorney at Law, Lenoir, N. C.

"Saturday Night." IMMENSELY POPULAR! The Leading Paper in the United States.

The hold which this beautifully illustrated weekly retains upon the people's confidence, is a striking evidence of its value and interest. The value of its stories is not measured by the enormous sum of money they cost, but by the eagerness of the people to read them.

NEW STORY EVERY SECOND WEEK. Each paper has six continued stories, from six to twelve complete short stories, as many poems, items of interest and information, the latest fashions, answers to correspondence, and a variety of humorous and entertaining articles.

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Subscriptions can begin with any number. Back numbers supplied at the same rates, or singly for six cents each. We pay all postage. JAMES ELVESHAM, Publisher of Saturday Night, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Old Year has passed away, 1886 has been ashed in, and to

ONE AND ALL

We wish a prosperous and happy

New Year.

Can not last long.

—1-0-1—

A Request.

To all of our debtors we have been very lenient in the past but the time has come when we need

And Must Have OUR PAY, 500 Dozen

And Earnestly request All Persons owing us to come forward

AT ONCE

And make Settlement.

We trust a prompt response will be given to this request.

It shall be our aim in the future to make as few accounts as possible, especially till "old scores" are

Paid Up,

And at the same time it shall be our aim to serve our customers to the

Very Best Advantage,

And to give them the

Best Goods

FOR THE

LEAST MONEY.

* * * — C & N — * * *

Thanking you for your past favors and soliciting your continued patronage, we are,

Respectfully,

CLOYD AND NELSON.

Western North Carolina Railroad.

WESTERN N. C. RAILROAD CO. GENERAL MANAGER DEP'T. Salisbury, Jan. 10th, 1886. Commencing Sunday, January 17th, and succeeding all others, the following passenger train schedule will be operated over this route:

Table with columns: Train No., W. & A., Train No., 2 East, Arr. Lenoir, Dep. Lenoir.

Sold the world over for a dollar. A Linen Collar for 10 c.

A Nice Tin Safe for \$2.75, Worth \$4

A Good Bed Stead for 1.50

A No 7 Cook Stove for \$12.

A good Hand Saw for 50 cents.

15 lbs Sugar for \$1, 7 lbs for 50 cts., 3 lbs for 25 cts.

EVERYTHING ELSE

In our House at prices never equaled in this country.

You Should Not Miss This Chance.

Respectfully,

R. S. Reinhardt & Co.

LENOR, Feb. 9, 1886.