

THE ROBESONIAN.

J. R. WHICHAUD, Editor and Manager.

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The North Carolina Press Association holds its next annual session at Morehead City on June 9th and 10th.

The Secretary of the Navy has finally accepted the cruiser Brooklyn upon the favorable report of the board which conducted her recent sea trial.

As showing the remarkable growth of the postal business in this country, the pieces handled have increased from 1,409,778,498 in 1882, to 4,195,665,528 in 1896.

The Senate, in executive session last Wednesday, confirmed the nomination of Thomas R. Purwell to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Republicans are blaming Governor Russell for the way the municipal elections went in North Carolina last week. They say "Russell has killed everything. Governor Russell has done more to literally slay our party in North Carolina than all other influences combined."

For five months, from December 1st, 1896, to May 1st, 1897, 189,728 tons of commercial fertilizers were sold in North Carolina. The prices paid averaged \$22.50 per ton, aggregating \$4,268,880. This is by far the largest quantity of fertilizers ever sold in the State.

The Dry Goods Chronicle states that a merchant of Bellefontaine, O., has invented a device to measure dry goods without unrolling the fabrics, whereby a stock which it formerly took three weeks to invoice may be footed up in one day. Anything to lighten the job of stock-taking should be a boon to the trade. But the best of all ways to lighten stock-taking is to lighten stocks; and no device can touch publicity for that.

A terrible catastrophe is reported from Paris. Last week while a charity bazaar was being held in a wooden building erected for temporary use, a lamp exploded and set fire to the decorations. The building soon burned to the ground and almost two hundred lives were lost. Among the dead are some of the leading members of society and nobles of the French capital. A number of Americans and Englishmen were at the bazaar and it is supposed that some of them perished.

The "color line" question is becoming alarmingly involved. In Washington President McKinley is face to face with the complaints of negro agitators that mulattoes are "hogging" all the public positions in the colored schools to the exclusion of persons of black complexion. The blacks say that the mulattoes and quadroons are very well in social matters and affect a status of their own and that the thing has gone far enough. The issue should be settled right away.—Springfield Republican.

At the meeting of the new board of directors of the North Carolina Railroad, held in Burlington last week, a permanent organization was effected by the election of Dr. R. M. Norment, of Lumberton, as president, and E. S. Walton, of Morganton, secretary and treasurer. The latter is required to give a bond for \$75,000. A demand was made upon the old secretary for his books, but he refused to give them up. Dr. Norment's salary is \$2,100 a year, instead of \$1,200, as he supposed before receiving a copy of the by-laws. The annual meeting of the stockholders will be held on July 6th.

The Kinston Free Press gives this sensible advice to its farmer readers: "Some of the agricultural papers are advising the farmers to plant larger cotton crops on account of the floods in the Mississippi river. This is unsound advice. Even with last year's short crop the price was lower than affords a profit to the farmers. With a fair crop, even if the entire Yazoo delta grows no cotton, there will be enough to keep the price down. The safest plan for the farmers of this section to follow is first to grow plenty of food supplies for man and beast, and then plant some cotton and some tobacco. There is just as likely to be a shortage in the tobacco crop because of the Cuban war, as a shortage in cotton because of the Mississippi flood."

THE TOWN ELECTIONS.

The municipal elections held in North Carolina last week generally passed off quietly and with few exceptions there was not much of a contest. The big fights were made in Asheville, Hickory, Charlotte and Raleigh.

The fight in Asheville was between Democrats and Republicans and was very warmly contested. Rankin, Democrat, won for Mayor, and a majority of the board of aldermen are Democrats. The Republicans elected two aldermen and the city treasurer.

In Hickory the fight was made on the question of license or no license, and not along party lines. Mr. T. M. Huffam, editor of the Times was the dry candidate for mayor, and was elected by forty-five majority. The dry aldermen were elected by a majority of fifty to seventy. This is the largest majority ever received for the anti-bar room men.

The contest in Charlotte was probably the hottest in the State. An independent ticket was in the field and all kinds of charges were made. Springs, independent, defeated Weddington, Democrat, for mayor by 406 majority and six independents were elected on the board of aldermen.

In Raleigh Russ, Democrat, defeated Stronach, independent, by 661 votes, and nine out of the twelve aldermen are Democrats. This is probably the largest majority ever given in Raleigh. Several colored preachers were effective workers for the Democratic ticket.

In other towns the Democrats as a rule were successful, in some of them no opposition ticket being run. Among the larger and more important towns which elected Democratic mayors are Salisbury, Statesville, Greensboro, Durham, Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Monroe and others.

The Republicans carried Mt. Airy and three or four other towns, and a very few were carried by the independents.

Bryan in Cleveland.
New York Journal.

The important part of Mr. Cleveland's address is found in his declaration of war against those who supported the Chicago ticket. In this last address he has given more aid to his opponents than his official acts. His thinly disguised support of the Republican ticket in the late campaign did much to drive the silver Republicans out of the Republican party, and their loyalty to bimetalism has not been shaken by defeat. In his address Saturday night he aided the silver cause still further by removing whatever danger there might have been of concessions from the regular Democrats to the bolters.

If he had discussed the fundamental principles of Democracy and then urged a union of forces upon a platform compromising differences on the money question he might have done us harm in some sections, but his dogmatic insistence upon a foreign financial policy and his emphatic endorsement of the organization of the gold Democrats will have a wholesome influence in convincing timid Democrats of the folly of any attempt to reunite the Democrats who believe in bimetalism with the Democrats who are wedded to gold monometallicism.

A less resolute man would hesitate to assume the leadership of a little band of 130,000 many of whom voted the Indianapolis ticket by mistake, and then accuse 6,500,000 voters of being either designing agitators or the dupes of designing agitators.

A man of less self-reliance would re-examine his own conduct to see whether it was his folly or theirs which separated them from 5,000,000 Democrats who once idolized him, but in the lexicon of Mr. Cleveland's mature years there is no such word as "mistake."

The gold Democracy is impotent to bring any real relief to the country; it is long on platitudes and short on performance; it reaches its maximum at a banquet and its minimum at the polls. It is the toy of those financiers who prate about national honor while they fatten on the Nation's extremity, and is powerless to protect the people from the extortion of trusts and the greed of unrestrained corporatism.

In the sixteenth century the average length of a doctor's life was thirty-six years five months, in the seventeenth century it was forty-five years and eight months, in the eighteenth century forty-nine years and eight months, and in the nineteenth fifty-eight years and seven months. If, thus appears that doctors were 800 years in learning hot to take their own medicine.—Chicago Chronicle.

The Averages of Tobacco per Acre.

Wilmington Messenger.

The tobacco production is too great. Between over production and the rapidly falling prices and the fact that the trust there are low prices and bad times for the planters. The prices of the fine North Carolina grades—the golden kinds, are not much more than one-fourth what they were a quarter of a century ago. The trust is to a great extent responsible for the low prices of the kinds of tobacco in manufacturing the deadly and poisonous cigarettes. President J. Allen Holt, of Oak Ridge sanitary, writes to Hon. J. R. Webster, the able editor of the Raleigh Weekly: "One Methodist Granville writes me that if that country had the Dakotas have robbed them of, it could erect and endow two such colleges."

We have had our attention directed to the tobacco production in the several States growing the weed. It seems that the Connecticut tobacco averages higher than the other States per acre. Florida is second. The next three highest States are Northern. In the list we give below it is seen that North Carolina ranks as low as tenth in the average price per acre. This is astonishing to us, and if true, it is a sad condition of things. It is that tens of thousands of acres in North Carolina grow tobacco of a common kind, and that they are not really adapted to such production. How else could Northern and some Southern States lead North Carolina, so far too, in the results? Here is the table showing the value per acre:

Connecticut	\$242.50
Florida	147.07
Massachusetts	145.83
Pennsylvania	110.41
New York	100.32
West Virginia	70.59
Arkansas	68.09
Missouri	66.34
Tennessee	61.20
North Carolina	59.58
Ohio	48.76
Illinois	44.47
Wisconsin	43.85
Kentucky	42.63
Virginia	39.12
Indiana	37.02
Maryland	35.35

Turning over a trunk of old manuscripts and printed articles of our own recently we found a short communication by us in the Raleigh Daily News, and dated, Oxford, N. C., August 21, 1874. It gives some tobacco statistics of that great tobacco county, Granville, South Carolina, and the result is as follows: The statistics have been given by us since our residence in that city beginning in 1876. Some of the facts and figures we have not since reproduced. To show what one county used to accomplish, we will restate some of the facts:

Mitchell Curran received over \$5,300 for his crop that was made by his two sons, ages respectively about 15 and 18, assisted by a smaller brother who was an invalid, and who only worked about half of the time. Seventy-five dollars were expended for fertilizers and \$5 for extra help. That will do. This was some three years ago.

Dennis Tilley sold about the same time in Richmond, Va., nineteen tiers, receiving \$87 per 100 for the lowest, and \$131 for the highest. Mind you, this was for leaf. Only the other day—22nd July—he obtained the prize of \$75 at a great tobacco fair at Danville, Va. He obtained \$195 per hundred pounds. Out of twelve prizes offered, eleven were taken by North Carolinians, and that in a Virginia market. We believe Mr. Tilley was the only one from Granville who competed and the result is as above given.

Joseph Alcock sold eighteen tiers the other day, averaging \$50.
Jas. B. Hobbog, father of President Hobgood, of Raleigh, averaged \$54 for his crop.
On July 28th, seven tiers sold at Henderson for \$14.75, \$12.50, \$15, \$14.50, \$18, \$69, \$83.50. These prices are not at all unusual.

But let us give the precise figures of a farmer living four miles from Oxford and not in the richest tobacco section of the county. Mr. R. F. Hester is an alumnus of Wake Forest college. He gives the following: "Here are the figures for 1875: Number of acres planted, 10; cost of fertilizers per acre, \$450; total crop for ten acres, \$4,500; hands worked, 2 men and 2 boys; estimating the force at 3 men, his average per hand was \$1,500. Mr. Hester raises his corn, fodder, wheat, oats, and bacon. The above is about the average of his cropping for the last four years."

There were scores of farmers who probably equaled Mr. Hester in prices, and some like Tilley, the Peeds, Washington, Dalby, Rev. B. F. Hester (another man of the same name) and some others averaged even more than Mr. H. did. We wrote to the News:

"I am sure that there are ten men in Granville county who average \$1,200 to every hand they work, for tobacco alone, besides making everything they consume in the way of cereals, meat, etc."
"This was twenty-three years and more ago. Prices range low now. The deadly blight of the rapacious trust rests upon the growers of fine tobacco. The value of an acre in tobacco in North Carolina has indeed fallen when it is but \$59.58. And yet at 6 cents a pound for cotton there is more money in tobacco per acre at present low prices. But mark, it is impossible to cultivate as many acres in tobacco as in cotton. Mr. Hester worked three men and cultivated in tobacco but ten acres, making other things also. Mr. Dicken, in Edgemont, in 1870, on twenty-one acres made himself twenty-one bales of cotton. He received \$2,100 for this crop. The Jacksonville Times-Union considering the highest average of tobacco says: "The higher value per acre of the tobacco crop of Connecticut is due to the fact that the growers in that State all understand the business, while in Florida many of them are without experience. It is also probable that as Connecticut is twenty-five times as thickly settled as Florida, land is more valuable and better cultivated. Intensive farming is the rule there in all crops. There are only about three acres of land in the State to each inhabitant, and the people are compelled to cultivate well instead of cultivating much."

The same conditions prevail in Massachusetts, and to a somewhat less extent in Pennsylvania and New York.
One man in Granville, about 1876 or 1877, name forgotten, but the facts were published in the Oxford Torchlight, made himself a crop of tobacco he sold for \$1,700. The North Carolina farmers should learn that in growing either tobacco or cotton only rich lands and intensive cultivation will make large averages and secure the highest prices.
North Carolina raises more tobacco than any State except Kentucky. It had in 1896, 134,376 acres (by guess no doubt), and produced 68,629,170 pounds, valued at \$5,599,333. The average price was 8 cents a pound. Kentucky had more tobacco, but the average was 4 1/2 cents a pound.

MAXTON HAPPENINGS.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL NEWS OF OUR SISTER TOWN.

J. E. LEWIS, REPORTER.

Col. E. F. McRae was here part of last week.

Dr. J. Dr. Croom took in the convention at Wilmington.

Miss Gracie Gibson will visit Mrs. J. F. Armfield this week.

Mr. Archie McBrady, of Little River Academy, is here with relatives.

Dr. Joe Bets came in last Tuesday and is kept busy playing his profession.

Rev. W. M. Jones, our Baptist pastor, spent Sunday and Monday in Wilmington.

Mr. S. J. Gailbraith, our new C. C. agent, attended court at Asheville last week.

Mr. McKay McKinnon spent last week in South Carolina on insurance business.

Mrs. Hattie Belle and Mrs. Ingram, of Asheboro, are visiting relatives in Maxton this week.

Mr. S. T. Townsend spent a few days here this week the guest of Mr. J. B. Weatherly.

Messrs. A. C. McKinnon and G. B. Sellers will soon be domiciled in their new houses.

We note with pleasure the convalescence of Messrs. A. A. McLean and Clint Burns.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrison, of Canada, spent Saturday here, the guests of Mrs. C. A. Procter.

Mr. Enoch Burns is now occupying the building recently vacated by Mr. J. J. Freedland.

Messrs. A. C. McKinnon and R. M. Williams were in Rowland a few days last week on business.

Mr. Frank McLeod, one of our boys, now a shoe drummer, spent Sunday with his sister near Maxton.

Mr. and Mrs. Baxley, of St. Pauls, spent a few days here last week, with their son, Mr. N. Baxley.

We learn with regret that our clever merchant, Mr. J. D. Jowers, is confined to his room and hope he may be out soon.

Mr. R. D. Croom, who has been in Raleigh for several weeks taking a course in Pharmacy, will return the latter part of the week.

Mr. J. E. Lewis returned from Greensboro Saturday, instead of Monday, but not soon enough to get a full report of the doings around Maxton.

Services were held in the Methodist church here Sunday for the first time during the last month owing to repairs being made on the building.

Our former townsman Mr. S. H. McKinnon, now one of Red Springs' leading merchants, visited his parents near Maxton Wednesday and Thursday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McCaskill have returned from Laurinburg, where they were called to the bedside of Mr. McCaskill's brother. We are very glad to learn he is improving.

Rev. M. B. Baddish was summoned to Red Springs Saturday morning to conduct the funeral services of Mrs. Wallace, wife of the Methodist pastor at that place. He was accompanied by Mrs. Bradshaw.

Saturday was "trade day," and the usual stock of run-down buggies and poor horses predominated. Trade days in Maxton are not what they used to be, and the crowds are growing smaller on each occasion.

A bevy of about twenty pretty young ladies and half the number of young men went down to Red Banks Friday on a fishing expedition. They all report a most enjoyable time, and actually caught enough fish for dinner.

Prof. J. Hugh Stauffer is going right ahead with the rehearsing of "Joseph and his Daughter," and our people on next Thursday and Friday nights will witness the best production ever rendered in Maxton by home talent. A special train will probably be run to Maxton on Friday to accommodate those along the line who are anxious to witness this cantata. The performance will begin at 8 o'clock, in the armory hall. Admission 35 and 50 cents.

The Red Springs Citizen has this to say to two of our visitors: "Our genial and cultured friend, Capt. James F. Johnston, leaves us to spend some time amongst the Maxtonians, where he will be joined by Mrs. Johnston. Maxton society will be augmented by the addition of the best people we ever knew, and Capt. and Mrs. Johnston will strike a lot of clever citizens, almost the equal of those whom he left. The Capt. leaves much to the regret of all our people."

Grady Items.
Mr. Haynes Prevatt has his new building about completed.

Miss Inez Page, of South Carolina, is visiting some of her near relatives and friends in this community.

Mr. J. T. Singletary, who has been suffering for two years with hemorrhage of the lungs, is slowly improving.

We learn that Messrs. Taylor Fisher and G. L. Thompson are going to move their machinery to the Back Swamp old stand.

Mrs. Emma Gaddy, of Cotton Valley, has been spending some time with her father and mother and old friends in this community.

We are glad to learn that so many of the people of this community went to the convention and that they were aroused to a sense of their duty. All of them say that they highly appreciated their trip to Wilmington.

Willie Brown, a Marion school-boy aged 11 years, was shot and instantly killed last Wednesday night by Ab Longery, a colored water at a boarding house. The negro had been drinking and carelessly handling a gun all day and claims that the shooting was accidental. He was put in jail to await the action of the grand jury.

Raeform Institute Locals.

We hear that there are near a hundred hands at work on the rail road.

Judging from some pieces I have seen I suppose the art exhibition will be fine.

We presume that when our next session opens many pupils will come by rail.

We hope to greet the editor of the ROBESONIAN and many friends of Raeform Institute that day.

We were favored with visits from Revs. David Farly and J. S. Black recently which was appreciated by both teachers and pupils.

Everything begins to assume a holiday appearance around Raeform now. The buildings are under the painter's brush and the work on grounds is in progress.

The closing exercises of our school (we do not aspire to commencement yet) will take place on Friday the 21st. There will be an address at 11 a. m., by Dr. Battle, of the University. Contest for the debaters, medal at 3 p. m. Concert and award of medals at 8 p. m.

We venture the assertion that there is no better place in the State to study art than this place. Our art teacher is an indefatigable worker, and gives her class the benefit of three hours instruction every day at the usual rates.

A dime reading in the hotel parlor, under the management of Mrs. McLanchin, was one of the most pleasant social times we have had this session.

We are glad to learn that the infant son of Mr. C. A. Parnell is improving.

Mr. Oscar Odum, of St. Pauls, was visiting relatives and friends here last week.

Crops are looking fine except cotton. Some of the farmers haven't a stand yet.

We are glad to say that after all the frost and cold snaps that the fruit is not killed. We will have some apples and peaches.

The Raft Swamp school is in good progress with a small attendance of boys and girls. It will soon come to a close. Miss Jennie Brown, of Sampson, is teacher.

On May 1st, while the congregation was assembled for preaching, Sam Phillips, a white man, was arrested by Deputy Lowrie. Particulars of the case are not known.

Pastor M. A. Stephens delivered an excellent sermon last Sunday, and one that was full of the spirit from Gen. 11, 31-32. May the Lord help this brother in the work to which he is called. Mr. J. A. Barker, of Back Swamp, also delivered a splendid address on the Sunday school work.

Not Enough Water Drunk.
Washington Star.

"After studying the matter for some years I am convinced," says a physician, "that people do not drink enough of water. I think that a great majority of the cures effected by drinking the waters of the fashionable and unfashionable medicinal springs in various parts of the country would have resulted if the same amount of plain, wholesome, everyday water was drunk by them. People rush to these springs, and while there drink from 8 to 20 large glasses of their waters in a day. Whether there are any medicinal virtues in the waters, this washing out does them good on account of the extra washing out they give themselves, and it is the water instead of the constituency of the same that does the work. The same people, if at their homes, would pass many and many a day without drinking one glass of water. It is my opinion that it is the water that cures, and that it is the water that is needed. I am not a hydropath, or a believer in the theory that water taken internally and externally will cure everything. At the same time, I am satisfied that if people generally drank from four to six glasses of water every day they would have less reason to complain, and suffer less from many ailments that now effect them than they now do."

The Grand Jury's Report.

The attention of the ROBESONIAN has been called to the fact that it had failed to publish the report of the grand jury made at the April term of the Criminal Court, and we were asked to give it for the benefit of the people. Although rather late, the report will be found below. The grand jury submits the following report to-wit:

Passed on 57 bills and found 35 true bills and ignored 17 bills. Visited the County Home for the Aged and Infirm, and found everything in very good condition except the inmates complain of not getting enough to eat. Visited the jail and found it in good condition, except the roof, and we recommend that it be repaired at once; no complaint from prisoners. We have examined the court house and find it in good condition. We recommend that the town clock be looked after and that the fence around the court house be repaired. No more business before the grand jury and no further report to make.

N. T. McLEAM,
Foreman Grand Jury.

The Advantage of the Carolinas.

The Southern States Magazine has an article in which Mr. Charles W. Dabney, Jr., gives data to tempt the agriculturists to settle down in the Carolinas.

The deductions from the article are that the South, owing to the existence of all important life zones in broad belts running down the coast and up the west side of the Alleghenies, is a country capable of producing the greatest variety of agricultural and horticultural products, all those, in fact, belonging to the temperate zone, reaching from apples to oranges, from barley to rice. The Southern farmer has from sixty to ninety days more in each year in which to work, and during which the sun is working for him, than his Northern countrymen. While this is true, the climate is of great equality, not subject to the extremes of either heat or cold. Neither hot waves nor blizzards occur so frequently in the South-eastern States as they do in other sections of our country. The rainfall, moreover, is as abundant as in the most favored land on the globe, and is well distributed throughout the growing season.

Subjects for Sunday School Superintendent Thompson to Discuss.
Monroe Journal.

Sunday morning Dr. Cyrus Thompson, Secretary of State, assumed the duties of Superintendent of Central Methodist Sunday school under most auspicious circumstances.—Raleigh Tribune.

We respectfully recommend the following subjects for Superintendent Thompson to discuss at regular intervals before his classes:

"The Church stands, to-day, where it has always stood—on the side of human slavery."

What should be done with a minister who dares vote a Democratic ticket?

Why is it not a sin to lie while on a campaign? And what subject will afford us the best field of operation in the next campaign?

Why fusion is to be desired (by the voter) rather than great riches?

What would have happened had we patriots not been elected?

If only patriots go to heaven, which will have the better place, Jeremiah Lamentation Ramsey or Hallelujah Air?

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. WALKING, KINMAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

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APR 21-41.

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CALL AND SEE ME OR WRITE FOR PRICES AND TERMS.

READY FOR BUSINESS AGAIN!

We invite the ladies to see our line of Dress Goods, consisting of Thin, Dainty Wash Fabrics, New Style Open Net, Work Goods to make over colored linings in all the new shades, Dress Linen—plain and striped, new shades in Percales and Foulards for Shirt Waists, Mohair Brilliantine for Skirts.

LACES AND EMBROIDERY

Just received a new line of Laces and Embroidery in new designs and patterns and at VERY LOW PRICES.

A full line of Shoes and Slippers which are being sold at the Lowest Prices.

We will be glad to see our former customers and the public in our new quarters. Come and let us show you our goods and give you prices. Remember our motto: "Not Cheap Goods, but Good Goods Cheap."

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