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The Carolina Watchman.

VOL. VII.—.THIRD SERIES. SALISBURY, N. C., OCTOBER, 21. NO. 2

PUBLISHED WEEKLY:

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RATES OF SUBCRIPTION
WEEKLY WATCHMAN.

ONE YEAR, payable in advance.....$2.00
SIX MONTHS, " " 1.25
Copies to any address..... 10.0

ADVERTISING RATES:

ONE SQUARE (1 inch) One insertion $100
" " " two " 1.50
Rates for a greater number of insertions moderate. Special notices 25 per cent. more in regular advertisements. Reading notice. 5 cents per line for each and every insertion

THE HEART'S CASKET.

BY WHO?

There is a place in every heart,
And that in, or near its core;
Where memory heards with miser's art
All her precious things of yore.
And in that casket of the breast
As jewels will ever shine
The loved and lost, though in the dust
Safe, forever safe, through time.

Behold in beauty there enshrined,
Lie the forms of those we love
Embalmed forever, to rest in mind
'Till we meet again above.
And with them little locks of hair
And bright gems of every hue,
Gold watches, chains and bracelets rare,
With choice rings and diamonds too.

And there are all the happy hours,
That left earth long ago,
With baffled hopes and withered flowers,
Steeped in tears of love and woe
And oh, what sacred vows there lie
With rich trinkets, all made fast
In memories that can never die
But will brighten to the last.

There too, are tender looks of love
That were given in confidence
And once had power the heart to move
And it thrill, with joy intense
And oh what sighs and great round tears
Have deep sorrows garnered there
With blighted joys and torturing fears.
Till together all are dear.

Oh memory, in thy casket bier
Hoard these perished things of earth
That did once v'ry bright appear
And yet perished in their birth
Yes, hoard them for they'l live again
And in pristine glory shine
Where love and truth will ever reign
And sorrow's past, be made submime.

The Prophet of Strasbourg.

BY J. B. CLYMER.

From advance sheet of "The Poets and Poetry of Printerdom," by Oscar H. Harpel, Cincinnatti

In Strasbourg town, washed by the river Rhine.
There stood a man, four centuries ago,
Whose mein attracted every passer-by.
'Twas Guttenberg—first Printer known to fame,
And Prophet of the better time to come.
His form was noble, and his bright, blue eyes
Seemed raised above the level of the street
In thoughtful contemplation. Suddenly,
As if by inspiration fired, his face
Shone like an angel's; for a mighty thought
Had birth that moment in his fruitful soul—
The TYPE, the PRINTING PRESS!
The future passed
Before his gaze in solemn majesty,
With prophet's eye he say his priuting press
The million folded duplicate of thought,
Of progress, fact and fancy. Sight took words;
And thus he spake:
"Its million tongues of sacred flame
Shall terrify the tyrant Wrong;
Its million double-edged swods
Shall save the weak and slay the strong;
Its million torches bright with hope,
Illume the moonless, starless night;
Its million thoughts, new-born, full-grown,
Procure the future reign of Right;
Its million types on vellum trace
The thoughts and deeds which glory gem;
Its million voices, trumpet-toned,
Sway sceptre, throne, and diadem;
Its million suns shall turn to day,
The night of ignorance obscure;
Its million altars, sanctified,
By Jesus' blood, shall make men pure;
Its million steel-barbed spears of wrath
Shall pierce Corruption's coat of mail;
Its million powers, by heaven ordained,
Make truth and liberty prevail;
Its million multitudes of good,
Increasing through all coming time,
Shall usher in Earth's paradise
And men be gods—oh, thought sublime!"
He ceased. The vision pased.
And like the Rhine rolliong at his feet
He went forth to his toil and destiny.

The printing office has indeed proved a better college to many a boy, has graduated more useful and conspicuous members of society, has brought more intellect out and turned it into practical useful channels, awakened more minds, generated more active and elevated thouhts, than many of the literary colleges of the country. A boy who commences in such a school as the printing-office will have his talents and ideas brought out; and if he is a careful observer, experienced in his profession, will contrive more towards an education than can be obtained in almost any other manner.—*Printing Trade's Journal.*

The Midnight Robbers.

Last night—yesterday being my seventeenth birthday—we had a little musical party. The people gone, we, having eaten up all the sandwiches and a box of preserved cherries, repaired to our respective bedchambers, very tired, very yawny, and rather cross, as is the way of odd people after too prolonged a spell of their fellow-creatures' society.

'Susannah will lock up," said papa, somewhere below his second stud.

'Very well,' gaped mamma; and the door shut.

Now I suppose I was too much excited to fall asleep easily, and for the last three days I have been puzzling my brains to find out how I had better have my new silk made. I don't care about basques, and bustle skirts are my abomination; anyhow sleep I could not get. I turned and twisted, and sat up and lay down.—No; it was no good. At length, however I dozed off; but through my slumbers came noises, strange gratings noises, as of flower pots being moved, or a fire being raked out. I took no notice. I knew that Susannah did always rake the fire out before she went to bed, so I supposed she was performing that august ceremony. But before long three tremendous bangs at the hall door fairly woke me up. I listened. Was the house on fire? A minute, and scroop went a window.

'Who's there?' bawled papa.

Somebody growled something. A policeman, I thought, and shook all over.

Then Susannah opened her door and came running down stairs. Maria would sleep through a railway accident.

'What is it?' said Aunt Jane, coming out of her room, which is next to mine.

'Oh, don't you trouble 'em,' answered Susannah; 'you go to bed. I'll see to it;' and hurried on.

I lay and quaked. For a while all was quite still—so still that I felt impelled to get up ond listen; but barely had I reached the door when quite frightful sounds besieged my ears—sounds as of people scaffling, mingled with screams.

'Policeman!" I yelled. 'Policeman—murder—fire!" Anything you like to motion.

Out dashed papa; out dashed Aunt Jane.

"For goodness' sake,' cried mamma, 'don't go down that; you'll be killed to a certainty. Why, you haven't even got a poker!'

I flew to the fireplace.

'Here,' I said—'here, papa!' and thrust out the familiar implement.

But he was gone.

I caught a glimpse of the tail of Aunt Jane's red flannel dressing-gown as it whisked round the turning. Our staircase is a wonder. It seems to have wriggled out of the mind of the architect who designed this tenement much as a worm will out of a pea.

'What ever is the matter?' demanded I of mamma, who seemed fit to drop.

He's run through the garden!' screamed Susannah. 'Oh, the rascal! Policeman!

'Good gracious!' gasped mamma.

Through the hall tore a large and helmeted person in blue, and out at the garden door. Out tore Susannah.

Whether Aunt Jane joined in the chase I am not sure; but she has got bronchitis.

'Spring yout rattle!' roared papa, who seemed to have secreted himself, from feelings of modesty possibly, in the pantry.

The policeman sprung his rattle accordingly, and having done so, seemed well satisfied. At all events, he speedily came back again.

'Have you got him?" inquired papa.

'Lor, no, sir,' says Susannah (who, I may here mention, is our cook); "'e's gone arf a mile by this time. Eef this young man'—

'My dear woman,' broke in our guardian of the peace, 'is there no male person in this house, that you must needs go and willfully endanger your precious life?'

'Lor, yes,' replied Susannah, 'there's master ain't there?'

'Then,' said the policeman, 'I consider it was your duty to let him come down and see what could be done.'

'Of course, of course," said papa, coming out of his retirement, and seeming to knock down a wine glass. Mamma groaned, and clutched my arm dreadfully as she heard the smash. 'You presume this man effected an entrance through the kitchen window, policeman?'

'Presume!' exclaimed Susannah, who is a west-county woman, and as hot as a live coal. 'I found the rascal 'uddled up be'ind the door. 'E'd opened the window and pinned up the blind, and I make no doubt was looking about for a knife just to cut all our throats.

'Very likely,' said the policeman.—'There's some desperate bad characters about. Why, only last night as I was'—

'Hadn't you better make a thorough search for the wretch?' here came in Aunt Jane. 'He may have got under the shed.'

'What shed, miss?" inquired the policeman.

'Why, the tool-shed at the end of the garden, to be sure.'

Aunt Jane detests being called 'Miss,' and can't 'abide a blockhead.'

'My dear Jane,' interposed papa, 'how could this good man know that? If you will wait a minute, policeman, I'll go and get on some clothes and come with you.'

'Very good, sir,' said the policeman; and up stairs papa came, looking more singular perhaps than ever he did in his life before. His appearance, however, being rather picturesque than elegant we will here draw a veil.

No sooner was he in sight than mamma became hysterical.

'Oh, Hotspur,' cried she, 'the silver!' and fell back on my shoulder with such weight that I took up a sitting position on the floor.

'Jane,' called papa, 'come and see to these two foolish creatures. Get up, you donkeys. Why, the fellows's gone! There's nothing to be frightened at now. I and the policeman are going to scour the neighborhood."

'Help mamma,' I panted; she is dying!'

'Indeed, Jane,' said mamma, 'I knew it would come to that, sooner or later.'

'Well,' said Aunt Jane, who had just made her appearance, 'and what in the world is all this about? Just get up at once, Amelia!'

'Mamma's hysterical,' I said. 'Has the man taken anything?'

'We don't know.'

'But the silver's safe?'

'Yes,' said papa; 'at least it was five minutes ago.'

'Thank God!' said my mother, and took a fresh lease of life.

Much relieved, I summoned courage to get a shawl and a pair of slippers, and creep down stairs. The gas was lit in the passage and dining room. I could hear voices in the kitchen. Afraid of the sound of my own feet even, I listened a little to assure myself that no new alarm need be apprehended, and this was what I overheard:

Policeman—'There's nothing I admire more than spirit anywhere.'

Susannah—'I don't know much about spirit. I wish I knew what was come of that there latchkey. If that's gone 'twill be a pretty job.

Policeman—'I suppose, now, you've got a fairish place?'

Susannah—'That I 'ave.'

Policeman—'But you're not the only one.'

Susannah—'Bless you, no; there's Maria, she's the 'ouse maid; and Jem, 'e cleans the knives and shoes.'

'Policeman—'I see. Well, you're a wonderful good-plucked un, any'ow.—Blowed if I should 'ave cared to do what you did.'

Susannah—'I dare say not. You didn't seem in a great 'urry to come when I called you. I thought you'd 'ave jumped in at the window. You'd 'ave caught 'im then.'

Policeman—Not I. 'E's been at this sort of game for the last seven years.—That's a nice.'—

But here an eldritch screech rang through the house.

It was I! Mouton, the cat, had taken advantage of my abstraction to mount the balusters and jump on to my shoulder.—The shock was terrific. I shook like a jelly.

'Bless me!' cried Aunt Jane, 'What's the matter now?'

'I tell you,' bawled papa, hurrying down, on vengeance bent, 'I won't have such folly. Go off into the dining room and shut the door, or to bed, which you like; but—but behave yourself like a rational creature, or not another new gown do you have for the next ten years. And now, policeman, to the chase.'

'I do wish,' said Susannah, as they set off, 'that they'd 'ave let me go along with 'em. I'm sure I could get over the fences a vast deal easier than master, and as for seein' in the dark'—

'Oh no, Susannah,' I said, 'don't you leave us on my account.

What a mercy the man didn't hurt you! Did you try to catch hold of him?'

'Lor, yes, miss; seized 'is coat, and tried to tear a bit out with all my might. I'd 'ave clawed his face well, if he'd attempted to lay a finger on me; but when 'e looked that scared, the coward—well somehow, I couldn't molest 'im.

'No, to be sure not,' said mamma, who had just shivered herself down. 'It is all for the best. We ought to be very thankful.

Anut Jane vowed that she'd buy a revolver to morrow, and practice shooting at a mark two hours every morning, and—Susannah discovered that she knew the man as well as she knew me.

'Why, sir, said she washing her hands, when papa and the policeman had returned to shake their heads and lament the uselessness of their endeavors (they had trampled down goodness knows how many cabbages, smashed a cucumber frame, and upset a bee hive—all belonging to our neighbors—to no earthly purpose)—why, sir said Susannah, 'I'm most certain 'tis that man who used to work at Mason's, the oil shop.

'You don't say so! said papa. 'That man—why, I thought he was uncle to the milkboy!

'So he is, sir, said the policeman. And that boy, sir, 's nothing much to speak of. I hear that his master's very doubtful of him. We expect to give him a night's lodging before long.

'Dear me, said mamma; 'Why it seems that the air teems with thieves!

I shouln't much care about the air, remarked Aunt Jane; it's the earth I'm concerned with.

Whereupon we all felt bound to laugh; and the policeman, saying that we should 'have some one down' in the morning, backed out into the passage to have a little private conversation with Susannah about the man who used to work at Mason's the oil shop, and thence into the street. A little while, and we were all in bed again, and the house done us as tight as a dram or a sardine tin.

To-day, from the first peep of dawn, *i. e.*, half past nine A. M, when I woke, till now, four o'clock in the afternoon, Susannah has been 'giving particulars.'—First came two detectives, wonderful fine men both, she tells me, but the one with a Roman nose is most to her taste; then the owners of the cabbages and the cucumber frame and bee hive, the latter a stout little old gentleman in black and a shovel hat, and a tremendous passion. Papa went and had it out with him; and having spluttered and blustered away till they were tired, they made it up, and finally set off, arm in arm, to search for footsteps.

One was found on an ash-heap, and immediately covered up with a basket, as if it was alive and would run away.—Since thten the bell and knocker have had a stiffish time of it. Jem, our boy, was given the first number of *Funng Folks*, and told to sit in the hall on purpose to play porter, Maria declaring that her legs would snap under her if she had much more running. Let a man own but a potato, he must needs set off here post haste to know if the thief could have fled over it.

When the last ring came—it was the thirty-second; I counted them—I said to Aunt Jane: What in the the world can this man have come about?

My dear, said she, 'he is the proud possessor of half a Brussels sprout.'

December 2:—Nothing is known.—Susannah has been confronted with the man who works at Mason's. She says he is not at all like what she thought, and not the least like our burglar. The Roman-nosed detective calls every two hours, and seldom stays less than one.

December 3.—This morning the Roman nosed one came to take Susannah to see a man who was painting a house in Campbell terrace. It occupied three hours.—This evening the fish was a shapeless wreck, owing to this ornament of his native land having come in, just as dinner should have been served, to ascertain the precise color of our burglar's coat.

December 4.—The milkboy has been arrested. We are all agog. We feel so certain something will be found out now.

December 5.—Nothing has been found out; but this morning, after mamma had ordered dinner, Susannah informed her that she snould like to leave at Christmas, if she could make it convenient.

'Leave!' said mamma, looking astonished. 'Why?'

'Well, 'm,' simpered Susannah, 'I'm going to be married.

'Indeed!' said mamma. 'I hope you have made a good choice.'

'I think so, 'm' was the smiling answer; 'leastways, so far as I can judge.'

'And who is it?' inquired my mother. 'Not the baker?'

'Lor, no, 'm,' said Susannah, getting quite red. 'The baker, indeed!'

'I'll tell you, mother,' said I, sagely—I was teaching Mouton to beg for a cocoanut drop by the fire—'it's the Roman-nosed detective. Now isn't it, Susannah?'

Susannah smiled.

So if our burglar did nothing else—a sixpenny bit and four postage stamp were all he got, he has contrived to rob us of our cook.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

[From the Raleigh Sentinel.]

The delegate from Orange, Mr. Turner, has furnished us the following synopsis of the 33 proposed amendments to the constitution:

1st Amendment; That section 4, of article 9, be stricken out and two new sections be substituted. The section to be stricken out is in regard to lands given to the State by congress and the appropriation of fines, penalties, &c. The section to be substituted gives all lands and proceeds of lands given by the United States to the State, to educational purposes: and all swamp lands, fines, &c., are to be used for purposes of education.

2nd Amendment strikes out sec. 17, article 3, and substitutes a section providing for the establishment of a bureau of agricultural, immigration and statistics, and the protection of sheep husbandry.

3d Amendment adds to sec. 25, of art. 1, that "secret political societies are dangerous to the liberties of a free people and should not be tolerated."

4th Amends section 10, article 3, by by providing that the governor, with the advice of the senate, shall appoint all officers whose appointments are not otherwise provided for.

5th Abrogates and amends section 15, 16 and 17, of article 4, and allows the general assembly to allot and distribute all judicial power among the several counties except that of the supreme court which is fixed by the constitusion itself.

6th Strikes out section 1 and 2, of art. 13, and forbids calling a convention without first consulting the people at the polls.

7th Provides for submitting the amendments of the constitution to the people, at the polls, Tuesday after the 1st Monday in November 1876. The amendments will be ratified or rejected together.

8th Provides for publishing the ordinances for the information of the people.

9th Requires the judge to reside in the district for which he is elected, and forbids his holding court in the same county more than once in four years.

10th Reduces the number of judges from 12 to 9, and authorizes the legislature to increase or diminish the number.

11th Provides for the assembling of the legislature in January instead of November.

12th Hits civil rights on the head by forbidding white and black children going to the same school, and providing that no discrimination shall be made to the prejudice of either race.

13th Fixes the pay of members of the general assembly at $4 a day and 10 cents mileage, and limits the session to 60 days. If the session is prolonged beyond 60 days, the members receive no pay.

14th Provides that the term of office for senators and members of the legislature shall begin at the time of their election.

15th, That section 29, or article 2, is amended to allow the general assembly to change the time of holding elections for the general assembly.

16th Strikes from the constitution section 4, of article 2, which is the old republican gerrymander of the senatorial districts in 1868.

17th Reduces the number of supreme judges from five to three, as our fathers had it.

18th declares the judicial power shall be vested in a court for the trial of impeachment, a supreme court, superior courts, courts of justice of the peace, and such others inferior to the supreme court as may be established by law.

19th Establishes the supreme court in Raleigh until otherwise provided by the general assembly.

20th Strikes section 8, article 2, from the constitution. This section was the old republican gerrymander and of the house of representatives, and the people can do without it.

21st Forbids vacating any office or term of office now existing under the constitution.

22nd Provides for the election of jugdes of the supreme court and superior court, by general ticket, or vote of all the people; but allows the general assembly to change the mode of electing superior court judges from general ticket to dirtrict elections.

23d Requires 12 months residence in the state, and 90 days in the county, before a man can vote, and excludes felons and ex-penitentiary convicts from holding office or voting until restored to citizenship by due process of law. There was two days' debate on this ordinance, Messrs. Barringer, Dockery, Albertson and Buxton, with all the negro delegates, speaking against it and declaring it was aimed at the negro.

24th Provides for the removal by the legislature of any judge of the superior court, for mental or physical disability. it also provides for the removal of clerks of the supreme and superior courts by the judges of the courts for same reason. Appeal in case of removal is allowed as in other cases or suits.

25th Provides that article 7 of the constitution be amended by adding that the general assembly shall have power to modify, change or abrogate any and all of the provisions of the article, and substitute others in their place, except sections 7, 9 and 13. This allows the legislature to appoint magistrates as under the old constitution.

26th Gives jurisdiction to justices of the peace over civil actions founded on contract, when the sum does not exceed $200; and allows the justices to call in a jury of six men in certain cases.

27th Authorizes the employment of convicts on public works and highways.

28th Adds the following new section to article 4: "In case the general assembly shall establish other inferior courts, the presiding officer and clerks thereof shall be elected in such manner as the general assembly may prescribe."

29th Forbids marriage between white and black and all persons of negro descent to the third generation.

30th Adds to article 1, section 24: "Nothing herein contained shall justify the practice of carrying concealed weapons or prevent the legislature from enacting penal statutes against said practice."

31st Abolishes section 31, of article 4, and provides for filling all vacancies in office provided for by this article by the governor not otherwise provided for.

32d Provides for paying officers and members of the convention.

33d Gives power to the supreme court to try issues and questions of fact as under the old constitution.

ORDINANCES

Passed by the North Carolia Constitutional Convention of 1875.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO SUBMIT TO THE PEOPLE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION ADOPTED BY THIS CONVENTION.

SECTION 1. *Be it ordained by the people of North Carolina in Convention assembled*, That the amendments to the Constitution of this State, adopted by this Convention at any time during its session, shall be submitted to the people for ratication or rejection, as a whole, at the general election to be held on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six. That every person entitled to vote under the existing Constitution and laws of this State, shall be entitled to vote for the ratification or rejection of said amendments; those who wish a ratification of the amendments voting with a printed or written ticket, "Ratification," those of a contrary opinion, "Rejection." That said election shall be held, and said qualified electors shall vote, at the usual places of voting in the several counties of this State; and that said election shall be conducted under the same rules and regulations, and under the same pains and penalties as are now required and prescribed by law, and returns thereof made, according to the laws now in force regulatiug the election of members of the General Assembly.

SEC. 2 That the returns of the whole vote cast for the ratification and for the rejection of said amendments, shall be made by the sheriffs of the several counties of the State to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, at Raleigh, within thirty days after the election; *Provided*, That if the office of Chief Justice shall become vacant by death, resignation or otherwise, the said returns shall in like manner be made to the Attorney General of the State; and the returns of said votes shall, within ten days thereafter, be examined and canvassed by the said Chief Justice, or Attorney General in case the vacancy in the said office of Chief Justice in the presence of the Governor, and proclamation shall be made by the Governor forthwith of the result of the canvass.

SEC. 3. That if, upon such canvass, it shall appear that a majority of the votes polled were in favor of the ratification of the amendments, then the said amendments to the Constitution shall constitute a part of the Constitution of the State, and shall take effect as such on the first day of January, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven; and thereupon the Governor shall cause to be endorsed on said amendments, as enrolled by this Convention, a certificate under his signature declaring that the said amendments have been ratified by the people of North Carolina. The Secretary of State shall countersign the said certificate and annex thereto the great seal of the State, and the said amendments so enrolled, with the certificates aforesaid, shall be forever kept among the archives of the State, in the office of the Secretary of State aforesaid.

SEC. 4. That said amendments to the Constitution, after being duly enrolled and properly authenticated, shall be deposited by the Secretary of the Convention in the office of the Secretary of State for safe keeping, and shall be, by order of the Governor and Secretary of State, published for six months in two papers, one of each political party in each Congressional District of the State, immediately preceding the day of election aforesaid*.

SEC. 5. This ordinance shall be in force from and after the day of its ratification.

Read and ratified in Convention, this 30th day of September, 1875.

*This section was abrogated. See next ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE SUBMITTING THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION TO THE PEOPLE.

The people of North Carolina in Convention assembled do ordain, That the ordinance passed by this Convention and ratified on the thirtieth day of September, Anno Domini eight thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, entitled "An ordinance to submit to the people the amendments to the Constitution, adopted by this Convention," be and the same is hereby so amended as to strike out and abrogate section four of said ordinance and insert and ordain in lieu thereof, as follows:

SEC. 4. The said amendments to the Constitution, after being duly enrolled and properly authenticated, shall be deposited by the Secretary of the Convention in the office of the Secretary of the State for safe keeping; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of this Convention and the Public Auditor to have printed, in pamphlet form, on or before the first day of January next, the said amendments, with the certificate of the Secretary of State annexed thereto, together with a copy of the Constitution, as it will read as proposed to be amended, one hundred thousand copies, of which one hundred copies shall be distributed to each delegate of this Convention, and the remainder among the counties of the State in proposition to population. And the necessary sum be and is hereby appropriated to pay the expense of said application and distribution.

Read three times and ratified in open Convention, this 9th day of October, 1875.

Be it ordained by the people of North Carolina in Convention assembled, That section fourteen article four, of the Constitution, shall read as follows:

That every Judge of the Superior Court shall reside in the district for which he is elected. The Judges shall preside in the Courts of the different districts successively, but no Judge shall hold the Courts in the same district oftener than once in four years, but in case of the protracted illness of the Judge assigned to preside in any district, or of, any other unavoidable accident to him, by reason of which he shall become unable to preside, the Governor may require any Judge to hold one or more specified terms in said district, in lieu of the Judge assigned to hold the Courts of said district.

The people North of Carolina in Convention assembled do ordain: That section twelve, article four, of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

The State shall be divided into nine judicial districts for each of which a judge shall be chosen; and there shall be held a Superior Court in each county at least twice in each year, to continue for such time in each county as may be prescribed by law. But the General Assembly may reduce or increase the number of districts.

Read three times and ratified in open Convention, this 30th day of September, 1875.

The people of North Carolina in Convention assembled do ordain, That section two, of the Constitution, be amended to read as follows:

The Senate and House of Representatives shall meet biennially on the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January next after their election; and when assembled, shall be denominated the General Assembly. Neither House shall proceed upon the public business unless a majority of all the members are actually present.

Read three times and ratified in open Convention, this the 30th day of September, 1875.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

From an article in Appletons' "American Clycopædia," revised edition, entitled "Christmas," we select as follows:

The common custom of decking the houses and churches at Christmas with evergreens is derived from ancient Druid practices. It was an old belief that sylvan spirits might flock to the evergreens, and remain unnipped by frost till a milder season. The holly, ivy, rosemary, bay, laurel, and mistletoe, furnished the favorite trimmings, which were not removed till Candlemas. In old church calendars Christmas eve is marked, *Templa exornantur* (the temples are adorned). Holly and ivy still remain in England the most esteemed Christmas evergreens, though at the two universities the windows of the college chapels are decked with laurel. It was an old English superstition, that on Christmas eve the oxen were always found on their knees, as in an attitude of devotion, and that after the change from old to new style, they continued to do this only on the eve of old Christmas day. This was derived from a prevalent mediæval notion that an ox and an ass, which were present at the nativity, fell on their knees in a suppliant posture, as appears from numerous prints, and from the Latin poem of Sannazaro, in the sixteenth century. It was an ancient tradition, alluded to by Shakespeare, that midnight spirits forsaken the earth and go to their own confines at the crowing of the cock. The Christmas celebrations in England have lost their primitive boisterous character, the gambols and carols are nearly gone by, and family reunions and evergreen trimmings are nearly all that remain of the various rough merriments which used to mark the festival.—the last memorable appointment of a lord of misrule was in 1627, when he had come to be denominated "a grand captaine of mischiefe."

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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ALL PRICES.

Orders executed with care and dispatch.
Pinking and Stamping done to order.
The Store will be conducted on the Cash system and no goods or work will be charged to any one. This rule is unvarible.
MRS. S. J. HALYBURTON.
April, 15th—6ws.

Spring Stock 1875.

120 Bags Coffee,
50 Barrels Sugar,
40 " Molasses,
5000 lbs. Bacon, 2000 lbs. Lard,
2000 lbs. Best Sugar Cured Hams,
20 Kegs Soda,
20 Boxes "
50 " Adamantine Candles,
40 " Soap, 2000 lbs. Carolina Rice,
30 Cases Oysters,
20 do Brandy Peaches,
20 do Lemon Syrup,
20 do Fresh Peaches,
10 do Pine Apples,
10 do Smoking Tobacco,
25 Gross Snuff, 25 Coils Cotton & Jute Rope,
40 doz. Painted Pails,
40 Boxes Assorted Candy,
100 Reams Wrapping Paper,
A full line of Wood & Willow ware,
A full line of Boots & Shoes (very cheap),
A full line of Hats,
A full line of Saddles & Bridles, Salt, Pepper, Ginger, Spice, Canned Goods, Royal Baking Powders, Cigars, Tobacco, Crockery, Kerosene Tanners & Machine Oils, &c., &c.
The above stock was bought since the late heavy decline in prices, and is offered at Wholesale & Retail at very short profits, for cash.
BINGHAM & CO.
June 3rd 1875.

SPECIAL.

No. 1. Heavy plow Shoes at $160 worth $200.
" " Women Shoes at $125 " 150 & 175
Ladies Embroidered Slippers at 100 worth 150
Ladies Slippers at $125 worth 175,
Ladies Croquet Slippers at $125 worth $200,
Ladies Cloth Gaiters at $175 worth $250,
Ladies Cloth Gaiters at $225 worth $300,
A large lot of Children Shoes very cheap.
BINGHAM & CO.

LOOK OUT

BELL & BRO.

Offer the best selection of Jewelry to be found in Western North Carolina, Consisting of

LADIES' & GENTS' GOLD WATCHES

Gold Opera and Vest Chains,

FINE GOLD PLATED Jewelry,

SILVER WARE, GOLD PENS, &c

They are agents for the celebrated Diamond Spectacles and Eye Glasses, Manufactured from Minute Crystal PEBBLES. Clock and Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired consciously warranted 12 months, charges as low as tant with good work.
Store on Main street, 2 doors above National Hotel.
Sp., 1874—1y.