

With this number of the Watchman my connection ceases. It is with regret that I find it necessary to sever a connection that has been for more than three years so pleasant; but changes and disappointments must needs come to all.

J. J. STEWART.

The retirement of Mr. Stewart from the position of Associate Editor of this paper is a loss which no one will feel more than we. For more than three years he has borne the brunt of the wear and tear of the editorial work on this paper, relieving us almost entirely of any anxiety about it.

The paper will, of course, undergo no change in its political character. We think it has shown none since it was first started in 1832. It has ever been true to the best interest of the people.

J. J. BRUNER.

We take this occasion to solicit news items of local interest, in or out of the county. Marriages, deaths, accidents, discoveries, public meetings, everything of interest to the general reader.

Sorghum.—The Southern Home tells of a man in Mecklenburg who made 280 gallons sorghum from cane the product of one acre. Giving the market price of sorghum at \$1, the Home says the man made \$280 clear on that acre of land, which beats cotton.

We had the pleasure of meeting while in Wilmington with many of the prominent citizens of that growing and delightful city, and we are indebted to many of them, and especially to the genial and talented Mayor, for courtesies.

We invite attention to the able and thorough review of the Radical protest against the proposed amendments to the State Constitution, published in this paper. Its author is well acquainted with the whole subject, and has carefully ventilated the partisan paper referred to.

In our next issue we will publish the first of a series of articles by J. S. Henderson, Esq., member of the late Convention, upon the subject of the proposed amendments to the Constitution. We think Mr. H. will be able to satisfy our readers, that the amendments as a body, if ratified, will prove to be vast benefits to the people and especially to the tax payers, and that not one of them is justly liable to serious exception.

The Fair at Wilmington last week was a surprise to its most sanguine friends. Everything passed off in a manner most creditable to the management.

WILMINGTON.

We paid a short visit to the above named city during the fair there last week. We have no space to describe all that we saw that was pleasing and interesting, or to tell of the kindness we received at the hands of the enterprising, live and hospitable citizens of that flourishing city. We desire merely to call attention to the great importance of Wilmington as a port. Every North Carolinian should be proud of the fact that we have a port so well adapted to all our wants, and strive to enlarge and enhance its usefulness.

"PROTEST"

of the Republican Delegates to the Constitutional Convention Against the Action of the Revolutionary Majority of that Body? It is a matter of common remark, that when Southern men, with the manners and reputation of gentlemen, abandon the political principles and associations to which they have adhered from childhood, and attach themselves to the Republican party, immediately a change is wrought in their character and conduct; and they gradually lose not only the esteem and friendship of their former associates, but also their own self-respect, together with the good opinion of their new friends.

Answer. The question whether there should be a Convention was not submitted to the people and therefore the voters of the State could not have decided against having a Convention. There is no evidence that a majority of the delegates elected were opposed to the call. On the contrary it is well known that a number of Republican delegates not only refused to pledge themselves to vote to adjourn, but also promised their constituents to vote in the Convention for Constitutional Reform.

We have been led into this train of thought by reading the "Protest" of the Republican Delegates to the Constitutional Convention against the action of that body; and we now propose to consider and to make some comments upon that "Protest." The copy before us is published in the "Wilmington Post" of the 12th inst. and purports to be signed by forty nine Republican delegates, among whom are O. H. Dockery, J. W. Albertson, A. W. Tourgee, R. P. Buxton and Rufus Barringer.

Protest or objection 1. That the Convention was called without the wish of the people, and in opposition to their will. The people had but recently declared themselves opposed to the alteration of the fundamental law by the Constitutional method, and soon thereafter had endorsed the amendment of the same by Legislative enactment.

Answer: The "Protest" well know that the existing Constitution of the State, Art. XIII, sec. 1, authorizes, in express terms, a Convention to be called by a two-thirds vote of each House of the General Assembly without submitting the question to the people and that it does not authorize a Convention to be called in any other way.

Objection second.—Because, in the canvass which preceded the election of delegates, the issue was squarely made on the hustings and before the people as to whether such Convention was necessary or desirable, and the voters of the State, by a large majority, declared against such Convention.

Answer. The question whether there should be a Convention was not submitted to the people and therefore the voters of the State could not have decided against having a Convention. There is no evidence that a majority of the delegates elected were opposed to the call.

Objection third. Because the delegates from Robeson county are well known to have been fraudulently returned, and the seat of the delegate from Surry was contested "on the ground of legal votes unlawfully received and illegal votes unlawfully received by the judges of election."

Answer. There was no evidence before the Convention that the delegates from Robeson county had been fraudulently returned, and if the delegate from Surry was elected by fraudulent votes, it could have been shown.

Objection fourth. Because the Democratic Commissioners of Robeson county rejected the votes of four townships, though the same were duly returned by the Judges of election duly appointed to hold the same.

Answer. There was no evidence before the Convention to show that the action of the Commissioners of Robeson county was improper, nor that the contestants received a majority of the legal votes. They also alleged, that the contestants had not given the notice required by law to be given in cases of contested elections.

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Objection sixth. Because the Convention was operated solely as a party machine. Questions of importance, were rushed to a vote without allowing more than twenty minutes for their consideration.

Answer. That the Democratic majority did not act in a partisan manner, the amendments proposed by them to the people abundantly prove. The minority was treated with the utmost courtesy and consideration, until, without any provocation whatever, they inaugurated an infamous system of "filibustering."

Objection seventh. Because almost every act of the Convention was in direct subversion of the rights of the people, designed to take away the power from the many and vest it in the few.

Answer. This is not true. The whole tendency of the proposed amendments is to increase the power of the people and not to abridge any of their rights or privileges.

Objection eighth. To give the Legislature power to establish Courts at will is to inaugurate a chaos, which will bring prosperity only to the lawyer, and only to him at a needless expense of the people.

Objection ninth. The 49 delegates protest against the destruction of the Courts of Justice of the Peace and against leaving it in the power of the Legislature to create other Courts in their stead.

Objection tenth. The Legislature ought not to have the power to elect Justices of the Peace and the Judges of the Inferior Courts, and of the terms these functionaries ought not to have been extended to eight years.

Objection eleventh. The Legislature should not have the power to establish one system of Courts in Currituck and another in Cherokee. Its only effect would be to confuse, delay and defraud the people and to enrich the lawyers, who are suffering from leanness of purse under the present simple and easily understood system.

Objection twelfth. The present Courts of Probate ought not to have been abolished. It is admitted that some formal changes therein may be expedient.

Objection thirteenth. The Legislature ought not to have the power to establish one system of county Government in one county and another in another.

Objection fourteenth. Because the power has been given to the Legislature to destroy the Township system.

Objection fifteenth. Because work which should have been done by the Convention has been left to the Legislature—a body whose constitution is such as to defeat the will of the majority, even though thirty thousand of the popular vote should be against them.

Objection sixteenth. Because the office of Lieutenant Governor has been abolished.

Objection seventeenth. In conclusion, the forty-nine delegates "protest against the Constitution, spirit and action of the Convention."

Objection eighteenth. We really regret to see that at least two of the public journals in Judge Cloud's District—the Salisbury Watchman and Winston Sentinel—feel it a duty to speak in denunciatory terms of Judge Cloud and his conduct as a man and a Judge.

JUDGE CLOUD.—We really regret to see that at least two of the public journals in Judge Cloud's District—the Salisbury Watchman and Winston Sentinel—feel it a duty to speak in denunciatory terms of Judge Cloud and his conduct as a man and a Judge.

Objection nineteenth. We call especial attention to our large stock of the latest and most fashionable styles of clothing, Ladies' Shirts and Flies in endless varieties, and a full assortment of other goods at astonishingly low prices.

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THE EAST AND THE WEST — A LIBERAL ACT AND GENEROUS SYMPATHIES.

The Wilmington papers of the 14th, report the proceedings of a meeting held on Saturday last between the Commissioners of the Western N. C. Railroad and a portion of the business men of Wilmington, in the reading room of the Parcell House, which exhibit a liberality on the part of the merchants and bankers of that city entitling them to the warm esteem of the people of the West.

"In this spirit, and learning that there are about three miles of your railroad which you and your people are especially anxious to complete, as they will take you over and beyond Dark Hollow, Pull the worst of the wagon road from Old Fort to Asheville, I allude to that portion of the road from Old Fort to Malone's store, which we learn is all graded and ready for the iron—and learning also that your Commission are embarrassed for means to purchase the iron necessary, owing to the restrictions placed upon you by Legislative enactment; in this spirit, I say, and with an earnest desire to convince the people of your section of our hearty good-will and co-operation in their cherished scheme, the merchants, bankers and business men of Wilmington have come together, and by a united effort have raised sufficient money to purchase iron for three miles of railway immediately, and have deputed me, through the committee, to tender you the loan of this iron until such time as your replenished coffers enables you to pay for it, or until the meeting of the Legislature, when such legislation can be had which will put it in your power to repay us, and push your road over and beyond the Blue Ridge.

We trust you will accept this offer as frankly as it is made, and we assure you that we have been spurred up to the endeavors we have made not only to the advantages of trade we expect to derive from your section; not only because we desire to reach a portion of our country, but because the world over for its beauty and grandeur, but because that country is

North Carolina, and we are North Carolinians."

Major Rollins responded to this speech, assuring the citizens of Wilmington that the people of Western North Carolina heartily sympathized with them, and desired to build upon a city of their own on the sea coast, and only asked to be met half way, &c.

Col. Pearson also spoke reiterating the sentiments uttered by Maj. Rollins. Col. Waddell was called up by a sentiment delivered by Mr. Pearson.

The meeting had brief responses to least offered from Alexander Sprunt, Mr. Kercher, Capt. C. D. Myers, Dr. Roberts, Capt. J. B. Grainger, Maj. Englehard, Col. S. S. Freeman, Mr. Williams, of Asheville, &c. &c.

Mr. Editor.—It is not generally known how the greater numbers are imposed upon by millers. I am inclined to think that the Grangers should look into the matter, or establish some mills on their own hook for the benefit of the farmers.

McCUBBINS, BEALL & DEAN'S NEW STOCK OF FALL AND WINTER GOODS HAVE COME.

Having just returned from New York and Philadelphia, we would respectfully announce to the public that we are prepared to offer them one of the largest and cheapest stocks of goods ever brought to this market, consisting of DRY GOODS, NOTIONS, SHOES, HATS, CAPS, GROCERIES, &c.

NEW FIRM & NEW GOODS! Klutz & Rendleman.

We are now opening a well selected stock of Fall and Winter Goods, which have been bought at the very lowest prices, consisting of every kind of Dry Goods, Notions, Clothing, Hats and Caps, Ladies' trimmed Hats, Shoes and Boots, Crockery and a full line of Family Groceries, which we offer as low as the lowest for Cash or Barter.

NO TROUBLE TO SHOW GOODS.

We pay the highest market prices for all kinds of Country produce in Cash or Barter.

A TREMENDOUS FALL

In Dry Goods just as we were buying our Stock, has enabled us to put in store an assortment of Goods unprecedentedly low.



With or without Portable Hot Water Reservoir and Chimney. Don't buy an old-fashioned Stove, but get one With all latest improvements.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA INSANE ASYLUM. MORNINGTON, No. Ca. Nov. 5th, 1878.

Scaled proposals will be received at this office to be presented on or before Feb. 1st, 1879, for the laying of 20 millions of Brick more or less according to the specifications of the architect for the foundation walls of the above Asylum.

Copies of the specifications of the contract may be obtained by addressing the Secretary, approved and executed bonds to the full amount of the bid are required to be filed with the proposals.

Sealed proposals will be received at this office to be presented on or before the 10th Dec. 1878, for one hundred thousand feet of all heart White Oak Lumber or the same quantity of all heart Pine.

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BUGGIES.



For Fine Buggies and other work in the Carriage line, call at W. M. BARKER'S.

STAR SALOON.

Next Door to National Hotel. The Proprietor wishes to announce to his friends and the public generally that he has always on hand a full assortment of the best wines and liquors.

STAR SALOON RESTAURANT.

Is now opened and will be furnished with every delicacy the market affords. Fresh Oysters, Fish, all kinds of fowls, Game of every description. Meals at all hours either day or night.

UNPARALLELED INVESTMENT!

ONLY A FEW DAYS MORE! NO POSTPONEMENT. GRAND CONCERT AND DISTRIBUTION POSITIVE NOV. 30, OR MONEY REFUNDED. A FORTUNE FOR \$1.

THE TEXAS GIFT CONCERT ASSOCIATION,

OF DENISON, TEXAS, WILL GIVE A SECOND, GRAND GIFT CONCERT, NOV. 30, 1878. The Grand Success of the First Concert given May 31st, 1875, assures the success of this Second Entertainment.

AGENTS WANTED.

Special Rates to Clubs.—A club can be organized in every community. Order for tickets filled per Express, C. O. D. Circulars giving full description of the Entertainment free.