

State Convention Young Men's Christian Association.

On Thursday evening at 8.30, P. M., the Delegates of the Y. M. C. A. to the State Convention that was to be held in Greensboro, N. C., assembled in the large, well arranged and tastefully decorated Hall of the Y. M. C. A. of Greensboro.

TEMPORARY ORGANIZATION.

A committee appointed to select permanent officers for the Convention. Leave granted to retire.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The following Committee on State Organization was appointed: G. B. Hanna, John Armstrong, F. H. Lutz, D. W. C. Benbow, W. H. Hill and W. P. Ware.

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY.

There is nothing more worthy of the philanthropist's attention than the mortality statistics of a country. In the days of John Milton—the average duration of life in England was about 29 years.

ANDERSON'S CONFESSION.

(Interview with the Feliciana Superior, Philadelphia Record, 25th.)

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

CATALPA WOOD.

FENCE ECONOMY.

A WINTER PEACH.

BLINDERS ON HORSES.

row the death of our brother, George Riley, P. M., a most worthy and esteemed member of this lodge.

Resolved, 2. That we bow with humble submission to this dispensation of the great architect of the universe.

Resolved, 3. That in the death of our brother, George Riley, P. M., this lodge has lost a brother, a friend and a Mason who reflected credit and honor alike upon this lodge, as well as upon the ancient and honorable fraternity generally.

Resolved, 4. That as a citizen he was manly and patriotic; as a friend, forever true and faithful; as a Mason, true and loyal, attached to its time honored principles and tenets; kind and considerate among, and deservedly popular in his intercourse with his brethren; and as a Christian without reproach, and as a man, he discharged his duty in all the relations of life with credit to his country, honor to his race, and with Christian humility to his God; and as such, we express the ardent hope that his name and virtues may long be cherished as an example worthy of imitation among men and Masons.

Resolved, 5. That as a further testimony of our esteem and regard for our deceased brother we wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, 6. That the above preamble and resolutions be spread upon the books of the secretary of this lodge.

Resolved, 7. That the secretary furnish a copy of the above to the Davidson Record and to the Salisbury Watchman, with a request to publish.

S. W. RICE, BENNET NOBLE, E. D. SIMPSON, } Comm.

(From the Wilmington Star.)

THE SUPREME COURT TICKET.

On the work of the Convention yesterday, the public verdict will be "well done."

The Supreme Judiciary which the Democracy of North Carolina yesterday took the first step toward erecting, is one which will please the people of the State, recommend itself to the judgment of the American people, and challenge the admiration of sister States.

For purity of personal, professional and public reputation, the people of North Carolina were never given the opportunity to record their votes for three gentlemen the superior of Smith, Ashe and Dillard. And in point of learning and ability, there is not a Judiciary in any State of the Union superior to that which the State will possess after the first day of August next.

It is a comfort to the public mind to feel that in the Judiciary to be elected in August, the people will have a court of last resort in which life, liberty and property are guaranteed all the protection which the legal safeguards established by English civilization for the past centuries of intellectual and religious triumph have succeeded in establishing and throwing around society. That in the Judges, before whom the final hearing of all great causes involving life and death, the liberty of the citizen and the estates of the orphaned and dependent, North Carolina has sitting in her highest temple of Justice men who, human may err, but so high above suspicion or reproach, that public confidence reposes itself in that nearest approach to human infallibility, the stern and unflinching integrity of the highest type of exalted manhood; a manhood as illustrious as it is unpretentious, pure and devoted to all that is good, noble and patriotic in mankind.—Ral. News.

It is a known fact that nearly everything in nature likes music; snakes have danced to it, mice have come from their holes and listened with rapt attention, and even bugs are not insensible.

"We call the Doodle bugs up any time we have a mind," said some little girls to me one day when I was teaching school in western Virginia.

"Doodle bugs!" said I. "I never heard of such things."

"Would you like to see them?" asked one.

"Most assuredly," I answered.

"Then the little girls led me forth to the ruins of an old log school-house, roofless and floorless, and joining hands, they snatched upon the ground forming a ring, and began chanting in the most musical tones they could command:

"Uncle Doodle, Uncle Doodle, Uncle Doodle bugs!"

I looked on in astonishment, for I could see nothing but hard-baked earth. There seem not a living thing visible; but the children kept up their chant some three or four minutes, when I noticed the ground began to heave in little spots and tiny heads peeped out, soon followed by half or the whole body of a dirt colored beetle.

When the children stopped singing the little things scampered back into their holes.

This struck me as very singular. But then we are constantly meeting with strange things in England. It is like fairy land if we only become interested.

There are many, many kinds of beetles called coleopterous insects, because they have wing cases; that is, they have shells or cases on their backs, under which they hold their wings, some kinds using them so very seldom that we would never know that they had wings. A great many live under the ground, and others on the trees, flowers and grain. Indeed, there is scarce a place where you may not find them.

All of you know that the ugly caterpillar becomes a butterfly, but some of you may not know that nearly every worm you can find, turns out some day to be a creature with wings.

Almost every child who has lived in the country has noticed, and perhaps

down in the midst of good health; to lack of proper medical attention and nursing in sickness; to lack of precautions against the spread of contagious diseases, and similar causes, rather than to a general enfeeblement of the race."

We gave the total vital statistics of Wilmington some weeks ago. We are satisfied that the death rate among the whites here is less than it is in any of the above mentioned towns, with the exception of Mobile and Selma, Alabama. We think it is a little less than in Richmond. But, as we stated before, we are unable to give the exact number of deaths among the two races. The total for 1877 was 370. It will be observed that the death rates at Chattanooga are much smaller than those previously published.

The Executive Committees of each Congressional District are as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT. Jas E Shepherd, of Beaufort; T R Jerri-gan, of Hertford; Burgess Urquhart, of Bertie; Henry Wahab, of Hyde.

SECOND DISTRICT. A J Galloway, of Wayne; W J Green, of Warren; R B Peebles, of Northampton; J S Long, of Craven.

THIRD DISTRICT. Jas A Worth, of Cumberland; Duncan J Devane, of New Hanover; C W McClumney, of Pender; Col H B Short, of Columbus.

FOURTH DISTRICT. Caleb B Green, of Durham; J S Amis, of Granville; H A London, Jr, of Chatham; Dr J W Vick, of Selma.

FIFTH DISTRICT. George H Gregory, of Guilford; Jas W Reid, of Rockingham; James Holman, of Person; Jas A Graham, of Alamance.

SIXTH DISTRICT. B C Cobb, of Lincoln; Frank McNeill, of Robeson; Platt D Walker, of Mecklenburg; E R Liles, of Anson.

SEVENTH DISTRICT. W H H Cowles, of Wilkes; Kerr Craige, of Rowan; G W Mathews, of Forsythe; T S Tucker, of Iredell.

EIGHTH DISTRICT. Kope Elias, of Macon. A M Erwin, of McDowell; B F Logan, of Cleveland; Robt M Furman, of Buncombe.

WHAT DEMOCRACY DOES.—We have been at some pains to get a few figures relative to the tax business in this city as compared with those of previous years. A comparative statement of taxation for the years 1877 and 1878 shows the valuation of real estate for 1877 to have been \$3,822,800 against \$2,874,668 in 1878. In 1877 the tax levied was 2 per cent, and the amount \$76,657.80, while in 1878 the tax is but 1 1/2 per cent, and the amount \$50,396.68. The reduction is equal to 25 per cent, in valuation and something over 33 1/2 per cent, in the amount to be realized, all in the favor of the tax payers this year. In the same way and in the same ratio there is a reduction in the personal tax. The total reduction on real and personal tax amounts to \$28,703.14, and the reduction on merchant's license tax, \$9,000, makes a total reduction of \$37,703.14. To illustrate: In 1877 the tax on \$5,000 worth of real estate was \$100, and this year it is but \$65.63—a reduction of \$34.37.

And there are some other points. We understand from Mayor Fishblade that when he went into office a few months since he found a floating debt of \$10,000 which has since been reduced to \$4,000, and that all warrants are paid by the treasurer as presented. Besides this, the Mayor says that he has asked and will get but \$46,000 this year with which to run the city machine; against an average of \$122,000 a year under the Republicans.

Who will say that it does not pay—the tax-payers—to have a Democratic administration?—Wilmington Review.

Chief Justice Smith and Col. John H. Dillard are both members of the Presbyterian Church.

News from the 7th congressional district indicates that Arnfield will get the nomination for Congress over Robbins. We don't believe the change will benefit anybody but Arnfield.—Davidson Record.

Dr. Franklin B. Hough, in his recently issued "Report upon Forestry," prepared under the direction of the Commissioner of Agriculture, says that according to recent estimates the cost of the fences in the United States amounts to 1,700,000,000, and the annual expense of maintenance is \$198,000,000, excluding interest at 6 per cent, on the original cost. We confess to never having had much faith in the accuracy of big-figured statistics of this sort, for the reason in this case that we fail to see exactly how they are reached. Perhaps to take the totals representing one State would be to convey a better idea, and these are furnished by the Maine Board of Agriculture, which fix the total length of fences in that State at between 127,000 and 131,000 miles. The first cost is reckoned at \$1 per rod, and the interest on this sum, with repairs, etc., comes to about \$6,000,000 per annum. This excludes the value of the land covered by the fence itself, which at \$30 per acre is worth \$975,000.

With some notions of the large sums invested in fences thus attained, it is not at all difficult to realize the importance of the statement quoted by the author, to the effect that "from one-quarter to one-eighth of the present fences of the country would be amply sufficient to keep stock within proper limits, especially since it appears that we are wasting money through a wrong appreciation of the use of fences which any one so far as he is personally concerned, can remedy for himself.

The question is: Are we to fence to keep cattle out of fields where they are not wanted, or in fields where they are? The general rule is to do the first; but just here, D. Hough says, we are doing exactly wrong, and hence by simply changing our practice the way to economy is open. It is very much cheaper to fence the adjacent lots of a large field than it is to fence each lot separately. Supposing, for instance, an area of one square mile be divided into four 100 acre lots. These, if adjacent, would require 1,920 rods of fence. If separate fences were erected about each lot, then the length of fence would be 2,560 rods. Supposing the number of fields to be 61, of 10 acres each, if adjacent, 5,761 rods of fencing would be needed; separate fences would require 10,241 rods, and here there would be a saving of seven rods of fence per acre; that is at \$1 per rod, \$7 per acre, or on the entire area the net sum of \$4,380. The difference is saved by the same subdivision fences answering for the adjacent fields.

The South as a Field for Manufacturers.—In a speech on the Texas Pacific Railroad, Senator Lamar lately dwelt at great length on the natural advantages of the South for successful manufacturing. Every condition of soil, climate, and raw material for the development of a great industrial community are there. The South has already begun her industries of the future, and the profits that are realized from them are, in some instances, prodigious. But to develop these industries, she must have access to the markets of the world, and be able to attract to her-

self the skill, and capital, and machinery, and appliances of the North. In the South, land, food, raiment, and shelter are cheap, and taxation is growing every year less burdensome. In everything except capital, skill, and experience, the manufacturers of the South are on an equality with those of England, and the saving in balancing, waste, and transportation gives the South great advantages. Nowhere in the world can cotton be manufactured so cheaply as on the spot where it is grown, where water power is so abundant and unfailing; and every factory set up there will help to develop the diversities of Southern agriculture. The cotton crop last year amounted to 4,700,000 bales; yet the Southern States have but a small part of their cotton lands under cultivation.

Progress in Hard Times.—Notwithstanding the times, it is doubtful if the country ever made greater or more rapid progress in substantial wealth than during the past seven years. From a comparison of the statistics of the census of 1870 with those furnished by the Bureau of Agriculture for 1877, it appears that there were 31,000,000 more acres of land under cultivation last year than in 1870, an increase of 34 per cent. The percentage of increase in the number of bushels of corn produced was 24; of wheat, 52; of rice, 12; of barley, 45; in tons of hay, 31; and in pounds of tobacco, 91 per cent. The live stock over the aggregate of 1870 was, horses, 41 per cent; mules, 45; cows, 26; oxen and other cattle, 29; sheep, 23; swine 28 per cent. The aggregate increase in the number of live animals amounted to about 25,000,000 head. The excess of the grain crop of 1877 over that of 1870 was nearly 550,000,000 bushels. Our exports for the year ending June 30, 1877, exclusive of gold and silver, amounted to \$632,940,000.

The Influence of One Mill.—A single woolen mill in the city of Lawrence produces every week a million yards of dyed or printed cloth. It pays \$100,000 a week as wages. It employs 5,000 persons, paying them at an average rate of 95 cents a day to women and girls, and \$1.40 a day to men. It consumes 500 tons of starch, and expends \$400,000 for printing and dyeing materials every year. The wool it requires calls for the fleeces of 10,000 head of sheep. It secures food, clothing, and usually respectable savings to 5,300 persons and their dependents—not less than 10,000 souls altogether. This, with the freight paid for transportation of its materials and products, shows that one mill contributes to the wealth, power and prosperity of the country. The woolen industry of the whole country amounts to more than \$200,000,000 a year. There are nearly a thousand woolen mills in Ohio and other Western States.

American Workmanship.—In the course of a description of a visit to the French war vessel, the Richelieu, a foreign correspondent remarks that it seems impossible for one to go anywhere without some specimen of American ingenuity cropping up; accordingly, on the quarter deck of the Richelieu was a Gatling gun beside a mill-rail fence. It is astonishing, the correspondent adds, how tasteless Americans are in everything relating to machinery. The Gatling, beside the dull, heavy, somber French piece, looked like a bit of jewelry, its steel and brass flashing like gold and silver in the bright sunlight of the Mediterranean. And this is more noteworthy because the French have a decided bent toward decoration, and generally make things look as well as possible.

The Petersburg (Va.) Rural Messenger thus describes this fruit, which it says originated with Mr. James Hawkins, of Dinwiddie, Va., before the war, and which is called the "Hawkins Winter Peach." That gentleman has had for some years trees in full bearing:

"The fruit does not begin to ripen until the leaves have fallen from the trees in November; is no way injured by the severe frosts of that season, and hangs on the trees until it assumes a beautiful red color. When ripe they may be picked and put away to be carried to market at leisure any time in November or early December. The fruit is large, (the first important item in a market peach) color whitish, with red cheek; flesh whitish, rich, juicy, and pleasant. It will keep far into December without rotting. It can be handled pretty much the same as apples."

Samuel Page, of Boston, has influenced many of late to remove the blinders from the bridle of their horses. He says that the outrageous custom originated in England about three hundred years ago, as a means of displaying the English "coat-of-arms." He argues that the horse without them will endure more hardships and require less food than with them; that he is less liable to become frightened; that blinders, irritating the eyes, cause the horse in many instances to become blind; that in backing or turning around he will step or stumble over things that he would doubtless avoid, if his sight was not confined by blinders. One horse car company of Boston have removed blinders from their horses, and it is claimed that sixteen horses without blinders will do the work of twenty with blinders. —Noblesman.

Washington correspondent says: It is asserted positively to-day that the Democratic members of the committee are in possession of absolute evidence that Hayes knew what Anderson and Webber were doing, and all that was going on.—Phil. Record, Rep.

Pee Dee Bee: We think Col. Steele's course in Congress is the most forcible argument that can be brought forward in behalf of his renomination. He has clearly shown his worthiness of a seat in Congress as a true North Carolinian.

President Hayes cannot be put out of office without a revolution; but inside of such revolution the proofs of fraud and legitimate electioneering capital for the Democratic party.—New York Herald.

Rockingham Spirit: It is understood that the Republicans will make no nominations for Supreme Court Judges,

been very much amused with the Bill Chaffer, or tumble bug, as we call it here in New Jersey. How they seem to be playing with marbles right in the middle of the road on hot, dusty days! How they push and tumble, and get their jackets dusty in their efforts! Sometimes it takes two or three beetles to roll their ball up an elevation, or over some impediment in the way.

Did you never wonder what all such work meant, or did you suppose it was just the way those bugs have of amusing themselves? I can remember when I thought so myself. But after I became older I began to wonder where the bugs get the balls, what they were going to do with them. I have since found it out. And it is all very interesting.

They make balls out of the excretions of animals, in which they deposit an egg, leaving it in the sun until it is baked almost as hard as a marble; then begins their work. They toil and struggle until they get the balls three feet under ground. Then the little one is left in its spherical home from early September until the next spring, as warm and cosy as you please, growing larger and larger until it bursts from its shell, a little worm with six legs, and creeps up to the surface of the ground or, as some say, they remain in the balls until they become chrysalids, and come out beetles or tumble bugs, ready to begin tumbling and pushing like their mothers before them.—A. E. C. Anderson, in April Wide Awake.

WOMEN MAKING LOVE.

Many young women write to us, asking for instructions as to how they shall win men for whom they have conceived an affection, but who show no responsive feeling.—N. Y. Sun.

There are foolish people in all parts of the world, but the above is so utterly at variance with any knowledge or observation of ours, that we have no hesitation in denying for Western North Carolina women any part in the indelicate folly indicated above. Most likely those who write to the Sun for "instructions," &c., belong to the Irish servant class of the city of New York, and not to the country.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

CATALPA WOOD.

A little over half a century ago General Wm. Henry Harrison, in an agricultural address delivered in Ohio, recommended farmers to cultivate the catalpa because of the great durability of its wood when used for fence posts, etc. He was led to give this advice from having found in an old French stockade at Vincennes, while he was Governor of the then Northwest Territory, pickets of catalpa wood which were yet perfectly sound, although they must have existed in place for more than a century. Lately this tree has become an object of a great deal of attention on the part of arboriculturists, principally on account of the testimony of Dr. Warder and Mr. E. E. Barney and a few others, as to the value of its timber.

The catalpa (Catalpa bignonioides), although quite extensively cultivated as an ornamental tree in the Middle and Eastern States, is a native of the South and Southern Illinois and Indiana. This tree does not acquire a very large size in the streets, parks, and suburbs of our Northern cities, nor in such situations is it often shapely; but in its native Southern and Western home it is straight and handsome, and often attains a height of fifty feet, with a trunk diameter of three feet or more. The foliage consists of large heart-shaped, long petioled leaves of a peculiar shade of green, and having a silky luster. The blossoms in great profusion in June, and is then especially ornamental. The flowers, disposed in large showy panicles, are about an inch long, bell-shaped, with a five lobed, wavy border, and are white, spotted internally with yellow and violet. The flowers are succeeded by slender, cylindrical, dark brown pods, often a foot long, which hang until spring. These pods are divided lengthwise into two cells, which are filled with flat seeds having cottony wings. When perfectly ripe and dry, the capsules are often used as cigars by boys (the cottony contents readily burning and producing much smoke), and are hence familiarly known as "smoking beans."

Mr. E. E. Barney, the veteran car builder of Dayton, Ohio, has recently brought together all the facts and observations in his possession touching the economic value of this tree, and published them in pamphlet form. From this we learn that there are two marked varieties of the catalpa, one blooming two weeks earlier than the other. The blossoms of the early bloomer are larger, more profuse, and less tinged with purple; pods longer and finer; the bark dark colored and furrowed, resembling the bark of elm and locust trees of the same age. The bark of the

late bloomer is laminated, comparatively smooth, and light colored. The early variety is of more rapid growth, and is straighter and taller, and has been found to endure a winter that killed the other. Mr. S. H. Binkley has on his farm, several miles from Dayton, a grove of six hundred catalpa trees, of the late blooming variety, planted from seed twelve years ago. They are now from 25 to 30 feet tall and from 4 to 8 inches in diameter at the ground. They would now make twenty-five hundred fence posts. Eighteen years ago, while repairing a fence, Mr. Binkley, lacking a few stakes, trimmed up some catalpa limbs, three or four inches in diameter, and used them for stakes, thinking they might last one season. A recent examination of these stakes, which have been in the ground for eighteen years, has shown them to be perfectly sound. The valuable qualities of the tree, to sum up the evidence presented by Mr. Barney, are: Its easy and rapid growth in almost any kind of soil, freedom from the attack of insects, and the great value of its timber as regards its durability either in the earth or exposed to the air. The principal demand for the timber will be for railroad ties; for this purpose wood should be durable when exposed to the weather, and neither too soft to resist crushing weight on the rails nor too hard to hold the spikes properly. These qualities, Mr. Barney asserts, are found combined in the catalpa. In addition to its durability, catalpa possesses qualities that render it one of the finest of woods for inside finish and cabinet work, inasmuch as it has a beautiful fine grain, of a warm yellow color, and is susceptible of a high polish.

Mr. Barney's pamphlet is published for the purpose of disseminating knowledge as to the value of the tree and to promote its cultivation. The author estimates that at present prices a plantation of catalpa will yield a return of \$25 per acre for each year of the time during which the trees occupy the ground. Mr. S. Foster, a horticulturist of Iowa, thinks that the common (or late flowering) variety cannot be depended upon north of St. Louis, while the early bloomer has endured the severest winters of the Western States without injury.

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Rockingham Spirit: It is understood that the Republicans will make no nominations for Supreme Court Judges,

self the skill, and capital, and machinery, and appliances of the North. In the South, land, food, raiment, and shelter are cheap, and taxation is growing every year less burdensome. In everything except capital, skill, and experience, the manufacturers of the South are on an equality with those of England, and the saving in balancing, waste, and transportation gives the South great advantages. Nowhere in the world can cotton be manufactured so cheaply as on the spot where it is grown, where water power is so abundant and unfailing; and every factory set up there will help to develop the diversities of Southern agriculture. The cotton crop last year amounted to 4,700,000 bales; yet the Southern States have but a small part of their cotton lands under cultivation.

Progress in Hard Times.—Notwithstanding the times, it is doubtful if the country ever made greater or more rapid progress in substantial wealth than during the past seven years. From a comparison of the statistics of the census of 1870 with those furnished by the Bureau of Agriculture for 1877, it appears that there were 31,000,000 more acres of land under cultivation last year than in 1870, an increase of 34 per cent. The percentage of increase in the number of bushels of corn produced was 24; of wheat, 52; of rice, 12; of barley, 45; in tons of hay, 31; and in pounds of tobacco, 91 per cent. The live stock over the aggregate of 1870 was, horses, 41 per cent; mules, 45; cows, 26; oxen and other cattle, 29; sheep, 23; swine 28 per cent. The aggregate increase in the number of live animals amounted to about 25,000,000 head. The excess of the grain crop of 1877 over that of 1870 was nearly 550,000,000 bushels. Our exports for the year ending June 30, 1877, exclusive of gold and silver, amounted to \$632,940,000.

The Influence of One Mill.—A single woolen mill in the city of Lawrence produces every week a million yards of dyed or printed cloth. It pays \$100,000 a week as wages. It employs 5,000 persons, paying them at an average rate of 95 cents a day to women and girls, and \$1.40 a day to men. It consumes 500 tons of starch, and expends \$400,000 for printing and dyeing materials every year. The wool it requires calls for the fleeces of 10,000