LOCAL.

See first page for communications.

Municipal election next Monday.

We are indebted to Col. Armfield for a number of valuable public documents.

Andrew Murphy, Esq., has been appointed town registrar. Don't fail to register.

Mr. Yopp has improved the internal arrangement of his book store, and it is looking as bright as a new pin.

Judge Kerr's health continues bad, and it is likely that all the courts on his circuit will fail.

Sturgeon, fresh, has been on sale here by the pound. The catch of this fish below Wilmington is said to be large.

Fine rains in the southern part of the county Tuesday night. Crops looking splendid.

There is very general and pleased satisfaction with the nomination of Mr. Kerr Craige for Mayor.

A. L. Clinard, formerly a clerk at the Boyden House, was committed to jail in Lexington, a few days ago, on the charge of theft.

Mr. John C. Deaton has been a terrible sufferer from spinal meningitis for several days. His condition is reported to be improving.

We acknowledge the receipt of complimentary tickets from the Marshals and Mr. James Horah, at Davidson College. Commencement there June 11th, prox.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Salisbury Gas Light Company will be held at the office of J. Allen Brown, Saturday, 10 o'clock, A. M., May 3d. It

Mr. George Morgan, of Winston has sent us a bottle of superior black writing ink. Those wanting such an article by the quantity can doubtless obtain it on liberal terms by addressing him.

Speaking of fine fish, the memory of some presented us by Mr. J. F. Cotton, of the Narrows, will not allow "coast fish" to be mentioned in comparison.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Frank Williams of Davie, who was so badly hurt by being thrown from his buggy last week, is doing well. His physicians, thinks he will be able to travel to his home early next week.

A Mission Meeting has been going on in St. Luke's Episcopal church for about ten days, conducted by the Rector, assisted by Rev. Mr. Bynum, Rev. Mr. Curtis and Rev. Dr. Sutton. The attendance has been good, and it is believed the labors of these able gentlemen have not been in vain.

Mr. John Whitehead's numerous friends here will be more gratified than surprised to learn that he has lately obtained marks of extra merit at the Philadelphia Medical College. He is one out of four, in a class of more than a hundred that received perfect marks.

Says an exchange: Mr. John M. Whitehead, son of Dr. M. Whitehead, of Salisbury, recently passed his examination at the close of his second year's course in the medical school in the University of Pensylvania with high honors. He was one of only four out of a class of 126 who received the perfect marks of 100. During the recess he has been appointed assistant physician to Dr. Chase in the dispensary of the Presbyterian hospital of Philadelphia.

Enochville Items.

We notice that quite a number of persons, from a distance of several miles, frequent the mercantile houses of this place, which goes to prove that the merchants have won for themselves a reputation for honesty and fair dealing which they justly deserve.

We her some complaint about the bridge over Irish Buffalo creek, on the road leading from here to China Grove. Some of the flooring plank are rotting and several holes have been broken through.

In giving the situation of churches in the last Enochville Items, it should have read from one to four miles, instead of from one to two.

The Sunday School was organized here last Sabbath with the following officers: W. E. Litaker, Superintendent; J. H. Eagle, Assistant; A. Yost, Secretary, and J. Goodnight, Treasurer. W.

For the Watchman.

The Only Route to Sobriety, Prospected.

The present consideration of the temperance question partakes but little of the nature of a debate; for all have the same end in view, differing only as to the route. With the, necessarily, scrimp space available in the "Watchman," I can only present a mere epitome of "facts and fancies," favoring *my* views; and even *that*, with epigrammatic compression. Therefore, while I must throttle *some*, to notice *all* the *dicta*, *data* and deductions of the opposite theorists, is impossible: and if I tried, it would involve such a "spread" of redundant verbosity and diffuse pleonasms, as would swell my "com:" into such a plethoric mass, as to insure its rejection by Editor Bruner, with the terse advice, —"Go hire a hall." My mode of debate, then, must be based on the fact that truth dissipates illusion, where the convictions are not hermetically sealed by preconceived prejudice. Teachers of ethics, who confound effect with cause, either from ignorance or mental fatuity, conducting very many, by false induction, to erroneous conclusions and mischievous ideas, are as "the blind leading the blind," &c.

Drinking, as a rule, is an effect, not a cause. The causes for drinking are as diversified and multiform as are the innate educated attributes of humanity. Hence, if a man, *known* to be utterly brutal and vindictive by nature and the education of association, who has red murder in his heart, but white cowardice in his liver, and so drinks enough whiskey to nerve him to the execution of the fiendish conceptions of his sober nature,—is drinking the *cause* of his crimes? Who are his tempters? And what will prevent his procuring whiskey while the national government permits and encourages its manufacture? I leave the solution of these three postulates to common sense.

There is one prolific cause of the formation of drinking habits in youth that is more prevalent than is generally thought of; habits which are *not* formed in saloons, and which prohibitory laws are powerless to prevent, but rather tend to strengthen and increase. I will present it through a truthful portraiture of the main cause applied to one case.

Youths of the most pure and fine grained natures, reared with the utmost tenderness and watchful care, devoted to study and diligent in self-improvement, about the eventful epoch when their voices change from the treble to bass, begin, in obedience to the promptings of our highest humanity, to feel a lively interest in the opposite sex. *Par* example, we will take one whose studious habits have so intensified the diffidence of his retiring nature, that he would be less appalled by the alternative of sleeping alone in some dismal and remote haunted house, during a wild stormy night, than facing the array of enchanting young beauties he expects to meet at his first party, knowing, as he intuitively does, that the dear creatures are always merry, quizzing and provokingly self-possessed. He feels certain that he will blush and stammer; be awkward, self-couscious and absent-minded whenever any one of the young ladies speaks to him: In short, he will appear at a disadvantage when he wishes to be most prepossessing. But the instintive impetus is irresistible, so he puts "Excelsior" on his banner, nails it to the staff, and seeks counsel and sympathy from some trusty young friend, who has past his novitiate in such affairs. His friend, with sincere well meaning, prescribes a dose of whiskey or brandy, just before starting, with the accompaniment of a few cloves or other de-odorizers in his vest pocket. He acts on the advice: finds it a charm: acquits himself beyond his highest hopes: and at all future like re-unions,—indeed, where-ever he goes, where diffidence might interpose a barrier to the enjoyment he would impart and receive, this dangerous antidote is used with increasing frequency and recklessness, until it becomes a daily necessity. To pursue the tracks of the *first false step* in the above example of cause and effect, is unnecessary: All *know* that, in many cases, it leads to an early manhood of obscured intellect, blunted energies, sensual proclivities and hopes blasted when brightest.

If ardent spirits had no existence, and the use of pure wines and light malt liquors prevailed instead, the requisite buoyancy could be obtained with no danger of ruinous results, as above. In addition to the danger of excess at all times, the use of ardent spirits *creates* a morbid appetite, almost irrepressible, in those of warm and extreme social temperament, while pure wine and beer do not. The ancient churchmen were such lovers of the juice of the grape that, while inculcating temperance in the use of it, as in all good gifts, they, in all their writings, call the church "the vineyard of the Lord." A moderate use of pure wine is a social virtue, while total-abstinence is the conscience of weak and disordered stomachs.

The Rev'd Theo. Parker, of Boston, wrote home from Europe, "One third of the whole of France is cultivated in grapes: and besides the great quantity of wine exported, the Gov't returns make it appear that the French people drink 850,000,000 gallons of wine a year, which is about 22 gallons to every inhabitant, old and young. And I do not believe there is as much drunkenness among the 39,000,000 people in France, as there is among the 3,000,000, in New England." The Hon. D. M. Barringer, in his agricultural address at Charlotte, in 1858, in alluding to the culture of the vine, announced the astonishing fact, that outside of England, he had not, in all his travels in Europe, seen an intoxicated man! "*Every body*," he said, "drinks light beer, and pure wines, but drunkenness is almost unknown." The Rev'd Dr. Crosby, in a very recent address on the subject of "True Temperance Reform" in the Anthon Memorial Church, New York, said, "The oft-repeated assertion, that drunkenness is prevalent among the European nations where wine-drinking is the common custom, is an absurd slander, as any person, who had lived abroad, could testify. The greatest amount of drunkenness is to be found in our own country, where total-abstinence reformers do most abound." I travelled all through Maine and Massachusetts in 1852 when the "Maine liquor law" was in full force in both States. I had *never* drank anything intoxicating up to that time, and I was 27 years old. I had the most ample opportunities to know the "outer and inner" workings of the law; but I reserve my own observations and late documentary evidence of its hollowness, for next issue. I may now state however that in Massachusetts the law was rescinded, as a failure, after one year's trial.

I will give a synopsis of the workings of "prohibition now in force in Vermont, which makes it a crime for a man to sell even a glass of cider! The correspondent of the N. Y. World, resident of Montpelier, says he has visited Rutland, Burlington, St. Albans and other towns in the State, and found, in every place, that at hotels and elsewhere, liquor is sold and no questions asked. In this, as in every other State where a similar law has been in force, people with money and influence can freely engage in the traffic, with none to molest or make them afraid. The manner of prosecuting "liquor cases," is by what is known as the "spy system." Every informer who can secure the conviction of any person, receives a share of the fine imposed: and the class who engage in this work, are the *lowest* people in the community. They are despised by everybody, except fanatical temperance reformers, who employ and encourage them. A prominent citizen, who has held high office in the State, and is one of the substantial business men, said the other day, "The result of the prohibitory law, has been to honey-comb the social community with hypocrisy and immorality. I have closely investigated the cause of events since this "Temperance Wave" has swept the State, and I find that, while drunkenness is not on the decrease, other forms of immorality are certainly on the increase. I would not permit my daughter, nor any respectable young lady, over whom I might have any influence, to even attend the meetings of these temperance societies, as I think it has been conclusively proved that they promote immorality." Such a statement coming from an influential and respected citizen, who himself practices and inculcates temperance principles, shows the tendency of the prohibition movement in this State.

I will "*rest*" from quoting for the present. Salisbury is *now*, by far, the most temperate and sober of all the towns, "wet or dry," that I have been in, during the past 4 years, in either of the Carolinas. But should the unwise policy of, *ostensible*, prohibition prevail, I predict that in six months from date of saloon closing, it will be a hotbed of drunken sottishness. "Tempters" *now* are Quixotic figments: *then* they will be countless realities; secret and unutterably dangerous, though unintentional and genial. I will dilate on this now no further than to say that, legislative attempts to advance reforms that pertain wholly to individual affairs and conscience, only spur up resistance to law and order. I will here transcribe an epitaph copied from a tombstone in an Italian graveyard; "I was well: wanted to be better: took medicine; and here I am."

When the subversion of effect for cause is, as is often the case, mere harmless folly, it merits only the notice of jocundity. But when it takes the form of grave pronunciamentos against drinking as the main *cause* of all crime, it is fruitful of misguided good intentions and redolent of the inspiration of spiteful bitterness. It assumes that drinkers have no rights that teetotalers are bound to respect: and arrays the latter against the former, as terriers against rats. To illustrate forcibly this fallacy, I will present one rank section of crime, in which the natural depravity of one sober man, is the *cause* of much drunkenness, *and crime*, in others.

The "Champion" rascality, and master spirit of crime is the seduction of the virtue of girls and young women; it is infinitely worse than the combined essence of murder, arson and robbery. And seduction is pre-*eminently* a crime of sobriety. I have often wished that women were empowered to legislate so far as to enact laws for the utter extinction of these incarnate fiends. I would have them pilloried and pelted for a day and then crucified after a nameless mutilation. The seducer is worse than the garroter, for he needs courage: but the seducer makes his cowardly attack on unprotected female weakness. He is worse than the thief, for he steals perishable goods: the seducer steals character, happiness and the crown of female loveliness, which is virtue, and then tries to conceal the turpitude of his foul crime, in the more perfect ruin of his victim, by slander. He is worse than the poisoner, who plies his black art to destroy physical life: while the seducer puts his woeful chalice to the lips of the spirit, and, with fiendish atrocity, false pretences of affection and hollow protestations of devotion, allures a tender and delicate, but too devoted lover, to partake of a crime that entails upon her a life-long disgrace and misery! And while *he* pays hardly the shadow of a nominal penalty to law, (strangely weak against this blackest of crimes) and exultingly noses around after similar victories over unsuspecting purity,—*she*, on the other hand, is "a lost star." She is even fortunate if her mother still lives: otherwise, she has *not one* friend. Even her own sex (strange anomaly) turn pitilessly against her. She is shunned as a leper: and to retrieve is impossible. She is an outcast from every chance to earn a respectable living, even in the humblest menial capacity. "Man's inhumanity to *such*, makes countless thousands mourn." Poor girl! Vile humanity! If instinctive fear of death prevents the culmination of suicide, there is but one avenue of escape from starvation left open to her,—prostitution. There is no scope *now* to follow the grade of her brief career and rapid descent, during which, is *she*, poor, lost heart, to be blamed if, in self-defense, she, in turn, corrupts others until the seducer's crime spreads evil and misery to untold bounds?

By a "short cut" we reach her in the last scene of her wretchedness, a denizen of such a rendezvous as, for instance, the "five points," in New York city,—a mere repulsive shadow of the "*lost girl*," mad, pale and ghastly,—a *creation*, almost, of gin, carmine and ragged soiled muslin: a thing too hideous to show in daylight; a foul lamp glimmering out its dregs: every vestige of hope long lost; with *no* desire left for anything but money enough to insure food and shelter, and to buy ardent spirits to inspire the glee of the damned or the oblivion of the deal. The vile tenements of such pandemoniums teem with like sediments of wretched humanity, as hives do with bees. Their only fear of prisons is the denial of whiskey to drown their despair. Is it strange that crime, *and nothing else*, abounds in these last retreats of fallen women? *No*. But is it *not* strange that grave teachers of Ethics, to save the tax, I suppose, on their analytical reasoning faculties, take these horrid *effects* of sober crime and present them as irrefragable proof of the truth of their dictum that drinking is the *cause* of nearly all crime? As compared with them, the squirrel would be wise, "in its generation," that tried to begin digging its hole at the bottom.

One more exposition of that ulcer on society, the seducer, and I am done with him. Even in the rare cases where the seducer of virtue succumbs to fear of the chastisement of the male relatives of his victim, and reluctantly marries her, the poor girl is saved, to be sure, but there is no virtue in *his* necessity. His crime, in intent, still stands; and his act of ostensible reparation only rates him among the lowest class of seducers,—the white livered ones, who "smile and smile and still are villains;" who stab behind in the dark in every relationship of life. A thorough rascal, who values the confidence you repose in him only so far as it enables him to abuse it.

There is one class of crime crushers, of the most blatant "stop thief" species, who, themselves ought to be crushed to silence, at least. They are those who daily commit the most gross and atrocious, but trackless crimes. They have no compunctions of conscience (?) save in those cases where their tracks are too loosely covered. As affecting themselves, they hold *detection* as the only crime: and their high standing in society &c., comes of brazen self-assertion, and detraction of others. In proof of this, appeals to other times and countries are unneeded. This land has teemed with dismantled immaculates, during the past decade, in every social and public position in life. To these must be added those hordes of "highly respectables" who are only outside of State prisons for "grand larceny," by sufferance of faulty civil law, and whose highest self-justification is, that others, (often myths) robbed them, which obliged them to rob others: just as the common freebooter says, in palliation of *his* robberies,—"The world owes me a living." Common honesty seeks no subterfuges, and *owes no one*. Without a basis of common honesty to build on, all superstructed virtues are hollow mockeries and dangerous pretences: and those lacking this one attribute, should forfeit all right to an *ipse dixit* in social ethics, just as a penitentiary convict is shorn of his rights of citizenship. In all the higher and more intricate grades of crime, complete and systematic sobriety is an absolute necessity. Even in gangs of common thieves and burglars, a member would be at once expelled who got drunk, because through the indiscretion of drunkenness, he might "peach" in his "cups."

I am entirely impersonal, but have many noble men in my mind when I say that there is much truth in the common saying, "drinking is the good man's weakness." The above portraitures of some criminals, I have drawn from wide observation, reading and calm thought. They are as true as birth and sure as death; and their prototypes are of the *whole* world, past and present: and they are drawn solely for the evolution of correct general principles, from which to draw true deductions, and to prove that, while drunkenness is the cause of utter misery to its victims, it is not the *cause* of crime against society, to any great extent. I do not argue for victory, but for truth; and, personally, I am indifferent about the decision, at the polls, of the question at issue. If I had any fear of "tempters" at all, it would be of the jugs of genial friends, which will abound when saloons are *non est*.

I thank "More Anon" for stating a fact, of which I was previously ignorant, viz, that a man cannot keep a saloon unless he has a *proven* "good, moral character." It will be of use when I reach that point, where a defense of that much abused class of citizens is in order.

W. H. Neave.

For the Watchman.

Local Option—Probable Effect on the Better Classes of our Young Men.

I do not, by any means, set myself up as an example to be immitated by others; but merely wish to state a few facts in connection with this local option movement now on foot in Salisbury township. It is of personal observation and experience that I wish to speak. In the first place, I am a young man who has, as yet, his first social glass of whisky to swallow. For the last six or seven years I have been fighting against whisky drinking, (I mean personally) and have so far come out victor. My temptations have been as great, if not greater, than the average young man. The greatest temptation of a young man, *is not the public bar*, where all classes, white and black, go to indulge the craving appetite; but in the private room or boudoir of some friend where, in company with comrads of "light heart," the social glass is handed round, with happy smile and pleasant repartee. 'Tis here the appetite is formed, and the germs of a vice leading to shame, ruin and a drunkard's grave, are sprouted. These young men, all of good society, would resent as an insult, an invitation to go into a *bar* to take a glass, for that is what they studiously avoid. It would be a death blow to the jolly, social, occasional meeting with friends in private, and make them 'open moderate drinkers.' From this they shrink. They do "no harm" they say in drinking a glass privately, but it would set a bad example, and injure themselves socially, to enter a bar and drink a friend's health in public.

Now, on the other hand, remove all the bars, and force all whisky drinkers to buy by the gallon, and keep in their offices, and private rooms, the "horrid stuff." The temptations I have just described are brought to bear in a greater and more universal way. On all sides, the young man who has fought a good fight so far, is beset with more subtle and tempting baits. "Be jolly for once in your life." "Sip from the flowing bowl, just with me, my friend." "Come, my hearty, we'll drink your health." Brighten your wits and we'll take a game," &c., &c.

Ah, young heart! can you withstand these new and dire temptations which are about to be *forced* upon you? I say forced, because I look on local option as a force measure. The Blue Laws of the 17th century may have been mythical, but the ear marks on local option show a close relation. Shall the mythical of the 17th become a reality in the enlightened 19th century?

While it may do good to some, I am convinced that the temptations of the young men of the better class will be greatly increased, and, as I take it, is a risk too great to be lightly thought of. As it is, these social gatherings are few, but add the force law, and necessarily, from the increased number of moderate drinkers who are compelled to buy by larger quantities, these meetings become more frequent—consequently more dangerous.—This force law does not strike me as the thing—why use force? The heart of man rebels against it. When God, in his great wisdom, placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, He knew their weakness—that they would fall, and fall, too, from eating the forbidden fruit. Why did He not use force to preserve His newly made people? Why not build a great wall around the tree of forbidden fruit, and thus prevent gratification, if his people were tempted? No! He only said: "Ye shall not eat of the fruit." Their disobedience led to their destruction. So, now, whisky, a tree of forbidden fruit, is in our land. We cannot remove it, let so-called reformers say what they will to the contrary. God says, "be temperate." Some are, and pass unharmed. Some are not, and like our first parents, must suffer for their disobedience. But some will argue, "drinking affects not only the man, but his family and friends." Just so, and Adam's disobedience effected the whole human race to the last generation.

In all sincerity and simplicity of faith, I think these matters are in a higher and more powerful hand, and it ill becomes the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus to go outside of their legitimate work, and try to coerce, or force temperance. As well might Adam have cut down the tree of forbidden fruit and cast it from the garden of Eden.

These are my humble opinions—they may be wrong, but they are honest. It is for the young men, my friends in Salisbury, that I entertain these fears; thought of them and myself, prompted this effort to call attention to at least one bad effect of local option. Hopeful.

Bibles at Twenty-Five Cents.—We have received from the American Bible Society, in New York, a specimen copy of a Bible, and another of the New Testament, which they offer for sale at 25 cents and 5 cents per copy, respectively. It seems somewhat marvelous that the books can be printed so cheaply, especially as the work is done with so much neatness. The books are printed in agate type 24-mo, and are substantially bound. The managers of the society announce that they design to secure a wider circulation of their books through the channels of trade; and, to make it for the interest of dealers in books to accommodate their customers by keeping for sale the Society's Bibles and Testaments, they offer to such dealers, and to them only, a discount of *ten per cent.* from the catalogue price. The Society does not seek profit, and in offering its books for sale has regard only to receiving the return of the cost of production.—Charlotte *Observer*.

There is a depository of the American Bible Society's books at Ross & Greenfield's store, where they are sold at catalogue prices.

How the Negroes of the South are Cruelly Swindled and Deceived.

Washington letter of 26th to Richmond Dispatch.

I saw a letter to-day written to Gen. King, member of Congress from Louisiana, by a lady of that State who owns a large plantation, and whose daughter is married to a well-known English Earl. She writes that agents have been among the negroes of Concordia parish and told them that the United States government has ordered them all to leave Louisiana and go to Kansas, where they are to have land and a good start as farmers. If they remain, however, at the end of eighteen months the Indians are to be turned against them, and will slaughter men, women and children without mercy. There is another story current among them that the Queen of Spain has purchased the land they occupy, and if they do not leave she will put them to the sword. This lady tells of a well-known colored man who sold his mule for $10, hogs for 50 cents apiece, and, leaving his cotton and corn crops—both well under way—has gone to the promised land of Kansas.

A South Carolina member came up while Gen. King was giving me the contents of the letter referred to, and said the Radical agents in some parts of Louisiana are distributing among the negroes, Mr. Ellis says, chromos giving a rosy picture of farm life in Kansas. In a beautiful cottage, surrounded by trees, flowers and attractive home comforts, resides a colored family. A piano is seen through a front window, and in a rocking chair on the verandah sits a well dressed aunty, as contented as plenty and nothing to do can make her.

The Negro Exodus.

Here is another of those double-leaded, sententious articles from the Louisville *Courier Joural* which always means something:

If Mr. Whitthorne, of Tennessee, does not press his resolution to investigate the "exodus" villainy, we engage to do something that will not be to Mr. Whitthorne's advantage.

This whole "exodus" scheme is a piece of scoundrelism. The monsters who are at the bottom of it know perfectly well what they are about. They have for their object the falsification of the next census.

The "exodus" scheme is a census movement purely. The negro is simply to be used, as the Republicans have always used him, as so much fuel to fan the flame of sectional strife and hate, regardless of his fate.

As a trick, it is the worst yet; a base-born, black-hearted piece of barbarous cruelty, which every vaillian who supports it knows to be infamous and inhuman.

Mr. Whitthorne's proposal is of the first consequence. Let him proceed with it.

The prominence which the *Courier Journal* gives the above, and the exceeding vigor of the language which it employs indicate that it has good cause for saying what it says. The census explanation is very plausible. The Republicans will have made a ten-strike if they can run all the negroes out the Southern States, colonize them in Northern States, and keep them there until the census of 1880 can be completed. By this means the representation of the Southern States in Congress will be decreased and the representation of certain Northern States increased. After the apportionment is made under the new census the "nigger" can take care of himself; he can come back to the South or stay in the Northwest as he likes.

This is, in all human probability, the object had in view by the Republican projectors of this heartless scheme; it may be that it is some lower object; certainly it is none higher.—*Charlotte Ob.*

The Tobacco Dealers' Plan.—A circular is being sent to all the tobacco dealers in the country by prominent tobacco manufacturers of New York city, stating that an effort will be made to get a bill through Congress allowing the tobacco dealers a rebate on their stock of tobacco on which has been paid the twenty-four per cent. tax. They are, therefore advised, before May 1, to take account of the stock of tobacco on hand and have it properly attested before a notary public, in order that there may be no question of the validity of their claims in case the bill passes. The provisions of such a bill would give to the 350,000 tobacco dealers in the country a rebate of eight cents on every pound of tobacco now in their stores, except that which is in the form of cigars and cigarettes. This legislation will, of course, receive the hearty support and co-operation of that large and influential class which would be directly benefitted by the passage of the bill.

Important Decision.

The Juror's Test Oath Before the Superme Court—The Act Declared Unconstitutional and Void.

By telegraph to Wilmington Sun.

Washington, April 28.—The following important case was decided in the U. S. Supreme Court to-day: Geo. Burt vs. Maria M. Ponjand, from the Circuit Court of Florida; judgment affirmed. In this case, one of the assignments of error in the court below brought up the question of jurors disqualification on account of participation in the rebellion, and the constitutionality of the juror's Test Oath Act. The Court held in an opinion by Justice Miller, that a juror is no more obliged than a witness is, to state on oath, as a condition of qualification, his guilt or innocence of a crime which would render him infamous. Whether pardoned by a general amnesty or not, the crime of treason is one which a juror cannot be required to disclose in this manner. If he be guilty, his challengers must prove it by other competent testimony.

In a separate concurring opinion, Justice Fields gave his views as follows: "I agree with the Court that Mr. Holmes in this case, could not be required to answer the questions put to him, but I go further: I do not think that the act of Congress, which, by requiring the test oath as to past conduct, excludes a great majority of citizens of half of the country from the jury box, is valid. In my judgment the act is not only oppressive and odious, and repugnant to the spirit of our institutions, but is clearly unconstitutional and void. As a war measure, to be enforced in insurgent States when dominated by national foes, the fact could be sustained, but after the war was over and the insurgent States were restored to their normal and constitutional relations to the Union, it was as much out of place and as inoperative as would be a law quartering a soldier in every Southern man's home."

"Our First Baby," is the title of a new book. It is bound in muslin, of course, and has a weak back.—*Norristown Herald.*

Queen Victoria's Abdication.

London Cor. Dundee Advertiser.

Rumors of a vague but somewhat alarming character have been current for some days with regard to the health of the Queen. I have hitherto alluded to these reports, but they have become so persistent that it would be useless longer to ignore their existence. It is said that for some time past Her Magesty's health has not been in a very satisfactory state. The death of the Duchess of Hesse gave her a shock from which she has not recovered, and the fatigue incident on the celebration of the marriage of the Duke of Connaught exercised a depressing influence on her health. The journey to Italy is not a mere holiday trip. Sir W. Jenner considered that a change of scene and an almost entire absence from official duty of any kind were necessary for the Queen, and this is the reason why she has hurried herself on the secluded shores of an Italian lake. It is no doubt in consequence of the somewhat gloomy statements regarding Her Majesty's health which are passing in society that other reports connected with the succession to the throne are also current. It is said that unless a considerable change in Her Majesty's health takes place she will no longer be able to discharge the functions which belong to the sovereign of the country, and rumor points to the possibility of an abdication. It is an undoubted fact that since the departure of the Queen for Italy the prime minister has several times seen the Prince of Wales. On Tuesday he had an interview with his royal highness of more than an hour's duration, and the prince would seem to be since to some extent discharging the duties of the Queen with regard to public affairs during her absence in Italy. In a matter where there is necessarily a good deal of speculation it would be idle to make definite statemets, but there are those who think that a somewhat startling surprise is in store for the Parliament before the present session closes.

Orange Presbytery.

Orange Presbytery convened in its three hundred and eighteenth session at Eno church, in Orange county, on Wednesday last, 23d. There was an unusually full attendance, forty-nine members being present. Rev. A. Currie, of Graham, was chosen moderator, and Rev. S. M. Smith and Maj. John A. Womac, secretaries. Matters of great importance were considered and acted on. The new book of discipline, sent down by the General Assembly to the presbyteries, was adopted by a vote of 37 to 7. The Rev. John W. Primrose was again elected evangelist for the presbytery for the eastern portion of the State. At the request of the Rev. E. Hines, his pastorial relation with the Shiloh church, in Granville county, which has extended through a quarter of a century, was dissolved.

The following delegates were elected to the General Assembly, which meets in Louisville, Ky., on the 15th of May; Rev. J. C. Alexander, Rev. F. H. Johnston, Maj. Thos. Sparrow and A. M. McPheeters.

Alternates—Rev. J. H. Fitzgerald, Rev. T. U. Faucett, Col. T. M. Holt, C. G. Yates.

The next meeting of the presbytery will be held at Alamance church, in Guilford county.—*Raleigh News.*

The Western North Carolina Railroad.

Raleigh Observer 26th.

Maj. Jas. W. Wilson, president of the Western North Carolina Railroad, arrived in this city last evening and has rooms at the National Hotel. The progress of the road is quite satisfactory. The cars are running to the eastern approach of the Swannanoa tunnel; track laying is going ahead quite rapidly on the western slope, and in a short time passenger cars will be running on the other side of the Blue Ridge in the direction of Asheville. Summer travel to the mountains this summer will be by rail across the Blue Ridge for the first time in the history of our State, and every accommodation and facility for the enjoyment of the magnificent mountain scenery of Western North Carolina will be afforded from the cars of the Western North Carolina Railroad. Open cars like those used on the centennial grounds at Philadelphia, are being built for the mountain section of the road, and a trip to the mountains has never been so enjoyable as the coming summer promises.

Parole's Victories.

The London *Field*, a sporting journal, in a lengthy article on the recent victories of Mr. Pierre Lorillard's American horse Parole, says: "Our American cousins have on the race-course fairly taken the backbone out of us. But a few days ago and almost to a man we were prepared to bet our bottom dollar on England vs. America on the race-course, but our bottom dollar would have gone, and now we fain acknowledge that we must concede the priority to the horse from over the sea, for it is more than probable that at the present moment Parole is the best horse on the English turf, except, perhaps, his stable companion and fellow-countryman, the Duke of Magenta. The second victory of Parole was hailed with acclamation, and had his plucky owner been present he would probably ere this have biceps considerably stiff from the handshaking that would certainly have been inflicted on him. Absent, however, as the owner of Parole is, our handshaking must be done on paper, and heartily, we congratulate Mr. Lorillard and his *confrere* and friend, Mr. Robbins, on the pleasant result of the enterprise displayed in bringing over a team of horses from America at a bad season of the year to tackle English race horses on their own battle ground."

Narrow Escape From Death by Strangulation.—Yesterday morning, Miss Sallie, daughter of Dr. F. Scarr, who is a sufferer from an asthmatic affection, suddenly experienced a failure of her respiratory organs to perform their fuctions, and in a very brief time was in a critical condition. Medical aid was summoned and was speedily at hand. By this time the young lady's muscles were contracted and her face discolored. After forcing her mouth open Dr. Gibbon, with the assistance of Dr. Graham, lost no time in cutting into her wind pipe and inserting a tube through which she was enabled to breathe after her lungs were again filled with air blown into them by means of the tube. After a brief time she was restored and last evening was quite comfortable, but is still breathing through the tube.—Charlotte *Observer*.

An Iowa Congressman Dies Suddenly.—Washington, April 28.—Congressman Rush Clark, of Iowa, died suddenly in this city this afternoon. He was in good health yesterday and was seized at 3 o'clock this morning with meningitis, which terminated fatally at 3 this afternoon.

The Mad Dog.

Since last Saturday there has been a great deal of excitement throughout this community, caused by a mad dog. Two children, one nine and the other eleven years, sons of Mr. G. Caldwell, were very severely bitten by the dog early Saturday morning. The children were playing around the yard at the residence near Hickory when the dog came up and attacked them. The dog seemed to be very ferocious, and bit them in several places before he could be frightened away. Dr. Baker was called in and rendered medical attention. The parents have been much exercised about the children and are doing everything they can to stay the dreaded effects of hydrophobia. To this time, the children have showed no signs of pain, more than the flesh wounds.

There is but little doubt that the dog referred to was a genuine mad dog. Mr. W. H. Lutes, of Cleveland county, was in Hickory this week and informs us that a dog, filling the same description, had been through his section. It was first seen on Wednesday about eight miles below Shelby—it came to some hunters in the woods, bit their dogs and made its escape. Thursday it came by Senator Hoyle's store at Black Rock, bit his dogs and several ducks and geese. Later the same day it bit one or two little negroes who were playing on the road side. Friday it bit a young lady who was recently married to Mr. James Wells. She received several severe wounds but finally succeeded in beating it away from her. The dog then came on through the "Hog Hill" settlement, then through the neighborhood of Mr. James Keever's, showing fight with dogs, cows, chickens and everything of the kind with which he came in contact. Friday night he came to Hickory and jumped on a negro man, who beat him off with a board, not, however, until he had lost part of his overcoat in the fight. Saturday morning, after he bit Mr. Caldwell's children, several gentlemen guarding at the railroad works, followed the rabid animal and gave him a silent grave near the Catawba river.

The above is another illustration demonstrating the necessity of a dog law. We learn that there have been quite a number of the dogs killed through the communities above mentioned, and we say that it would be better to kill every dog in this and Cleaveland counties than to endanger human life to the deadly effects of hydrophobia.—Hickory *Press.*

New York Grand Jury Report on Liquor, Lotteries and Elevated Railroads.—New York, April 29.—The General Sessions grand jury made a presentment in court this afternoon declaring that most of the crimes that came under their supervision were caused by intoxicating liquors, and calling on the police and excise authories to enforce the Sunday liquor law, and recommending that future legislation cause licened houses to close from 11 p. m., to 5 a. m.

Attention was called to the fact that the *Herald* and *Express* were violating the lottery laws in publishing lottery advertisements, and the grand jury recommend the matter to their successors, and also the question of safety on the elevated railroads.

MARRIED.

Married—In Atwell township, April 24th, by J. F. McLain, Esq., Mr. James Henry Hall to Miss Annie B. Vanpelt.

WORK WANTED—A steady, able and competent man (colored) offers his services as a gardener by the day. Persons leaving orders at the *Watchman* office the day before service required, will be waited on early next morning. Price per day 65 cts. 28to30

The low price at which the celebrated Pratt's Astral Oil, acknowledged by all as the very safest and best burning oil made, can now be afforded leaves no reason why it should not in all cases have the preference of consumers.

J. D. Gaskill, Agent.

As spirituous liquors will injure men, so opium or morphia will harmfully affect the baby. Dr. Bull's Baby Syrup is *the* remedy for the baby. It is free from opium. Price 25 cents.

The Mexican Dollar.

What is the difference between the Mexican dollar and Tabler's Buckeye Pile Ointment? One does what it promises and the other does not. The Mexican dollar says, "I am one hundred cents;" but when you come to invest it you find it is only eighty-five. Tabler's Buckeye Pile Ointment says "I will cure you of Piles;" and upon trial it is found to do so in every case. It makes but one promise—to cure Piles; and does so without failure. Price 50 cents a bottle. For sale by C. R. Barker, Salisbury, N. C.

Coussens' Compound Honey of Tar has been so long and favorably known that it needs no encomium. For coughs, colds, sore throat, hoarseness, etc., it affords speedy relief, and is a most pleasant and efficacious remedy, honey and tar being two of its ingredients. The skill of the chemist, and the knowledge of a physician were united in its preparation, the result being a compound which is the favorite remedy in this severe climate, and has no equal as a cure for coughs, colds, hoarseness, bronchitis, croup, etc. Use Coussens' Honey of Tar. Price 50 cents. For sale by C. R. Barker, Salisbury, N. C.

North Carolina, Rowan County. } In Superior Court, 26th April, 1879.

John W Frick, Adm'r of John Canup, Plaintiff,

Against

Samuel Canup, Susannah Goodman, Camilla Goodman, Margaret Canup, George A Canup, James W Canup, Henry A Canup Thomas L Canup, and Sarah L Canup (the last two minors), Vina Campbell (of Cabarrus), William Campbell, David Campbell, Sally Green (Stanly), Sophia Kirkpatrick or her heirs (in Indiana), and Caleb Canup's heirs (in Illinois), Defendants.

Petition to sell land for assets.

Upon the affidavit of the Plaintiff, it is ordered by the Court, that publication be made in the *Carolina Watchman* for six successive weeks, notifying Sophia Kirkpatrick or her heirs, and the heirs of Caleb Canup, who are non-residents of the State, to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said county, on Monday the 9th day of June, A D, 1879, and answer the complaint which has been filed in the above entitled action, and if they fail to answer the complaint, the Plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Witness, J. M. HORAH, a Clerk of the Superior Court, Rowan county.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

All announcements under this head will be charged at the same rate of business locals, viz: 15 cents per line for 1st insertion and 10 cents per line for each additional insertion.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for mayor of Salisbury, at the election to be held on the 5th of May next. R. W. Price. 21:1t.