

The Carolina Watchman.

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CONTRACT ADVERTISING RATES.
FEBRUARY 20, 1880.

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Mr. Davis Explains the "Clothes Story."

Letter to Gov. Stone, of Mississippi.

The late Mrs. Sarah A. Dorsey, a few days before her death, instructed me to present to her native State, Mississippi, the original portrait which accompanies this letter. It was made after a photographic likeness of myself, which was taken in the identical clothes worn when I was captured. Every article I then had on appears in this portrait, except a pair of large spurs, which were stolen from me after my capture. I had a water-proof "Raglan" and a shawl about my head and shoulders when I left my tent; but on being hailed by a cavalryman who rode a considerable distance before his comrades, I dropped both the Raglan and shawl while advancing on my charger, and thus appeared before my captors in the exact costume represented in the portrait.

Faithfully yours,
JEFFERSON DAVIS.
Beaufort, August 14th.

New York correspondent of *Hale's Weekly*: A book of 732 pages has passed to a second edition at Cincinnati, being an autobiography of Levi Coffin, "the reputed President of the Underground Railroad," by which in the days of slavery so many thousands of slaves were conveyed to the free States and Canada. Coffin was a Quaker, a native of Guilford county, N. C., where he was born in 1798, removed to Indiana in 1826, and commenced to write this diary in 1876, when in his 78th year. He has since died. He claims to have aided by his "underground railroad" in the escape of 3,000 slaves, among them the Elizabeth Harris of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Mr. Hayes is earnestly reminded by the Grant organs, that he is pledged to a second term. The remainder of the article is unnecessary. The people are even more solemnly pledged than Mr. Hayes.

NEWS ITEMS.

GRANT AT UTICA.

Among His Slavish Followers.

New York Casts Her Vote for Grant, Whom She Proclaims to be the "God of Battles"—A Motion to Make Blaine Tail-Piece Laid on the Table.

Utica, February 25.—Shortly after 12 o'clock General Arthur called the convention to order. When Albany county was called, Senator Foster moved that the credentials of Wm. H. Slingerland and his twelve associates, and the petition of Hamilton Harris and his twelve associates, be referred to the committee on contested seats when appointed. N. M. Curtis seconded the motion. Charles R. Spencer raised a point of order that no business could be done, the convention not having been organized. The chair decided that the point was well taken. Mr. Foster appealed from the decision of the chair, and called for the yeas and nays, (applause), but Governor Hoskins moved to lay the appeal on the table, and the motion was carried with only a few votes in the negative. The secretary then proceeded with the roll call.

During the roll call several disputes arose between the contesting delegations from various parts of the State, and there was much confusion and wrangling over the appointments to the committee on credentials. Stephen B. French of New York, nominated for temporary chairman Hon. Charles E. Smith, of Albany. The nomination was received with applause and was made unanimous. During his remarks on taking the chair, an allusion to Grant at Appomattox Court House was received with great applause.

Mr. Foster said his district had selected unanimously two delegates. We believe, as the chairman has said, that we should have a presidential candidate before whom the rebellion dare not raise its horrid head. We believe that James G. Blaine is such a man. (Great applause.)

H. R. Pierson, in replying to the remarks of Mr. Foster, said: "We need not go out of New York to find a nominee. (Long continued applause.) We can find one in Ohio. (Applause.) But among all these peers among peers, there is a name I hold above all others. (Applause and mingled cries of Conkling and Blaine.) I mean that name that stands as the god of battles—Ulysses S. Grant. (Great applause.) I believe that it will be Grant. I believe that the imperial State of New York will go, and ought to go, to Chicago and express its imperial will as a unit." (Applause.)

After transacting considerable routine of business, the convention took a recess until 3:30 p. m.

LATER.—The convention has adopted a resolution favoring the nomination of Grant. The test vote showed that Grant's friends had 37 majority over the advocates of an untrammelled delegation. A resolution favoring Blaine for a second choice was laid on the table.

The Republican convention upon reassembling this afternoon effected a permanent organization by the election of Chas. E. Smith, of Albany, as permanent chairman. Resolutions were then submitted declaring that the safety of the nation is again imperiled by the unlawful efforts of the Democratic party to overawe and subvert State governments, as in Maine and several Southern States, with a view to securing control of the general government by deed of violence and fraud; that in this emergency, mindful of the fact that the forthcoming contest must be decided by the electoral vote of their State, the Republicans of New York pledge to the Republicans of the other States their ability to cast the vote of New York for U. S. Grant. After expressing their confidence in Grant and declaring that the objection to a third term applies only to a third consecutive term, and not to the reelection of a man who is and has been a private citizen, long absent from the country. The resolutions declare that Grant's reelection is urgently important, and instruct the delegates to Chicago to use their most earnest and untiring efforts to secure his nomination.

At the close of the reading there was long and continued applause, mingled with hisses.

Mr. Foster moved to amend by striking out the references to a third term and substituting the name of Blaine for that of Grant.

After considerable discussion, Mr. W. B. Woodin moved to strike out the name of Grant and leave the delegation unpledged. Mr. Foster accepted Mr. Woodin's amendment.

Mr. Conkling took the floor and addressed the convention at great length. The vote was then taken on Foster's amendment, as amended by Woodin, which was defeated by 217 to 180. The resolutions were then adopted.

A delegate moved that in case Grant cannot be nominated at Chicago, that the delegates be instructed to vote as a unit for Blaine. The motion was tabled.

The delegates to Chicago, presidential electors and members of the State committee were then named by the delegations from the various congressional districts, after which the convention adjourned sine die.

New York, February 26.—The *Tribune* congratulates the Republicans of New

York upon the harmony which prevailed in the convention, and says the effect of making the discussion of the Presidential question, which began in earnest among the masses of the Republican party after the snap judgment in Pennsylvania, more vigorous and exciting. The *Herald* says the resistance to the third term has proved altogether stronger than anybody dared hope or venture to predict twenty-four hours ago.

Famine in Russia—Russia Demands the Extradition of Hartman—Full Account of the Explosion.

By Telegraph to Raleigh News.

PARIS, February 21.—The *Temps* publishes a letter from St. Petersburg, which says: "News from the interior of the Empire is heart-rending. Famine and diphtheria are decimating the population. The provinces of Saratof and Kief, which annually export, in ordinary times, enormous quantities of grain, had scarcely any crop last year. The calamity is aggravated by a want of fodder for cattle, peasants being forced to sell them. In Caucasus the famine is still greater. The people are committing suicide and selling their children."

RUSSIA DEMANDS HARTMAN.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The *Times* Paris dispatch says the demand of Russia for the extradition of Hartman, has been referred by Premier Freycinet to the Minister of Justice. It is stated that some of the reactionary deputies have applied for the man's release, but was told that if it appeared that he was connected with the Moscow attempt, the government would surrender him to the Russian authorities.

ALL ABOUT THE ST. PETERSBURG EXPLOSION.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—A special dispatch gives the following from the *Standard's* Berlin correspondence: "Lately the Czar hardly ever left Winter Palace, and when he went abroad he was surrounded by a cloud of mounted officers, who concealed the carriage and protected the inmates with their bodies. In the Palace he was accessible only to diplomatists, dignitaries and officers."

At the chapel detectives occupied seats that were formerly reserved for distinguished visitors. The detectives infested the kitchen, and every dish was tasted by persons of rank specially selected for that purpose. The Emperor did not even venture to open his own letters, documents having repeatedly been steeped in poison and sent him.

With all these elaborate precautions, it occurred to nobody to search for the announced, advertised and placarded mine in the basement. The Emperor and the Duchess of Edinburgh were seated in an apartment next to the dining room when they heard the report of the explosion. The lights were extinguished and the gas pipes burst. The Princess of Felcos and her valets went blindly through the dark and then poured promiscuously through the door of the royal apartments. The Sovereign was found groping his way out of the fatal quarter. All who saw the sight of the picture of Alexander XI leading his daughter away from the mine of dynamite, say it was one that could never be forgotten.

The *Vienna Tagblatt* relates that for some days past the Czar has daily received a sealed letter containing a few words of menace, and saying that if he did not change his system of oppression he would not live to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his accession. The sheet was always bordered with black. In court circles it was known as the black letter. All efforts to discover the person who conveyed it to the Emperor's room were unsuccessful.

Convention of Mexican Veterans in Norfolk—The City Decorated.

NORFOLK, Feb. 23.—The convention of Mexican veterans met at the opera house in this city this morning, with one hundred and eighteen members present. After addresses of welcome from the local associations the secretary of the national association read the annual report. The treasurer's statement showed 5,025 enrolled members and 134 badgenes. After the adoption of resolutions on organization and resolutions expressing sorrow at the death of Gen. Jeff. C. Davis, an election for general officers of the association was held and resulted in the reelection of the present incumbents. After which the convention adjourned until 4 p. m.

The city was gaily decorated with bunting in honor of Washington's birth day and of Mexican veterans, and the streets were crowded with people assembled to witness the military parade. The procession, composed of local military companies, cadets, marine corps, Knights of Pythias and Mexican veterans, paraded the streets under the direction of Gen. Getty, from Fortress Monroe, and presented a fine appearance.

Queen Victoria, it is reported, is cut to the heart by the radical talk in Canada, and has, in conversation, more than once recalled the pathetic declaration of Queen Mary when she heard that Calais was cut off from her kingdom.

The Czar and Asia.

The Russian Czar is resolved upon extending his already vast domains in Asia. Nearly or quite two-thirds of that great continent is his, and yet he is pushing on his armies to new conquests. Gen. Skobeloff, one of his ablest soldiers, commands the main army numbering 20,000 men. He is to be supported by two other armies. Sooner or later England and Russia must face each other, then it will be seen whether the forces of the Empress of India will be equal to the task of driving back the armed hordes of the mighty Emperor of the Russians. In the meantime the inexorable, insistent, sleepless enemies of Alexander are dogging him at every turn and laying their trains of gunpowder and dynamite right under his palace. When he travels his train is wrecked; when he sleeps he lies over a loaded volcano and a slumbering earthquake. Truly there is something awful in the remorseless determination of his multitudinous enemies. The blood-hound on the track of the fugitive; the implacable avenger pursuing his fleeing enemy; the Indian tracing the steps of the alarmed and shuddering victim; the watchful, crafty, skilled, determined detective following the criminal through all his tortuous windings and his ingenious dodges in hope of effecting his escape—these are faint types to express the undying hatred, the resolved will, the pertinacious pluck, the sleepless energy, the inexhaustible ingenuity, the reckless daring of the men who are sacrificing all to compass the destruction of their victim, and that victim the royal head of one of the greatest kingdoms of this world. The poor, half-fed laborer, as he sleeps on his pallet of straw in his hut, is wrapped in elysium compared with the royal head that tosses from side to side in uneasy sleep, and sees an assassin in every shadow and the gleam of the poniard in every flash of the fire when awake.

The only safety of the Czar is in yielding to the demands of his people, instituting vigorous, needed, salutary reforms throughout his immense empire, and giving the country a constitutional government. But will he do this? The present Czar is no doubt a ruler of a milder type than his father Nicholas was, or indeed than any of his predecessors on the throne have been, but he is too much of a despot for his age. The people of Russia are discontented although many abuses have been remedied and the lot of millions has been ameliorated. He must yield to the entreaties of the oppressed if he would enjoy personal safety and peace of mind. The cap of reform from which the Russian people have slipped a few drops has but intensified the appetite and fired the blood for larger and more satisfying draughts.—*Wilmington Star*.

The New Orleans Cow-Pea Ring.

We are requested to direct public attention to the fact that there exists in New Orleans a cow-pea ring, composed of commission merchants who have organized themselves into a club for the purpose of controlling the cow-pea trade on their own terms. Their mode of getting consignments is by scattering broad cast over the country circulars holding out great inducements to shippers which are rarely, if ever fulfilled, their classifications being of such a nature, for one thing, that it is impossible for any peas to reach their standard. But this is not the worst complexity of the ring. In the summer of 1878, Messrs. B. F. Mitchell & Son shipped a car load of peas there for which they never received a cent, not even an account of sales. Messrs. W. P. Oldham & Co., shipped peas upon which they expected to realize a good profit, judging from the circular quotations, but upon which they experienced a heavy loss, while Messrs. Kenan & Forshee and J. I. Metts & Co., have met with a similar experience. In one instance a shipment was made when the quotations were \$2.50 per bushel, and price realized was 60 cents per bushel.

The ring is represented to be now sending out circulars to influence the trade of 1880, and the advice of those who have learned by experience what reliance is to be placed in their quotations is to sell peas only by sample at your own doors for the next twelve months, and thus break up this unlawful combination which operates against the planter and dealer alike.—*Wilmington Star*.

ALLEGED BIGAMIST BROUGHT BACK.—Constable J. A. McClure having volunteered to go to Winston for the bigamist, McManus, at his own risk, returned with him to this city yesterday morning. The man confesses his guilt, and asserts that he could not live with his first wife and that he fell in love at first sight with the last. On being asked if she was aware of his former marriage he replied, "I don't know that she was." He was committed to jail here to await trial. His first wife has returned to her home in South Carolina and his last remains in Winston where she is at work.—*Char. Observer*.

Sales in both Warehouses have been good the past week. We noticed a number of wagons here from the other counties. At the Farmers' Warehouse last Wednesday, J. T. Eady, of Iredell sold 3 lots, prices ranging from \$6.50 to \$25. J. W. Eady, 8 lots, from \$7.25 to \$37.50. A. A. Kyles, 4 lots, from \$4.25 to \$12. D. B. Howard, 4 lots, from \$7 to \$35.—*Piedmont Press*.

Lands Sold for Taxes.

Reference was made recently to the fact that great numbers of deeds for lands sold for taxes are held in the office of the Secretary of State. Wake county, and more especially Raleigh, is largely represented, there being 98 deeds from this county. By the late General Assembly, a law was passed relative to the matter of the redemption of lands so sold which it would be well to read. Chapter 213, public laws of 1879, provides that if any persons whose land has been sold to the State for taxes, prior to the 1st day of January, 1879, shall, before the 13th of March, 1880, pay to the treasurer, the taxes due at the time of the sale of such land, and also all taxes that may have accrued since such sale, together with all costs and expenses, and also the sum of ten per cent. upon the amount due at the time of the sale, such persons shall be entitled to receive a deed of reconveyance from the Secretary of State upon exhibiting such tax receipts and paying the secretary the sum of one dollar for making out such deed. After the 13th of March twenty-five per cent. will be charged. County Treasurer Neathery will tell how to proceed to get back property so held.

Cable Flashes.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 27.—The woman, Vera Sussulitch, a famous nihilist agent who the 5th of February, 1878, attempted to assassinate Gen. Tachoff, prefect of St. Petersburg, has been arrested at the residence of one of her friends in this city.

PARIS, Feb. 27.—The *Nonetteur* announces the arrest of a Prussian officer while taking views of Bessy Redoubt. He was conveyed to Rheims.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—A private telegram from Japan states that a severe earthquake occurred at Yeddo on the 25th inst., but no details are given.

A Paris dispatch to the *Manchester Guardian* says the official documents submitted to the French government by Prince Orloff, Russian ambassador here, by which it was intended to prove the criminality of Hartman in connection with the Moscow explosion, are considered too vague to establish the guilt of the accused. Public opinion here is opposed to Hartman's surrender, and the officials are delaying action in the matter in order to find ground for refusing the demand for his extradition without wounding Russia's susceptibility.

The institution for the deaf and dumb and the blind has 115 pupils in the white department.

The exports of hides from Texas in a single year amounted to nearly three million dollars.

The State treasurer last week received \$30,000 in old bonds for exchange and issued eighteen drummers' licenses.

Hon. Peter Cooper, the veteran philanthropist, completed his 90th year Thursday last.

A Baltimore family is reported to have seventeen children, the oldest of whom is but 15 years of age.

The new Governor of New York signed his first annual message with a gold pen made from Egyptian coins 4,000 years old. Well, what of it?

Mr. Edison is said to be quite ill as a result of overwork and unsatisfactory result of some of his late experiments connected with the electric light.

Monroe Enquirer: The last bond and coupon of Union county's railroad debt was paid by Sheriff Haast, during the past week.

Three thieves, Lewis Merritt, Hugh Baldwin and Wiley Yeates, of Orange county, have been jailed for the theft of a bale of cotton.

The Democrats in Congress ought to repeal all duty on paper and make it free to all. The capacity of the paper manufacturers is unparalleled and unjust. Give us free trade in paper.—*Wilmington Star*.

Wilmington *Review*: Some evil disposed persons went out near this city a few nights past, and dug up the bones of the late Mr. Brackett, in whose coffin it was reported valuables had been placed leaving the bones in the public road.

The *Charlotte Observer* tells how a United States detective captured a finely dressed burglar who had been robbing at Newton and other sections. The rascal called himself Pearson and had fine manners and accomplishments.

A Surry county correspondent of the *Raleigh Observer* says the iron deposits near Tom's Creek, in said county, have been worked at intervals since 1795, and continuously since 1859 (by the present proprietors, J. L. & D. W. Worthing), and still appears to be inexhaustible. The iron is pronounced A. B. Professor Geneth, of Philadelphia.

Messrs. R. A. and J. W. Dowd, who have been publishing the *Farmer and Mechanic* for the past year under a lease from the owners, have recently purchased the paper, fixtures, &c.

We had the pleasure of a call from Mr. Dowd last week.

Over Two Thousand Merchants Invited.

To-day the secretary of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce is engaged in sending out invitations and passes to merchants, and in another column an advertisement is published by a committee of the body inviting all merchants who may have been overlooked, and who desire to come to Charlotte, to communicate at once with the secretary, who will gladly furnish them with passes. It is especially desired that no one shall be overlooked, but it can readily be seen how easy it is to omit one name from a list that embraces nearly three thousand. The plan of the Chamber of Commerce is calculated to give Charlotte a business boom, the like of which she has never known before. It is estimated that at least two-thirds of the whole number of merchants to be invited will avail themselves of the opportunity of visiting Charlotte. This will make things lively from the 1st to the 15th, and our wholesale men are making extensive preparations for the boom. Large purchases will enable them to offer special inducements to the trade, and having once secured the patronage of merchants surrounding us, they feel confident that they will be able to hold it.

All classes will be benefitted by the scheme which the Chamber of Commerce has inaugurated, and this will be seen at once from the fact that every day from the 1st to the 15th there will be, it may be safely estimated, from two to three hundred merchants—substantial business men of the country—on our streets.—*Char. Observer*.

Our State exchanges present very antagonistic ideas on the question of the disposal of the W. N. C. R. R. The *Wilmington papers* are lively on the subject, and go into the discussion with a heat which indicates a fear of disaster to the city of Wilmington should the transfer be made. The subject has become a very grave one; and though opposed in the abstract to the call of an extra session of the Legislature, we hardly see how Governor Jarvis can relieve himself of responsibility by allowing the matter to hang in uncertainty. The knot has to be cut, and the Legislature must do it.—*Durham Recorder*.

Statesville Landmark: In Alexander county (Miller's township) one day last week, a marriage took place under rather singular circumstances. Mr. Pink Lackey and Miss Bettie Miller were the high contracting parties, and T. A. Hudson, Esq., performed the ceremony. The bride, the groom, the magistrate and friends met at a certain point in the woods at a given hour, and on the side of the road, beneath the branches of the trees, the squire pronounced the bans. It is alleged that these surroundings were not chosen for the nuptials without cause—the cause being, according to report, that the groom is a moonshiner and was lying out from the raiders, none of whom were among the invited guests.

North State Press: A little stir was created among our colored people last week, by one of their women being tricked, as they call it. Her hands began to swell, she soon concluded that some enemy had "fixed" her, and at once went to work digging up the yard for the articles producing this annoyance, and after a full day's work she was rewarded by finding buried under her steps a small package of sulphur and charcoal, which no doubt in her mind, was the cause of the trouble. The wasspell at once removed and all is now quiet in that neighborhood.

INCREASED MEMBERSHIP.—The increase in the membership and the extension of the order of Knights of Honor in the State since it was introduced a few years ago has been quite marked. There are at present thirty-six lodges, an increase of twelve since the last meeting of the Grand Lodge. The present membership is 1,255, an increase of 416 since the last meeting. In the United States there are 2,025 lodges of this order, with a membership of 75,000.—*Char. Observer*.

Representative Robert B. Vance, of North Carolina, has introduced a bill to regulate more satisfactorily and justly the revenue laws. This is a right step, and Congress should not fail to correct as far as possible all the abuses that inhere to the system. That there are abuses—great and flagrant—no one will deny probably save one of the "red-legged" fellows who smell around.—*Wilmington Star*.

Mr. J. A. Stewart, a prominent farmer of Cabarrus, writing to the *Alamance Gleaner* in regard to the workings of the stock law in that county, says: "Last fall, at the fair of Poplar Tent, the stock law township showed the best stock ever exhibited in the State. We will be glad to have you visit our fair next fall and judge for yourself—we will feed you on milk and butter, beef and mutton, and not go to the woods to get it."

A NEW USE FOR THE TELEPHONE.—Pierre Valcour, a Frenchman of Lockport, N. Y., claims to have invented a deep-sea telephone, by which vessels can be kept in constant communication with the shore while crossing the ocean. He has discovered how to insulate a single wire so that immersion in water does not impair its transmission of electricity and this wire is to be laid out from a cigar-shaped metallic float, thirty feet long, in tow of the vessel. Lead sinkers are to be automatically detached every two hundred miles to keep the wire on the ocean's bed, and if the inventor's claims are realized, the ocean will lose much of its present isolation.—*Scientific American*.

The Augusta, Ga., *Chronicle* gives a long description of a new invention—a magnetic motor—by Rev. Jas. S. Lamar, of that place. He has obtained a patent. We copy a part of what he says:

"This invention, if fully successful, bids fair not only to make the inventor famous but to be productive of immense benefit to the world. The possibilities of its perfection dazzle the imagination. If it should prove to be what the inventor has reason to believe it will, it is hardly too much to say that it will revolutionize locomotive power in the world. The idea was first suggested to Mr. Lamar about eight months ago, and the initial experiments proved so satisfactory that he proceeded to put the invention in more perfect shape. The motive power of the magnetic motor is, as its name implies, electricity—the great element which is as yet in its infancy so far as the knowledge of man is concerned. No cumbersome engine or machine is required in putting the force in practical operation. The power which may run a railroad train, turn the spindles of a factory, or propel an ocean steamship across the Atlantic, lies within a wheel. Two prime constituents are used, viz: permanent and temporary magnets which act upon each other and produce the required motion."

A Wonderful Clock.

The most astonishing thing in the way of a time piece is a clock described by a Hindoo rajah as belonging to a native prince of Upper India, and jealously guarded as the rarest treasure of his luxurious palace. In front of the clock's disk was a gong swung upon poles, and near it was a pile of artificial human limbs. The pile was made up of the full number of parts for twelve perfect bodies but all lay heaped together in seeming confusion. Whenever the hands of the clock indicated the hour of 1, out from the pile crawled just the number of parts needed to form the frame of one man, part joining itself to part with quick, metallic click; and, when completed, the figure sprang up, seized a mallet, and walked up to the gong, struck one blow, that sent the sound pealing through every room and corridor of that stately castle. This done he returned to the pile and fell to pieces again. When 2 o'clock came, two men rose and did likewise; and so through all the hours of the day, the number of figures being the same as the number of the hour, till at noon and midnight, the entire heap sprang up and, marching to the gong, struck, one after another, each his blow, making twelve in all; and then fell to pieces.

Old Tom Purdie, Sir Walter Scott's favorite attendant, once said: "There are five novels of yours, Sir Walter; they are just invaluable to me." "I am glad to hear it, Tom," returned the novelist. "Yes, sir," said Tom; "for when I have been out all day hard at work, and come home tired, and take up one of your novels, I'm asleep directly."