Carolina Watchman.

THURSDAY, DEC. 23, 1880.

Steamboats are to be put on the French Broad. The river is open from Brevard, in Transylvania, to Mud Creek, in Henderson county.

Professor Latimer has returned from Europe and will resume his place in Davidson College as Professor of Greek and German.

Dr. Deems has sent another $100 to the State University for the benefit of indigent students.

They are putting iron gas posts on Broadway, New York, for the brush electric light. Posts twenty feet high with large glass globes on the top of them.

Gen. Grant visited the U. S. Senate a few days ago, and the Chicago *Times* thinks the Southern members showed the better breeding in the courtesies extended to him.

Col. Beaumont, of Woolwick, England, claims to have overcome hitherto difficulties in running machinery by compressed air. He has invented a machine which draws sixteen tons a distance of sixteen miles without re-charging the air cylinders.

Mr. Hayes, says the Chicago *Tribune*, entered upon the duties of Presipent with personal debts and liabilities of $100,000. During his four years in the White House at $50,000 a year, he has paid on his debt $75,000, which sum to comprises his savings during the period of his presidency.

A horrible story comes from Monroe county, Miss., Dec. 21st. Two men were given shelter for the night in a farm house, and were put to bed in the same room with the family, which consisted of a man, wife and child. After the family had fallen to sleep, the tramps arose, chloroformed the sleepers, robbed the house, set it on fire, and fled. The tenants perished with the building. One of the offenders was caught next day and taken to the scene of horror, and was evaporated in a flame of faggots.

The Charlotte *Observer* records the particulars of the death of S. J. Rowland, aged 20 years, at the depot in that city, on the morning of the 21st. He was caught between cars just after coupling them, and his body (180 lbs. weight) was crushed in a space of 4 inches. He died in 45 minutes. Central, S. C., was his native place.

From the same source we learn there was a special meeting of Mecklenburg Presbytery in Charlotte, on the 21st, called to consider a charge of slander and falsehood against the Rev. J. T. Plunkett, the present supply of Steel Creek Church. The case was referred to the Nashville Presbytery, of which the accused is a licentiate.

We tender to the patrons of this paper the congratulations of the season—a pleasant Christmas and a happy new year. It has been our privilege to do this for many more years than we can hope to repeat it. Those to whom it was extended the first year of our connection with the Watchman are few and wide between, and their bent shadows reach far back. Many of the patrons of to-day are the descendants of those whose names then made up our rolls. Scarcely one in a hundred of the list of 1840 remain. And so let us remember that not exceeding one in a hundred of us who are here to-day will read or write among the active tenants of this earth forty years hence. It is our part to be joyous and thankful, and prepare for a long night of silence, wherein we shall be forgotten of the busy world.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

The Charlotte *Observer* says a dreadful accident on the Charlotte and Rutherford railroad occurred on Wednesday, at the trestle over Indian Creek, 31 miles west of Lincolnton. The trestle, 55 feet high, gave way and fell with a crash, carrying with it 2 passenger coaches and 3 box cars. Very soon they caught fire from the stoves and were consumed, with all their contents except three passengers who were rescued alive from the debris, viz: Capt. H. P. Johnson, Richard Limebrick, and S. H. Griffin, of N. Y.—J. F. Bloom, Bill McKenzie and James Warlick, (col.,) F. W. Smith, of N. Y., S. W. Goodson, of Statesville, N. C., and some others, were probably killed in the fall, and destroyed in the burning train.

An Englishman who has been making a "tour of the States" recently has given his observations of the people, whom he says "move as if the very demon of motion was behind them." He pays a compliment which every true gentleman will appreciate when he says: "But let it be said to their honor, that they are never in so great a hurry as to neglect any opportunity of being polite to women. And this must be said generally for the men of the United States. Their natural gallantry toward the sex, their consideration for women of every class and station, puts to shame the most polished nations of Europe. A woman may travel from one end of the States to another, and every man seems pledged to her safety and comfort. The fact that she is alone gives her immunity from insult."

CONGRESS.

The House is now considering the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill, which makes appropriations for the year ending 30th June, 1882. The committee having the subject in charge, make no increase in the amount for this service, but propose numerous changes with reference to two principal aims, says Mr. Singleton, of Miss.—the protection and extension of the commerce of the country, and economy in the use of the public money.

Spartanburg and Asheville Railroad.—The *Observer* reports a recent decision in the U. S. Circuit Court in Charlotte, Judge Bond presiding. The suit was brought to recover debt under a mortgage for money borrowed for construction purposes; but the contest was between the laborers who did the work, claiming priority under the laborer lien law as against the bondholders. The Judge decided against the creditors except as postponed to the mortgage debt.

Persecution of the Jews.—London, December 20.—A Berlin dispatch says a meeting of 2,000 persons was held yesterday at which resolutions were passed in favor of the suppression of the liberty of the Jews and to return no liberal to Parliament who will not promise to vote for such suppression, and to buy nothing from Jewish shops or firms.

100,000 people (negroes) are said to be starving in Western Kansas on account of failure in crops, and beggars for them are having up hill work because the funds sent out are stolen by those to whom they are entrusted.

Washington Letter.

The Week at the Capital—Cabinet and Supreme Court Changes—The Rival Ditches of General Grant and M. de Lesseps—Women at their Annual Agitation.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18. 1880.

The week has been dull, and legislation dilitory, at the Capital. In both houses of Congress the more important subjects have been compelled to yield to questions that arouse party antagonism and provoke endless debate.

On Monday Senator Randolph brought up the Fitz John Porter bill in the Senate, and Senator Morgan's concurrent resolution for counting the electoral vote has been the fruitful theme of talk in the House. Later in the week the education and the pension bills were discussed, and an adjournment from the 22nd inst. to the 4th proximo was agreed upon.

But, if it has been dull at the Capital in the legislative branches, the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, the lobby, and society, have furnished an abundance of the raw material from which news is made. Nor must I omit to mention a score of women whose names are familiar to those who read the papers, and who are here on their annual agitation of the sex on the suffrage question. I heard them speak their pieces last night at Lincoln Hall, and, for a change of entertainment, they furnish an excellent foil to Congress. For some reason Mrs. Atty, Belva A. Lockwood, Sarah J. Spencer, Dr. Mary Walker, and other local celebrities have taken no part in the present convention. Strife has for some years been brewing, and the enthusiasm of a great cause is not ardent enough to weld flaws and chasms. Guess they are mad about something.

The resignation of Justice Strong of the Supreme Court of the United States had been long expected, but the appointment as his successor, of Judge Woods was very unexpected. The appointee is a native of Ohio, who, a few years ago, emigrated with his brother-in-law, Ex-Senator Williard A. Warner, to Alabama. His appointment is resented in the Senate by many who are jealous of the somewhat wholesale preferment of Ohioans to places of honor and emolument. Nothing, however, of a personal character has been urged against Judge Woods, and there is little doubt that he will be confirmed by the Senate.

Secretary Thompson's resignation, in connection with Gen. Grant's visit to Washington, has been the subject of much gossip in political and diplomatic circles. General Grant has, without much effort on his part, become identified with a rival water route between the oceans a hundred or two miles northwest of the one that M. de Lesseps proposes to cut, but, M. de Lesseps poises his pick in mid air, ready to break ground, backed with almost limitless capital, and by the prestige of a United States Cabinet office, with a sallary of $25,000 per annum, as chairman of the American branch of the company, Gen. Grant and Admiral Amman have not yet organized a company or done anything but held conferences.—Panama has certainly got the start of Nicaragua in this ditching business, and the musty Monroe Doctrine is no longer urged against a grand enterprise in the cause of commerce, of civilization and of peace.

The Democratic party may well heave a sigh of relief over the defeat of Boss Kelly, in New York. It may be too late to shut the stable door after the horse has been stolen, in the interest of reform, it is not too late to clear out the Augean stable over which Mr. Kelly has so long presided. The man who thinks the Democracy of this country is dead is simply mistaken. Barnacles like Kelly will be cleaned off the hull of the Democratic s ip, which will yet ride the country into the peaceful harbor of Constitutional liberty where we can all enjoy a harmonious union of these States.—*Char Observer.*

NEW AND GOOD MOVE.

Friday morning's mail brought us the following document on civil service reform. We present the first four acticles of the Costitution:

Civil-Service Reform Association.

CONSTITUTION.

I. The name of this organization shall be The Civil Service Reform Association.

II. The object of the Association shall be to establish a system of appointment, promotion and removal in the civil service, founded upon the principle that public trust, admission to which should depend upon proved fitness. To this end the association will demand that appointments to subordinate executive offices, with such exceptions, as may be expedient, not inconsistent with the principle already mentioned, shall be made from persons whose fitness has been ascertained by competitive examinations open to all applicants properly qualified, and that removals shall be made for legitimate cause only; such as dishonesty, negligence or inefficiency, but not for political opinion or refusal to render party service; and the association will advocate all other appropriate measures for securing integrity, intelligence, efficiency, good order and due discipline in the civil service.

III. The association will hold meetings, raise funds, publish and circulate appropriate information, correspond and cooperate with associations elsewhere for the objects set forth in this Constitution, and support all executive and legislative action which will promote its purposes.

IV. Conditions of membership shall be wholly independent of party preference. Questions shall not be discussed in the debates or in publications of the association upon party grounds. Neither the name nor influence of the association shall be used on behalf of any party or for procuring office or promotion for any person. But nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent the association from opposing any candidate when in its opinion, or in that of three-fourths of the members of the Executive Committee, such course is demanded by the objects of the association.

Paris Letter.

(Regular Correspondence.)

Paris, France, Dec. 6, 1880.

In a leading article on Eastern affairs, the *Republique Francaise* significantly remarks that the special interest of France is peace. Not only is France determined to avoid making war on her own account as long as this can be done, but it is manifestly in her interest that not a gun shall be fired in Europe. What remains of the European equilibrium would be shattered thereby, and, neutrality having become impossible, France would be compelled to abandon reserve, Now, this is just what France wants to avoid, and to prevent it she must play her part in the European concert, a part absolutely disinterested, seeing that she persues only one object, namely, peace, and that she has but one ambition, the removal of irritating questions.

A profoundly melancholy and touching and at the same time strangely dramatic story is that related in the Paris newspapers concerning the end of a leader of the Paris Commune. Among the rebels of 1871 was a "Commissaire Central" name Parmentier. This man after the collapse of the revolt, was supposed to have fled, and he was condemned to death "in contumasiam" by one of the courts-marshal sitting at Versailles. But Parmentier had not run away. He had not even left Paris. His wife, a work-woman in a match factory, sheltered her husband in a garret, on the sixth floor of a house in the *Rue Popincourt*; and this garret, during a period of nearly ten years the prescribed Communist never left. The concierge and the neighbors were wholly ignorant that Madame Parmentier had any one living with her. About a month ago the porter became aware that she no more passed his lodge. He waited for a few days, thinking that she might be in the country; then he made his way to the sixth story, fearing lest his "locataire" might be ill. He knocked repeatedly at the door, but failed to obtain any respose. By this time thoroughly alarmed, the concierge proceeded to report matters to the Commissary of Police of the quarter; and that functionary, accompanied by a medical man and a locksmith, speedily made his appearance on the scene. The door of the room on the sixth floor was broken open, but at first those who sought to enter were driven back by a fearfully noisome odor. When they did enter a shocking spectacle presented itself. On the bed lay the corpse of Madame Parmentier, and by her side was the dead body of an unknown man. By the papers discovered on him he was, however, speedily recognized as the Communist Commissaire Central Parmentier, condemned to death in 1871. It further became manifest that the unfortunate couple, who had been many days dead, had committed suicide by suffocation with the fumes of charcoal. Both husband and wife were on the verge of sixty years, and it is conjectured that the poor woman, finding her health and strength declining, and unable to procure sufficiently remunerative employment for the subsistence of herself and her husband, had at length yielded to utter despair and persuaded or been persuaded by her husband to put an end to the existence of both.

A Sad Death.—Little Robert Thurston, son of Mr. N. M. Seigle of this place, was playing with his little sister Wednesday and while eating some peanuts one got into his windpipe, and before it could be removed he was choked to death. He was about 17 months old and was a bright, health and promising little boy and the sudden death is very much lamented. The physicians did all in their power to sustain life but all to no avail.—*Hichory Press.*

For the Watchman.

Rowan County Teachers' Association.

In response to the invitation given through the press, a number of teachers from different sections of the county assembled at the rooms of the Graded School in Salisbury on Saturday, the 18th instant, and proceeded at once to organize themselves into a Teachers Association, by calling W. A. Wilborn, principal of the Graded School, to the the Chair, and Geo. R. McNeill, of Unity High School, to the secretaryship.

On motion, the chairman appointed a committee of three to draft a suitable Constitution and By-Laws for adoption by the Association. During their absence the Association was entertained by educational discussion by different teachers.

The committee then submitted a Constitution and By-Laws for action, which, after sundry amendments, was adopted.

In accordance with the recommendation of the committee, the Chairman appointed a committee on Permanent Organization, who retired, and after a brief interval, returned with the following nominations for officers during the first term, which nominations were confirmed by the Association:

President—W. A. Wilborn, of Salisbury.

1st Vice President—J. F. Moser, of China Grove.

2d Vice President—A. W. Klutts, of Rowan county.

3d Vice President—A. W. Owens, of Salisbury.

Secretary and Treasurer—Geo. R. McNeill, of Wood Leaf.

Critic—R. M. Davis, of Salisbury.

The Association then took a recess, after which the Executive Committee reported as suitable topics for discussion at the next meeting the following:

1. "The Text Book Question;" W. A. Wilborn to open the discussion, with R. M. Davis as Alternate.

2. "Common Schools;" Geo. R. McNeill to open the discussion, and A. W. Kluttz as Alternate.

Under the head of New Business, on motion the Secretary was instructed to furnish an abstract of the minutes of this meeting to the *Salisbury Watchman* and the *Rowan Citizen*, with the request that they publish the same; also to extend through their columns a cordial invitation to all friends of education, and especially to all teachers, *both male and female*, to attend our next meeting.

After some other business, the Association adjourned to meet in the Graded School building in Salisbury at 11 o'clock. A. M., Saturday, the 8th of January, 1881.

W. A. Wilborn, President.

Geo. R. McNeill, Sec'y.

Our Gold Mines.

[Cor. of the News and Observer.]

Chapel Hill, Dec. 13, 1880.

An unavoidable absence from home compelled this delay in the third letter about our gold mines. It will be remembered that in the last letter we discussed the inability of mercury to take hold of gold when it was shut up in the very small particles of the sulphurets of iron and copper. This is the reason why so many of our mines have gained an unsavory reputation, because the operators tried to do an impossible thing. They tried to force a union between mercury and gold when it was opposed by nature. Having found by bitter experience that the stamp mill could not be used on raw sulphurets, having lost money on every such attempt, it was at last concluded to roast the ores to get rid of the sulphur. The sulphur being driven off it was thought that the great obstacle to the amalgamation of gold was removed. Not so, however. For the sulphuret of iron was changed by the roasting to oxide of iron, and the gold was still inside and could not be attacked by the mercury. Some of the gold was set free by the roasting but by no means all.

What, then, would take all the gold out, or if not all, nearly all? Years ago Plattner, a German chemist, devised a method by which nearly all the gold, the silver and copper would be dissolved out. This method was by the use of chlorine gas.

The success of this method depends mainly upon two things, viz: the state of division to which the ore is crushed, and the completeness of the desulphurization. The ore must be crushed fine, so fine indeed that it looks like meal, and the sulphur must be entirely driven off. If the ore is not fine enough the chlorine gas will not be able to attack the gold, shut up as it is in the oxide of iron, and if the sulphur is not entirely driven off there will be a waste of chlorine and gold. Indeed, in both the great methods for extracting gold from sulphurets, by mercury and by chlorine, the sulphur must be entirely driven off. For in the first case the mercury will "froth" and be wasted, and in the second place the chlorine will be wasted and the gold lost. The very first thing to be done with our North Carolina sulphurets after they are taken from the mine is to partially dry, then crush, then pulverize, then drive off the sulphur. After that comes the great question how to get the gold out when there is no more than $15 per ton. This question for high grade ores, i. e., ores that run from $25 per ton up to $50 and $60 is not so important as for the low grade ores, i. e., ores that run from $8 to $18 and $20 per ton. In these care is needed to cover expenses even. But for the others the operators can stand a loss of from 15 per cent. to 30 per cent. and even 50 per cent. So far in North Carolina, the best paying method for low grade ores has been the chlorination method. This is on the supposition that the free milling ores have been used up from most of the mines, and that only sulphurets are left with occasional strings and pockets of brown ore, and free milling quartz. What will hereafter be done in the direction of a slow motion fine seived battery mill remains to be seen. But it cannot be denied that for low grade sulphurets the chlorination process is the best so far. In the early days of the process it was conducted by passing chlorine gas into a false bottomed vat containing the crushed, roasted ore mixed with water. The chlorine acted upon the gold, the copper and iron, and dissolved them. These solutions were then washed out, the gold precipitated with sulphate of iron as a brown or brownish black mass, and the copper with scrap iron as cement copper. This method is now largely employed in the West. Another method that has now come into use of late, and bids fair to prove successful is the treating the ore with chlorine gas under pressure. But these methods will come up hereafter. What we wish to speak of especially is the necessity of employing a process that applies as well to low grade ores as to high grade. The mine that will give $50 per ton right straight along is a wonderful mine. Some of our North Carolina mines have paid a great deal more than that, or rather the ore contained a great deal more than $50 per ton. Whether it paid that or not is a question. In Colorado the milling ores average about $32 a ton, and the smelting ore about $140 per ton. In California the average value per ton is about $15, taking the average of $20 per ton. But money is made in California on ores not as rich as ours. Why should it not be made here? It can be made here if the business is conducted on the right basis. Any one working on a process for the extraction of gold from sulphurets must bear in mind that it must apply to low grade ores, or it will not do for North Carolina, nor indeed for Colorado or California. What we need is a process for working ore running from $8 to $17 a ton. If there is such a process let it be widely known. There are few or no bonanzas in North Carolina. No one claims this, but we can claim, and we do claim, that we have vast quantities of ore that will run from $8 to $17 per ton. There is nothing gained by attempting to conceal any process for working these ores. The public is a shrewd judge and not easily deceived, and has but little difficulty in discriminating between true and spurious professions. If it is sometimes blinded, it generally comes right after awhile. And on the other hand nothing is gained by misrepresentation of the value of ores. We have plenty of good ore, some fine ore, and some poor ore. But skill and business principles will find no insurmountable obstacle to wealth in working our sulphurets,

W. B. Phillips.

Legal Advertising.

We hope that our Legislature, at its approaching session will enact a law in regard to "legal" advertising," directing the publication in some newspaper of all notices that are now directed to be posted "at the Court House and three other public places." We do not not understand how any man can doubt the propriety of passing such a law, who will seriously consider the matter. We presume, of course, that the object of posting notices "at the Court House door and three other public places" is to give publicity to a notice. Now, we ask which would give greater publicity to a notice, its being posted "at the Court House door and three other public places" or its publication in a newspaper that is read by hundreds of persons in the county.—*Pittsboro Record.*

It would certainly be a benefit to both debtor and creditor to advertise all sales of propecty in some newspaper, especially when it is sold under execution, or by administrator, executor or guardian.—Sales are often made under the present system where persons interested never heard of them until the whole thing was over, and some one cheated or defrauded out of their just dues. The Legislature should make some change in the manner of advertising legal sales.—*Charlotte Democrat.*

Of course every potter praises his own pot and we can all toot a little on our own trumpet, but some blow as if nobody ever had a horn but themselves.

Some drink because 'tis wet,
And some because 'tis dry;
Some drink another glass
To wet the other eye.

"He that promiseth till no man will trust him—
He that lieth till no man will believe him—
He that borroweth till no man will lend him,
Let him go where no man knoweth him."

If we dance to every fiddle we shall soon be lame in both legs. Good nature may be a great misfortune if we do not mix prudence with it.