

The Carolina Watchman.

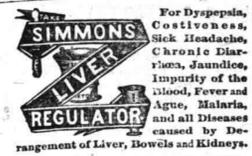
VOL. XV.—THIRD SERIES

SALISBURY, N. C., JANUARY 24, 1884.

NO 15

The Carolina Watchman,

ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR 1852.
PRICE, \$1.50 IN ADVANCE.



For Dyspepsia, Costiveness, Sick Headache, Chronic Diarrhoea, Jaundice, Impurity of the Blood, Fever and Ague, Malaria, and all Diseases caused by Derangement of Liver, Bowels and Kidneys.

It should be used by all persons, young and young, whenever any of the above symptoms appear.

Persons Travelling or Living in unhealthy Localities, by taking a course of Simmons' Liver Regulator, will find it a valuable addition to the medical science.

IT IS PURELY VEGETABLE. And has all the power and efficacy of Calomel or Quinine, without any of the injurious after effects.

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LUKE BLACKMER, Jan. 24, 1884.

How Comets Have Been Regarded in All Ages.

Superstitious persons who look upon the appearance of comets as an ill omen, should take comfort from the following extract:

"Comets have always been considered by the ignorant and superstitious as the harbingers of war, pestilence and famine. Nor has this opinion been, even in this day, confined to the unlearned. It was once universal. And when we examine the dimensions and appearances of some of these bodies, we cease to wonder that they produced universal alarm."

"According to the testimony of the early writers, a comet which could be seen in daylight with the naked eye, made its appearance 43 years before the birth of our Saviour. This date was just after the death of Caesar, and by the Romans the comet was believed to be his metamorphosed soul, armed with fire and vengeance. This comet is again mentioned as appearing in 1106, and then resembling the Sun in brightness, being of a great size, and having an immense tail."

"In the year 1402, a comet was seen so brilliant as to be discerned at noon-day. "1456 a large comet made its appearance. It spread a wider terror than ever known before. The belief was very general among all classes, that the comet would destroy the earth, and that the day of judgment was at hand."

"This comet appeared again in the years 1531, 1607, 1682, 1758, and is now approaching the Sun with accelerating velocity. It will pass its perihelion in November, 1835, and every 75 years thereafter. We now [October, 1836] see this self same comet."

THE COMETS OF 1680 AND 1811. A careful reading of this extract cannot fail to impress one with the vastness and awful sublimity of God's universe.

"The comet of 1680 was of the largest size, and had a tail whose enormous length was more than ninety-six millions of miles."

"In that part of its orbit which is nearest the Sun, it flies with the amazing swiftness of 1,000,000 miles an hour, and the Sun, as seen from it appears 27,000 times larger than it appears to us; consequently, it is then exposed to a heat 27,000 times greater than the solar heat at the earth. This intensity of heat exceeds, several thousand times, that of red hot iron, and indeed all the degrees of heat that we are able to produce. A simple mass of vapour, exposed to a thousandth part of such a heat, would be at once dissipated in space—a pretty strong indication that, however volatile are the elements of which comets are composed, they are, nevertheless, capable of enduring an inconceivable intensity of both heat and cold."

"This is the comet which, according to the reveries of Dr. Whiston and others, deluged the world in the time of Noah. Whiston was the friend and successor of Newton: but anxious to know more than is revealed, he passed the bounds of sober philosophy, and presumed not only to fix the residence of the damned, but also the nature of their punishment. According to his theory, a comet was the awful prison-house in which, as it wheeled from the remotest regions of darkness and cold into the very vicinity of the Sun, hurrying its wretched tenants to the extremes of perishing cold and devouring fire, the Almighty was to dispense the severities of his justice."

"Such theories may be ingenious, but they have no basis of facts to rest upon. They more properly belong to the chimeras of Astrology, than to the science of Astronomy."

"The nucleus of the comet of 1811, according to observations made near Boston, was 2,617 miles in diameter, corresponding nearly to the size of the Moon. The brilliancy with which it shone, was equal to one-tenth of that of the Moon. The envelope, or aëriform covering, surrounding the nucleus, was 24,000 miles thick, about five hundred times as thick as the atmosphere which encircles the earth; making the diameter of the comet, including its envelope, 50,517 miles. It had a very luminous tail, whose greatest length was one hundred million miles."

"This comet moved in its perihelion, with an almost inconceivable velocity—fifteen hundred times greater than that of a ball bursting from the mouth of a cannon."

COMETS COMING IN CONTACT WITH THE EARTH.

Again, superstitious persons, who tremble with apprehension at the awful consequences of the earth coming in contact with a comet, can take comfort from the following opinion of learned mathematicians and astronomers:

"The transient effect of a comet passing near the earth, could scarcely amount to any great convulsion, says Dr. Brewster; but if the earth were actually to receive a shock from one of these bodies, the consequences would be awful. A new direction would be given to its rotary motion, and it would revolve around a new axis. The seas, forsaking their beds, would be hurled, by their centrifugal force, to the new equatorial regions: islands and continents, the abodes of men and animals, would be covered by the universal rush of waters to the new equa-

tor, and every vestige of human industry and genius would be at once destroyed."

"The chances against such an event, however, are so very numerous that there is no reason to dread its occurrence. The French government, about 1835, called the attention of some of her ablest mathematicians and astronomers to the solution of this problem; that is to determine upon mathematical principles, how many chances of collision the earth was exposed to. After a mature examination, they reported,—"We have found that, of 281,000,000 of chances, there is one unfavorable,—there exists but which can produce a collision between the two bodies."

"Admitting, then, for a moment, that the comets which may strike the earth with their nucleus, would annihilate the whole human race; the danger of death to each individual, resulting from the appearance of an unknown comet, would be exactly equal to the risk he would run, if in an urn there was only one single white ball among a total number of 281,000,000 balls, and that his condemnation to death would be the inevitable consequence of the white ball being produced at the first drawing."

THE COMET OF BIELLA. The information contained in the subjoined extract will go far towards strengthening the belief that the earth at present enveloped in the tail of a comet. The fact that the path of Biella's comet passes very near the path of the earth is evidence that such an event is by no means improbable. "Read what the author has to say on this subject:

"The second 'comet of a short period,' was observed in 1772; and was seen again in 1805. It was not until its reappearance in 1826, that astronomers were able to determine the elements of its orbit, and the exact period of its revolution. This was successfully accomplished by M. Biella of Josephstadt; hence it is called Biella's Comet. According to observations made upon it in 1805, by the celebrated Dr. Olbers, its diameter, including its envelope, is 42,280 miles. It is a curious fact, that the path of Biella's comet passes very near to that of the earth; so near, that at the moment the centre of the comet is at the point nearest to the earth's path, the matter of the comet extends beyond that path, and includes a portion within it. Thus, if the earth were at that point of its orbit which is nearest to the path of the comet, at the same moment that the comet should be at that point of its orbit, which is nearest to the path of the earth, the earth would be enveloped in the nebulous atmosphere of the comet."

"With respect to the effect which might be produced upon our atmosphere by such a circumstance, it is impossible to offer anything but the most vague conjecture. Sir John Herschel was able to distinguish stars as minute as the 16th and 17th magnitude through the body of the comet! Hence it seems reasonable to infer, that the nebulous matter of which it is composed, must be infinitely more attenuated than our atmosphere; so that for every particle of cometary matter which we should inhale, we should inspire millions of particles of atmospheric air."

"This is the comet which was to come into collision with the earth, and to blot it out from the Solar System. In returning to its perihelion, November 26th, 1832, it was computed that it would cross the earth's orbit at a distance of only 18,500 miles. It is evident that if the earth had been in that part of her orbit at the same time with the comet, our atmosphere would have mingled with the atmosphere of the comet, and the two bodies, perhaps have come in contact. But the comet passed the earth's orbit on the 29th of October, in the 8th degree of Sagittarius, and the earth did not arrive at that point until the 30th of November, which was 32 days afterwards."

"If we multiply the number of hours in 32 days, by 68,000 (the velocity of the earth per hour,) we shall find that the earth was more than 52,000,000 miles behind the comet when it crossed her orbit. Its nearest approach to the earth, at any time, was about 51 millions of miles; its nearest approach to the Sun, was about 83 millions of miles. Its mean distance from the Sun, or half the longest axis of its orbit, is 337 millions of miles; its eccentricity is over 253 millions of miles; consequently, it is 507 millions of miles nearer the Sun in its perihelion than it is in its aphelion. The period of its sidereal revolution is 2,400 days, or about 6 1/2 years."

THE ASCERTAINED AND ASSUMED NUMBER OF COMETS.

If the figures given below be correct—and there is no reason to doubt their correctness—comets seem to play a very prominent part in the economy of the universe. The author says: "The number of comets which have been observed, since the Christian era, amounts to 700. Scarcely a year has passed without the observation of one or two. And since multitudes of them must escape observation, by reason of their traversing that part of the heavens which is above the horizon in the day time, their whole number is probably many thousands. Comets so circumstanced, can only become visible by the rare coincidence of a total eclipse of the Sun—a coincidence which happened, as related by Seneca, 60 years before Christ, when a large comet was actually observed very near the Sun."

"But M. Arago reasons in the following manner, with respect to the number of comets: The number of ascertained comets, which, at their least distances, pass within the orbit of Mercury, is thirty. Assuming that the comets are uniformly distributed throughout the solar system, there will be 117,649 times as

many comets included within the orbit of Mercury. But as there are 30 within the orbit of Mercury, there must be 3,529,570 within the orbit of Herschel! The close observer will find, in the study of the earth alone, ample proof of the necessary existence of a great Creator; but he who looks out upon the vast universe, through the medium of astronomical discoveries, cannot but be filled with humility and awe at the minute speck which our world presents in the grand system of that Creator. Zoog.

Republican Caucus.

A Republican caucus of Senators and Representatives was held in the hall of the House of Representatives, at Washington, Wednesday night, to appoint a congressional committee. There were about 125 present, Senator Edmunds presided. The following resolutions were adopted with applause:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that the Republican congressional committee be immediately organized, consisting of one member from each State and Territory, having Republican representatives for the preparation and circulation of documents concerning subjects pending in Congress, and for the execution of such other campaign work as may be agreed upon by that committee, and by the Republican National Committee.

Resolved, That we express our sympathy and will extend and co-operate in all practicable ways to all Southern Republicans, who are struggling to exercise the vital and fundamental rights of free suffrage in the popular elections, and no less do we pledge our friendship this day to all citizens of the Southern States, who have not been Republicans, but are manfully contending against the proscription of voters, and are in favor of freedom in politics, honest political methods, and public education for the whole people, and we recommend a prompt and cordial union of representatives with all such patriotic citizens in combined efforts to redeem their State from the fatal dominations of false ideas and dishonorable practices.

Alas! this is but a pun—a play on words—void of honest intent, judging the party by its past record.

The pay of Federal Judges.

Judge McCrary has resigned his position as a United States circuit judge to become counsel of a railroad corporation at a much higher salary than he received from the government. His predecessor, Judge Dillon, did the same thing. This has moved several of our contemporaries to say that the United States will have to pay higher salaries to keep its best judges from going into the employ of corporations.—N. Y. Herald.

The foregoing has its meaning. It is full of suggestions to the toiling millions of this country. The day was in this republic when such conduct of a judge would have been stamped as disreputable. But the times have changed. Money is now the pointed factor ruling the decisions of men. There was a day when it was considered honorable to be an officer of the government regardless of a salary beyond the requirements of a patriotic and economic mode of living, a day when it was ever considered honorable to be a judge of the courts. The time, however, is upon us when that hour is thrown in the balance against salary, and is found wanting.

The sacrificing of judgeships for railroad counsellorships has become quite common, the sole reason being the higher salaries paid by the railroad corporations. In view of this fact some of our contemporaries are clamoring for higher pay for the judges. They seem to favor competition with the corporations, being forgetful of the fact that the same impulse which drives the latter into paying higher salaries, would still remain to impel them to raise their salaries in proportion to the increase made by the government.

Judge McCrary's salary was six thousand dollars per annum, whilst Mr. McCrary, as counsel for the railroad, receives, it is said, thirty-five thousand dollars. The distinguished judge has agreed to become the insignificant Mr. for the conscience-tickling consideration of twenty-nine thousand dollars, quite a handsome sum, he doubtless thinks.

But whence originates the corporations which wield such prodigious power as to rob the country of its judges? Do we as a people not create them, or at least encourage them? Over 153,000,000 acres of land have been appropriated to the railroads. The government has in some cases granted as much as 25,000 acres to the mile of railroad constructed, thus supplying the fuel which seems destined to be kindled into a conflagration which should at some future day consume us.

It is plain that by legislating in behalf of the interests of corporations regardless of the interests of the people, we are encouraging enterprises which are gradually showing themselves to be destructive of the better principles of free government. Already has it been boasted that a few men could make a president. It has been stated without contradiction that at last our Supreme Court Judge received his appointment in consideration of the payment of one hundred thousand dollars into the last presidential campaign fund. With all these we go on pleading the rights of corporation. We compare their rights with the rights of individuals, the toiling millions, many of whom have to sacrifice even their property, and endure the severity of poverty, to pay their taxes, all of which we are pleased to call justice. Justice! In the name of heaven what is justice?—Concord Times.

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Northern Excursionists.

Charlotte Observer.

To-morrow the first of four excursions arranged by the railroad companies and the immigration bureau of this State, for the benefit of people who desire to visit North Carolina for the purpose of making personal observation of the inducements this State offers to settlers and capitalists, leaves Boston, the objective point being Shelby. These excursions are good as far as they go and will doubtless result in many of these people eventually making their homes amongst us. It would be better, however, if arrangements could be made with the railroad companies to sell low rate tickets to individuals as well as to parties of excursionists, and make the time long enough to enable parties once here to visit any portion of the State they desire, and see for themselves and study the country leisurely without being hurried. Hurrying through the country at railroad speed the visitor only gets a flying view of the land he passes over, and generally speaking the lands along the railroads are comparatively poor and unattractive, for as a rule the roads run on ridges and get far away from the water courses as the nature of the country will permit. The best of our lands lie away from the railroads, and these should be seen by people desiring to invest.

The extreme cold weather in the North and West, during the present winter has turned the eyes of thousands of people Southward, and at the present time we see it stated in the New Orleans papers, large numbers of Western people are on prospecting tours in the lower Mississippi valley where rich and cheap lands and mild climate invite settlement. All the indications lead to the conviction that the next few years will see a large immigration of Northern people into the South, and that too of a good, and desirable class; people of thrift, intelligence and industry, who will make good citizens when they come and do much to develop the resources of the sections in which they locate. This kind of immigration we need, and this kind we welcome, and it is of this class as we understand it these Boston excursions are to be composed.

A Snow-Capped Planet.

A Coming Notable Celestial Event. New York Sun.

Perhaps the most notable celestial event of the year will be the opposition of Mars at the end of the present month. There is so much about this remarkable planet that suggests a close resemblance to the earth, and so many of its surface features and of the natural processes occurring upon it are visible with telescopic aid, that every time it comes to opposition, that is, gets into a line with the earth and sun, the earth being in the middle, a battery of telescopes is turned upon it with eager expectation of interesting views if not important discoveries.

At opposition Mars appears with small telescopic power like a full moon of a ruddy tinge. As the magnifying power is increased one detail after another of the diversified surface of this distant world comes into view, until it hangs in the field of the telescope a real globe, marked plainly with continents, oceans and islands, and partially covered with clouds.

The first physical features of Mars that come into view are the snow caps surrounding his poles. The southern pole is now incline toward the earth, and a small telescope, say of three inches aperture, will plainly show the circular, gleaming patch of snow that covers the antarctic region of the globe of Mars. The dark ring surrounding the snow field, and sometimes called Phillip's Sea, is almost equally distinct, and some of the seas, or spots that are believed to be seas, can be seen with the same telescope. With a larger telescope more details are visible, and with the largest and best all the various features of Martian geography, which are represented on some of the wonderfully complete maps of Mars that have been constructed, can be seen. What a surprising thing it is that men have been able to make

maps and globes representing with a high degree of completeness the surface of a world never much less than 40,000,000 miles distant from the earth!

Large telescopes will, during the present opposition, also be able to show the two tiny moons of Mars, which revolve close to the planet, so rapidly that the inner one goes through all the changes from new moon to old moon in less than a day.

Another interesting thing about Mars which can now be studied is the mysterious network of so-called canals which cover a large portion of the planet's surface, particularly in the equatorial regions. The idea that these are really canals constructed by inhabitants of the ruddy planet can hardly be entertained, when it is known that they are sixty miles or more in width.

One thing seems to be pretty certain: Mars has reached a much later stage of planetary development than the earth, and if it has inhabitants they may possibly have attained a degree of civilization incomprehensible to us. At any rate, it is a wonderful world which now beams as a ruddy star in our winter midnight sky.

About People Who Use Tobacco.

A tobaccoconist furnishes the following as the result of observation of his customers: An even-tempered, quiet man never goes to an extreme in choosing a tobacco; a nervous man wants something strong and furious; a wild man something that smokes and nothing more. There is a great deal in the way men handle their cigars. If a man smokes his cigar only enough to keep it lighted, and relishes taking it from between his lips to cast a curl of blue smoke into the air, set him down as easy-going. He has keen perceptions and delicate sensibilities. He will not create trouble, but is apt to see it out when it is once begun. Beware of the man who never releases the cigar from the grip of his teeth, and is indifferent whether it burns or dies. He is cool, calculating and exacting. He is seldom energetic physically, but lives easily off of those who perform the labor. A man who smokes a bit, rests a bit, and fumes less the cigar more or less is apt to be easily affected by circumstances. If the cigar goes out frequently the man has a wholesome disposition, is a devil-may-care sort of fellow, with a lively brain and a glib tongue, and generally a fine fund of anecdotes. To hold half the cigar in the mouth and smoke indifferently is a lazy man's habit. They are generally of little force, and their characters are not of the highest strata. A nervous man, or one under exciting influences, fumbles his cigar a great deal. He is a kind of a pop-jar among men. Holding the cigar constantly between the teeth, chewing it occasionally, and not caring whether or not it has been lighted at all, are characteristics of men with the tenacity of bulldogs. They never forget anything, and never release a

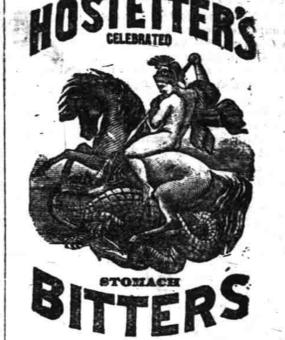
hold. The top stands his cigar on end, and an inexperienced smoker either points it straight ahead or almost at right angles with his course.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Administrator's Notice!

All persons having claims against the estate of Sarah Linster, dec'd., are hereby notified to present them to the undersigned before the 7th day of January 1885, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery; and all persons owing the said estate must make immediate payment.

H. C. BOST, Adm'r of Sarah Linster.

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The necessity for prompt and efficient household remedies is daily growing more imperative, and of these Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is the chief in merit and the most popular. Irregularity of the stomach and bowels, malarial fever, liver complaints, debility, rheumatism, and minor ailments are thoroughly conquered by this incomparable family restorative and medicinal safeguard, and it is justly regarded as the purest and most comprehensive remedy of its class. For sale by all Druggists and Dealers generally.

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SPECIAL BARGAIN All-Wool-Filling Worsted in the latest shades at 10 cents per yard. This Goods is worth one-third more, and cannot be had at this extremely low price out side of our House.

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