

Which?  
"Which shall it be? which shall it be?"  
I looked at John—John looked at me.  
(Dear, patient John, who loves me yet  
As well as tho' my locks were jet.)  
And when I found that I must speak,  
My voice came strangely low and weak,  
"Tell me again what Robert said?"  
And then I listening bent my head.  
"This is his letter!"

"I will give  
A house and land while you shall live,  
If, in return, from out of your seven,  
One child to me for eye is given."  
I looked at John's old garments worn,  
I thought of all that John had borne,  
Of poverty and work and care,  
Which I, though willing, could not spare.  
I thought of seven months to feed,  
Of seven little children's need,  
And then of this.

"Come, John," said I,  
"We'll choose among them as they lie  
Asleep" so walking hand in hand,  
Dear John and I surveyed our band.  
First to the cradle lightly stepped,  
Where Lillian, the baby slept,  
A glory 'gainst the pillow white,  
Like a soft ray of morning light,  
Softly her father stooped to lay  
His rough hand down in loving way.  
When dream or whisper made her stir,  
And huskily he said, "Not her—not her."  
We stopped beside the trundle bed,  
And one long ray of lamp light shed  
Athwart the boyish faces there  
In sleep so pitiful and fair;  
I saw on Jamie's rough red cheek  
A tear undried. Ere John could speak,  
"He's but a baby too," said I,  
And kissed him as we hurried by.  
Pale, patient Robbie's angel face,  
Still in his sleep bore suffering's trace,  
"No, for a thousand crowns not him,"  
He whispered, while our eyes were dim.  
Poor Dick! bad Dick! our wayward son,  
Turbulent, reckless, idle son—  
Could he be spared? "Nay, he who gave,  
Bids us befriend him to the grave;  
Only a mother's heart can be  
Patient enough for such as he;  
"And so, said John, "I would not dare  
To send him from her bedside prayer."  
Then stole we softly up above  
And knelt by Mary, child of love.  
"Perhaps for her 'twould better be,"  
I said to John. "Quite silently  
He lifted up a curl that lay  
Across her cheek in wital way,  
And shook his head. "Nay, love, not thee!"  
The while my heart beat audibly,  
Only one more, our eldest lad,  
Trusty and truthful, good and glad—  
So like his father, "No, John, no—  
I cannot, will not let him go."

And so we wrote in courteous way  
We could not drive one child away;  
And afterwards till lighter seemed,  
Thinking of that which we dreamed,  
Happy in truth that not one face  
We missed from its accustomed place;  
Thankful to rest for all the seven,  
Trusting the work to Oax in Heaven!

**New Commissioner of Pensions.**  
Washington, April 6.—It is doubtful whether a more popular appointment, certainly so far as the Northwest is concerned, could have been made by the President than the nomination of Judge Wm. Lochren, of Minnesota, to be United States Commissioner of Pensions. Judge Lochren's reputation as a jurist is of high order and his military record is particularly brilliant.

His appointment will be good news to the old soldiers with whose fortunes he is entrusted. He is 57 years of age and was born in Vermont, where he was educated in public schools and admitted to the bar. He went to Minnesota in 1857 and practiced his profession, but when the war broke out he was one of the first men in the State to abandon his civil pursuits and enlist in the first Minnesota regiment. His service during the war was severe, culminating at Gettysburg, where his regiment made a famous charge that checked Pickett's onslaught.

Of the 300 men who made that charge, only four came out whole, and young Lochren, who started on a rush as first lieutenant of Company "E," came out in command of the regiment, every officer above his grade having been killed or wounded.

When the war was over Lochren returned to Minnesota and resumed the practice of the law. He was very popular and was twice the Democratic caucus nominee for a seat in the United States Senate. In 1882 he was appointed by the Republican Governor to a judgeship on the Circuit bench, and at the expiration of his appointment was twice re-elected to the same place without opposition.

He has never sought office and his popularity is best attested by the fact that, although he is a Democrat, his candidacy for the place to which he is nominated was endorsed by the unanimous vote of the Republican Legislature of Minnesota.

**The Norfolk Festivities.**  
Norfolk, Va., April 7.—The final programme arranged by the Hampton Roads naval rendezvous committee provides for the opening of the local celebration at Norfolk on the evening of Monday, April 17th, by a free excursion for all school children to see all the navies of the world peacefully gathered in Hampton Roads.

The owners of the mammoth excursion steamer, Columbia, have tendered her without charge for this purpose. The bicycle contests have been postponed from Monday until Tuesday, the 18th, and on the same day an amateur rowing regatta will be held.

Wednesday the great international rowing races between boats of all classes from all the fleets takes place in Norfolk harbor under the management of officers selected by Admiral Gherardi and the admirals of the visiting squadrons.

Thursday the grand military parade and competitive drill will come off and Friday contests between the military,

naval, and civic bands. In the morning there will be a parade of all the trades, civic societies, and schools for prizes, and at night fireworks and an international ball will fill up the day. Saturday there will be international races between admirals' barges, races between boats from the fleets of all nations, and a grand pyrotechnic display at night will wind up a week of festivities such as has never been witnessed in this country.

**Lecture on Marshal Ney.**  
Rev. J. A. Weston delivered his intensely interesting lecture on Marshal Ney at the city hall last night to an audience not at all commensurate with the merits of the lecture.

After a brief biographical sketch of the Marshal, the lecturer proceeded to discuss the execution of Ney. He was convicted of treason December 31st, 1815, and sentenced to be shot at 6 o'clock or shortly after the next morning. The official report says Ney was shot by 60 veterans (doubtless men he had led to victory, said the speaker) in an unfrequented part of the yard of the palace of Luxembourg. He proceeded to within 8 paces of the wall and crying out, "Comrades, straight to the heart, fire," he fell dead. His body was exposed 15 minutes on the place of execution, as was customary.

Other reports by eye witnesses, however, show that the body was instantly covered with a cloth and carried away to the hospital. An account by Sir William Frazer, M. P., shows that Ney's own soldiers loaded their own guns and fired at him. While the official report went to show that the face and body were mangled, an eye witness said an officer made a sketch of the marshal after death and that Ney's countenance wore a placid smile. Another body could easily have been substituted for Ney's after the sham execution, said Mr. Weston.

Because of the lack of space only a little portion of the lecture can be reproduced by the *Observer*.

Marshal Ney four days after Waterloo expressed an intention of going to the United States. Peter Stuart Ney told Mrs. Mary C. Dalton, who is still living in Ireland, that he whispered to his soldiers "aim high," as he passed them going to his place at the execution. He left Bordeaux for Charleston and landed there in January, 1816. Three years he was in hiding and preparing himself to teach.

Every characteristic of Peter S. Ney was shown by Mr. Weston to have been possessed by Marshal Ney. Ney was called by his soldiers "Peter the Red." Perhaps this was the reason he assumed the name of Peter in this country. His father's name was Peter. His mother was descended from a family of Stuarts.

The iron frame of the greatest of Napoleon's marshals could defy wind and weather. Peter S. Ney commonly made out with four hours' sleep. He never sat near a fire.

He was too fond of his cups but no drunkard. He commonly drank more after hearing bad news from France.

Peter S. Ney wrote very good poetry. There is no record that Marshal Ney ever did, but that doesn't prove he couldn't. The Marshal played the flute. Peter S. Ney owned and played a costly flute.

Peter S. Ney is known to have had every wound on his person that the great Marshal had, except one on the neck. His acquaintances cannot remember as to that. He had a severe sabre wound on the left side of his head, which he said he received at Waterloo.

Marshal Ney was the best fencer in France; Peter S. Ney the best in America. The latter told Burgess Gaither, of Davie county, that he and Murat used to fence with each other in Napoleon's presence. Marshal Ney could speak English. An expert told Mr. Weston that two specimens of the handwriting of both the Marshal and Peter S. Ney were undoubtedly the same. Both Neys were marked with the small pox.

Peter Stuart Ney fainted in the school room at Darlington, S. C., when the news of Napoleon's death reached him. He told Col. Benjamin Rogers afterwards: "With the death of Napoleon my last hope is gone."

He was recognized several times by foreigners as Marshal Ney. On one of these occasions at Statesville a German named Barr created a sensation by saying "There's Marshal Ney." On his death bed Peter S. Ney solemnly affirmed, in the presence of Dr. Matthew Lock and others that he was French Marshal. He died in 1840 and was buried at Third Creek.—*Charlotte Observer*.

**Two Sides to the Story.**  
Jaggles—When his wife died the old fellow fell in love with his housekeeper. His family looked upon it as a domestic affliction.

Waggles—While the housekeeper, no doubt, regarded it as a master passion.

**Ravages of Forest Fires.**

One of these woods fires swept across Robt. Ellis' place, on East creek some five miles south-east of town, and among other things burnt up 340 cords of cut wood, which completely breaks him up in the wood line.

In Orange county it started on Enoc creek and burnt a stretch of country 20 miles wide, extending on over to Person and nearly reaching Roxboro. Enoc church was burned, also Croup-ton's mill.

In the northern part of Durham county and the upper part of Granville there was also much destruction.

The greatest forest fires ever known in Moore and Richmond counties have been raging in the heart of the long leaf pine district. The trees had just been bored and thousands were destroyed. Many people owning turpentine orchards are ruined. One man lost 2,000 acres of trees. The fire swept upon the town of West End nearly wiping it out. Three large stores, with entire stocks, post office, and several dwellings were burned. At least twelve turpentine distilleries and scores of dwellings scattered throughout the woods were burned. The rails of the Aberdeen and West End R. R. were so badly warped that trains can not run. Great quantities of rosin were burned, 1,000 barrels at West End alone.

**Arguing the South Carolina Tax Cases.**  
WASHINGTON, April 4.—What are known as the South Carolina railroad tax cases occupied the time and attention of the Supreme court of the United States to-day. They came up on a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of three county sheriffs who are constructively in jail by order of Judge Simonton of the United States court in South Carolina, W. W. Riser, M. T. Tyler and M. B. Gaines. The controversy out of which the present proceedings precipitated is a conflict between the State and the Federal authorities which at one time took on a very serious phase, but the shedding of blood was avoided.

The circumstances briefly were these: The Richmond and Danville railroad was in the hands of a receiver, appointed by the United States court. Certain county officials in their effort to collect State taxes seized the property of the railroads, stopping trains in some cases. The sheriff engaged in this work were ordered by the United States court to release the property, but several of them ignored the mandate of the court. They were then brought before the court charged with contempt in failing to obey its orders. All but Riser, Tyler, and Gaines, purged themselves of the contempt. They petitioned for a release on writs of habeas corpus and a rule was made returnable to-day. The controversy includes several important questions of Federal and State jurisdiction over property subject to local taxation, but operating under orders from a United States court.

Because of the importance of the case the court gave each side two hours for argument instead of one, the usual limit, which exhausted the entire sitting of the day. For the petitioners, nominally, but really for the State authorities, the argument was made by Ira B. Jones and J. Randolph Tucker, of Virginia; for the receivers of the railroad and to sustain the authority of the Federal court, Hugh L. Bond, Jr., attorney of the Richmond and Danville railroad, and Mr. Joseph W. Barnwell.

One noble feature of the late Gen. Kirby Smith's personal appearance was his beard, which possessed truly patriarchal proportions and combined with his broad, high forehead to make him the ideal of the sage that he was. He was erudite and scholarly, and he was held in high esteem at Sewanee for his learning and urbanity. It is a fact of interest that after the cessation of hostilities nearly all of the great commanders of the Southern armies attained distinction in the pursuits of peace—some of them as railroad managers, others as statesmen, not a few as bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and several, like General Smith himself, as college professors. General Smith's affection for the lost cause remained undiminished up to his death, and as a symbol of it he wore on the left lapel of his coat an ornament fashioned in the form of a diminutive Confederate ensign.—*State Chronicle*.

**Lost Forever.**  
Mrs. Brown—I'm sure Johnnie was sorry for smashing the window across the street.  
Brown—Were you sorry, my boy.  
Little Johnnie—Yes, dad. It was my new ball.

**Many Persons are broken down from overwork or household cares.**  
Brown's Iron Bitters rebuilds the system, aids digestion, removes excess of bile, and cures malaria. Get the genuine.

**From the Ram's Horn.**

Find a Christian who is having a hard time, and you find one who is not praising God half enough.

When the devil goes fishing he baits for hearts, not heads. Too many preachers do just the opposite.

When you go to see the man who is too poor to take a newspaper, be careful that his dogs don't bite you.

Que taste of the living water will make a man dissatisfied forever with the green stuff in the devil's pond.

Some parents take their children to see the procession, and then whip them if they want to go to the circus.

Some people pray for dying grace, when they need most its grace to make them live within their means and pay their debts.

Safeguards of the Bank of England. The possibilities of electricity have been made available to a considerable extent in the provision of protective measures for the Bank of England. The doors of the bank are so adjusted that they can be instantly closed by the pressure of a button, and after being so closed they can be opened again only by a special operation.

The bullion departments of this and other great English banking establishments are usually submerged in several feet of water by the action of machinery electrically controlled.

In many London banks the bullion departments are connected with the manager's sleeping room, and an entrance cannot be effected without setting off an alarm at the head of the bed. If a dishonest official, during day or night, should take even as much as one from a pile of 1,000 sovereigns the whole pile would instantly sink and be replaced by a pool of water, and an alarm would be given throughout the whole establishment.

**The Senate Secretaryship.**  
Our Washington correspondent may have appeared to some as having "piled on the agony" last week in writing of Gen. Ransom's success in securing the secretaryship of the Senate for a North Carolinian, Gen. W. R. Cox, but it was in fact a very remarkable accomplishment. When it was known that the Democrats would control the Senate there sprang up twelve candidates for the secretaryship, the position being regarded very desirable, the salary being higher than that of a Senator, the position being one of considerable dignity, and some patronage attending the office. As the 4th of March approached the candidates dropped out, one by one, until only Gen. Cox and Col. J. Q. Washington, of Virginia, a well-known Washington newspaper correspondent, remained in the field, and Senator Ransom put the matter through the caucus by a practically unanimous vote, in the face of the fact that before he ever moved in the matter Col. Washington had the pledges of a majority of the Democratic Senators. Gen. Cox had made no application for the office and Senator Ransom had it all fixed for him before he even heard that the movement was on foot.

It was a neat piece of work and shows the value of having in the Senate men who know how to do things.—*Statesville Landmark*.

**The Same Result.**  
Tom Watson, the Georgia Third party member of the Fifty-second Congress, who has made so much fuss in the world within the past two years, and who was cleaned up last fall in such good shape, denies the report that he might, under certain circumstances, return to the Democratic party. There are some of them who will never come back; defeat has goaded them into still greater anger. On the other hand, there are those who, upon the sober second thought are already prepared to return; but this something-for-nothing craze, this notion that it is the business of the government to provide for the people, will have to run its course, just as the measles or chicken-pox does. We look for about the same fight over again in North Carolina next year, with, of course, the same result.—*Statesville Landmark*.

**For Malaria, Liver Trouble, or Indigestion, use BROWN'S IRON BITTERS**

**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**

**CHILD BIRTH . . . MADE EASY!**  
"MOTHERS' FRIEND" is a scientifically prepared Linctus, every ingredient of recognized value and in constant use by the medical profession. These ingredients are combined in a manner hitherto unknown.

**"MOTHERS' FRIEND"**  
WILL DO all that is claimed for it AND MORE. It Shortens Labor, Lessens Pain, Diminishes Danger to Life of Mother and Child. Book to "MOTHERS' FRIEND" mailed FREE, containing valuable information and voluntary testimonials.

Send by express on receipt of price \$1.00 per bottle. BRADFORD REGULATOR CO., Atlanta, Ga. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.



**What's the Matter with?**

If you think there is anything the matter with your watch, let us take a look at it. Don't let it go on ticking itself to destruction. A few particles of dust will, in a few weeks, do more damage than the ordinary wear and tear of a year's time keeping. Our guarantee is for Twelve Months.

**SILVERWARE?**

we are now offering, and the complete selections of clocks, watches and jewelry. We are prepared to satisfy the desires of the most fastidious, in anything in our line, and a call will convince you that we are

**HEADQUARTERS.**

We pay the highest cash price for gold, and will buy in any quantities.

Very Respectfully,  
**REISNER & GORMAN.**

**A Household Remedy FOR ALL BLOOD AND SKIN DISEASES**  
**B. B. B.**  
**Botanic Blood Balm**  
It Cures SCROFULA, ULCERS, SALT RHEUM, ECZEMA, every form of malignant SKIN ERUPTION, besides being efficacious in toning up the system and restoring the constitution, when impaired from any cause. Its almost supernatural healing properties justify us in guaranteeing a cure, if directions are followed.  
SENT FREE. "ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF TESTIMONIES." BLOOD BALM CO., Atlanta, Ga.

**YOUR CASE IS NOT HOPELESS**

**Electrohouse**  
TRADE MARK WITHOUT MEDICINE  
AIDS NATURE IN NATURE'S OWN WAY.  
IT COSTS YOU NOTHING TO INVESTIGATE.  
Aches, Pains, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, SCIATICA, MIGRAINE, BRUISES, SWELLINGS, ETC., cured by application.  
ATLANTIC ELECTROPOISE CO., 1405 New York Ave., Washington, D. C.

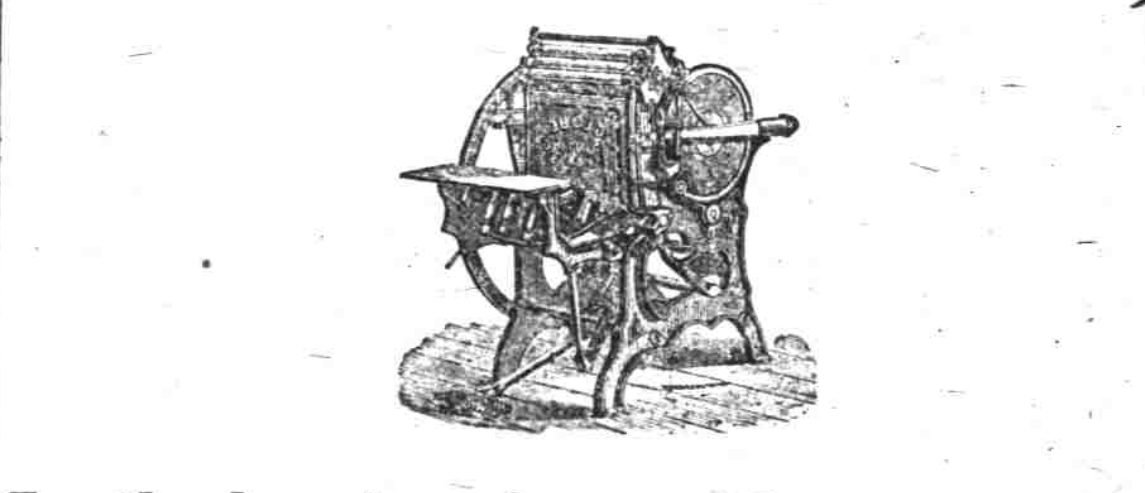
**The Carolina Watchman,**  
NOW THE OLDEST JOURNAL IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Renews its allegiance to Democracy—the Cause of the People.

And asks every friend of good government, progress and enterprise for support. Its subscription price will be:

To Single Subscribers \$1.00 per year payable in advance.  
To "of over Ten . . . . .85c . . . . ."

**The Watchman**  
**JOB OFFICE,**



In the hands of an old experienced Printer, is prepared to execute all kinds of Job Printing, and at prices that will compare favorably with any

**OFFICE IN THE STATE.**

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE.**  
RIFLES, MACHINES, ETC.  
**PATENTS**  
C. A. SNOW & CO.  
Opp. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

**THE "CAMERON."**  
Steam, Air and Vacuum Pumps, Vertical and Horizontal of every Variety and Capacity.

**Regular Horizontal Piston.**  
**VERTICAL PISTON.**  
**VERTICAL PLUNGE.**  
The most simple, durable and effective Pump in the market for Mines, Quarries, Refineries, Breweries, Factories, Artesian Wells, Fire Duty and General Manufacturing purposes.  
Send for Catalogue.  
Foot of East 23d Street New York.

**The A. S. CAMERON STEAM PUMP WORKS.**