

# The Carolina Watchman.

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THE FLOWERS COLLECTION

WM. H. STEWART, EDITOR

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## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET.

Road and Street Improvements Ordered. Jurors for Next Term.

At the recent meeting of the County Commissioners a number of very important matters were considered, as follows:

Long street, one of the main thoroughfares of the city, and one that stands in constant need of improvement, came in for a goodly share of legislation. A. S. Heilig appeared before the commissioners and agreed to furnish rock for the macadam and the city agreed to furnish a crusher. It was then ordered that several camps be established on Long Street and rock be purchased at 50 cents the cubic yard. The work begins near the home of Hon. John S. Henderson and continues to East Spencer. Messrs. Bernhardt, Klutz and Hartman were asked to confer as to what the city would give. It was agreed that the same committee should take steps toward the discontinuance of the Lexington road from the Vance Cotton Mills to the cattle pens at Spencer, provided that the Southern Railway will give \$500 for this.

Touching the county home, it was ordered that the brick building occupied by the colored people be torn down and a new four room house be built at a suitable distance from the cook room. It was further ordered that a man be employed to cultivate the lands, that a mule, wagon and tools be purchased for the purpose of carrying on this.

J. H. Mahaley was ordered to clean up the pest house and to make an effort to secure some reliable person to occupy the "suspect" house to protect this property from vandalism.

C. M. Miller was appointed surveyor in the place of T. B. Wetmore, who was elected in November and who as yet has not qualified. When Mr. Miller became city engineer, it was thought best for him to give up his county work. The Democratic Executive Committee appointed Mr. Wetmore and he was elected. No reason has been assigned for his failure to qualify.

The next term of court will be a short one, only one week and but one set of jurors was chosen. These are: Frank B. Miller, George L. Klutz, Jacob E. Klutz, Jesse T. Cranford, J. A. Wiley, N. P. Murphy, R. H. Bringle, James D. Coggin, D. L. Gaskill, Frank R. Brown, Albert B. Leonard, F. N. Brown, George L. Lyerly, D. H. Hinson, J. D. Silliman, J. C. Umberger, J. A. Click, J. K. Cuthbertson, J. C. Fisher, G. G. Ritchie, J. C. McCanness, R. L. Weddington, D. C. Bradshaw, Crawford Miller, John A. Eagle, Theo. D. Brown, John W. Miller, Jr., David W. Morgan, A. J. Lippard, B. W. Freeze, William P. Carrigan, R. A. Moose, F. P. Shoe and P. O. Tatum.

The superintendent of the county criminal road force reported 12 white and 84 colored prisoners. W. H. Wallace was awarded the contract for feeding the convicts and Klutz & Rendleman were given the supplying of feed for the stock belonging to the county.

The board endorsed the movement of Mrs. Chadborne and Mrs. C. Brown towards the erection of a reformatory. The letter of Mrs. Brown was read and heartily approved. The legislature will be petitioned to make this addition to the penal life.

A Home Paper for Home People by Home People.

## AN OLD LADY INJURED.

Rev. Trexler Pounded. Work of Missionary Society. A Good School.

Manning, Jan. 10. — Lingle Bros., will ship several car loads of cotton seed this week, if cars can be secured.

Mrs. Lillian Sifford has been very sick for some weeks with typhoid malaria. She is slightly improved now.

There was four marriages in our community during the holidays.

Mrs. L. H. Brown is succeeding well with the school at this place. She has 65 on the roll.

Wood Benson and family have moved to a farm near Lebanon church.

Rev. H. A. Trexler and family were "pounded" during the holidays by members of his charge. The value, in money, of the gifts brought was about \$40.00, and was the "biggest pounding" Mr. Trexler has ever received since he entered the ministry, sixteen years ago.

The W. H. F. Missionary Society of Salem have collected about \$86.00 for the great "Twenty Thousand Dollar Fund" which all mission workers of the General Synod, South, are stirring for.

"Aunt" Sarah Rex, a lady 78 years of age, fell Saturday and broke her right leg above the knee. This is a most unfortunate accident, for her age will seriously retard the knitting together of the bone.

## Has the Homestead Law Served Its Purpose?

We notice there are a number of suggestions from various quarters for the enacting of special laws to secure the collection of debts from parties not worth the homestead. If the homestead law has served its purpose, then the thing to do is to repeal it, and take it off the statute books. This would be simpler and better than to pass any law that seems at least to be a sort of a short cut to accomplish that which can be done by a plain and simple process.

The homestead law may have been a necessity at one time; we judge it was, but many of the wisest and best business men believe it ought to have been abolished years ago.

Certain it is, that the credit, in business transactions of every man not worth \$2,000, has been destroyed, and in order to trade, these men have had to execute mortgages, whereas without the homestead exemption, they could have traded on an open account or upon a simple note.

It is easy to see, this law has worked to the detriment of the very men it was intended to help. But as to its repeal, such a thing will hardly be proposed.—Raleigh Times.

## Adams Declared Elected.

Denver, Colo., January 7. — Alva Adams was tonight declared to be the duly elected governor of Colorado. The returns showed Adams 128,078; Peabody 118,804; Plurality for Adams 9,774.

## Condition at Port Arthur.

Tokio, Jan. 9. — In well informed circles it is estimated that the original garrison of Port Arthur numbered about 88,000 to 40,000 men, including sailors. The killed, those who died of sickness and missing are placed at over 10,000.

## BLOCK SYSTEM ON SOUTHERN.

Completed as Far South as Southern End of Danville Division.

In line with the policy of the present management of the Southern Railway, the block telegraph system has just been extended as far south as Spencer, N. C., the southern end of the Danville division. This makes the travel on the portion of the system from Washington to Spencer, a distance of 384 miles, much safer. For a considerable time this system was in use as far south as Lynchburg, and the extension indicated has been the means of giving 48 additional men employment. The extended service is costing the system something over \$2,000 a month.

Superintendent Coapman, of the Danville division, whose division has just been treated so well by the management, gives out the information that the company has authorized the extension of the service over the entire system between Spencer, and Atlanta, Ga., thus making a continuous piece of road of 648 miles under the block system.

The telegraph offices are located three and a half miles apart on the average between Washington and Spencer, but while it is not known, it is hardly expected the offices will be quite so close south of Spencer as they are in this section.

Mr. Coapman showed that the spreading out of the block service of the system means that the Southern already has more miles of track being operated under the manual block system than any other railroad in the country. The improvement will cost the Southern many thousands of dollars annually, but it will greatly facilitate the movement of trains and insure a greater degree of safety to the passage of trains that could not be secured in any other way.—Danville Bee.

## Reduction of Acreage Pledged.

Charlotte, N. C., Jan. 7.—The farmers of Mecklenburg county, 800 in number, held a mass-meeting here today and pledged themselves to hold the balance of their crop for ten cents and to reduce acreage next season 25 per cent. A committee was appointed to arrange to have the remaining cotton stored in bonded warehouses, 200 bales to be forthcoming at once for storage. A committee was also appointed to attend the state convention at Raleigh on the 17th instant.

## Jordan Against Burning.

New Orleans, Jan. 9.—President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Growers' Protective Association, declares against the burning of cotton in a letter to the New Orleans Progressive Union. He says he is using all endeavors to put a stop to the practice.

"I am doing all in my power to discourage the idea," said Mr. Jordan. "It is not necessary and no such action will even be suggested at the New Orleans convention. We hope to be able to make arrangements along business lines that will solve the present problem, and also those in the future relative to the price of cotton. There will be a large number of bankers and Southern cotton manufacturers at the meeting. We need the active co-operation of our bankers and also the spinners if we are to take our cotton out of the hands of speculators. The New Orleans convention will be much more largely attended than at first anticipated, and the commissioners of agriculture of all Southern States will be there."

## FARMERS TO HOLD MEETING.

The People are Busy Baling Hay and Cutting Wood for Market.

Hamptons Creek, N. C., Jan. 9.—After a week's absence Joe will scratch a few items to the noble WATCHMAN again.

The health of the neighborhood is very good except Mrs. Jacob Klutz, who is very ill with heart trouble, so the doctor says. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Maxwell Holsouser have moved from his father's near here and has located near Granite Quarry.

The people near here are busy chopping wood and baling hay and fodder for market.

The school at Holsouser's school house is being successfully taught by Mr. Henry Trexler. He is a prominent young man, raised near Hamptons Creek, educated at Crescent and is leaving a good mark to start on. We wish him future success.

Rev. N. D. Boddie visited Mr. H. Lewis Lyerly Saturday and D. Max Lyerly's Saturday night.

Mrs. Rev. R. L. Brown is able to be out again, we are glad to note.

The farmers will hold a township meeting at the Rowan Academy Saturday Jan. 14. Everybody come.

With best wishes to the WATCHMAN, We remain, JOE.

The Southern Railroad has adopted the block system for their entire road. This is a step in the right direction. It will save both life and property.—Raleigh Times.

## THEIR OWN GOODS.

Police Blundered in Charging Aged Couple With Burglary.

New York, Jan. 7.—Held since last Saturday on charges of burglary because the police found their apartments filled with packs of various kinds Thomas Robinson, eighty-one years of age, and his wife Hannah, aged seventy-one, were today discharged by Magistrate Moss, and the charges against them dismissed. Mrs. Robinson did not learn the cause of her arrest until after her discharge today, and fainted in court when informed by her attorney.

The police had opened hundreds of the packages, all of which contained receipts showing that the goods had been purchased and not stolen; and detectives from all the department stores in the city had gone over the strange collection only to find that every article examined and traced had been paid for. The original explanation given by Thomas Robinson, that his wife had long been in the habit of purchasing and hoarding articles of all kinds, is accepted by the police.

The Gastonia Gazette says: Whatever may come of the present disturbed condition of the cotton market, one cannot but admire the determination of the farmers to hold for a better market and congratulate them upon their ability to make so much stronger resistance now than they were able to do a few years ago. They are in better condition; they are able to hold for a better price, and nothing else at this time seems advisable. The proposition to burn the surplus strikes one as monstrous.

## WORK OF DRUNKEN MAN.

Shoots His Wife Through Jealousy and She May Die.

John Dees, a white man living on Dr. J. B. Eubank's farm in Lanes Creek township, while in a drunken condition, shot his wife early this morning. The weapon used was a 32 calibre pistol. The ball entered the groin and it is not known how serious the wound is. Dees has been arrested. Mrs. Dees was at the phone talking when her husband in his maudlin drunkenness concluded that she was conversing with a man and he became insanely jealous and shot her, as above stated, and also struck her on the head with the weapon. When not drinking Dees is a hard working, good citizen and is peaceful and quiet in his family. Liquor does bother folks who do bother it. A good woman must suffer and in all probability meet death on account of liquor she never touched.—Monroe Enquirer.

## Western Congressmen Scored.

Washington, Jan. 6.—A sensational address was made to the forestry congress this morning by George H. Maxwell, the executive chairman of the national irrigation congress. He scored congress for its refusal to repeal the timber and stone act, and declared that the House public lands committee, the western members of which, he alleged, "had deliberately prevented action" on the measure, and thus "allowed the stealing to continue, should be held up to public inquiry and lashed at the cart's with a whip of outraged sentiment."