

RETRENCHMENT.

The members of the Legislature individually, and collectively have ignored entirely the bill to reduce the salaries and fees of the State officers, which the ROANOKE NEWS published last week; and consequently we have the mean grins, as it were. We thought that the bill would meet the demands of those who were most clamorous for retrenchment. This opinion seems to have been erroneous; though we do not feel any animosity on account of its rejection by our law makers. We are sorry we did not reach the bottom and to make amend for the extravagance which our bill would have permitted, had it become a law, we hasten to submit several resolutions, which, if adopted, even the economical Legislature of 1879 cannot think objectionable on account of waste.

The ROANOKE NEWS suggests that some member introduce into the General Assembly the following resolutions or some of the same effect:

Resolved 1st, That a committee be appointed to wait upon the Governor and other State officials and ascertain what portions of their salaries are due for the remainder of their terms of office, and also what will be the probable amount of the fees which will be paid into the several offices from this date until the expiration of the several terms of office, and that the committee ascertain, also whether the several officials will discount the amounts so due them, and if so, what discount the said officials will accept if the same be paid in cash.

Resolved 2nd, That if the said several officials will discount the said several amounts as ascertained to be due them, that the committee be authorized and empowered to accept such compromise, and pay such sums to the said several officials by warrants on the State Treasurer, who is hereby directed to pay the same.

Resolved 3rd, That the said committee, as soon as such arrangement is made with each of the said several officials, do declare, that all the State offices, now filled by the said several officials, be vacant and that immediately thereafter the said committee do advertise in the daily papers within the State (and the State press be requested to copy the same free of charge) that at the end of the next thirty days, thereafter ensuing the said committee will let and farm out to the lowest bidder, at public outcry, on the capital square, in the city of Raleigh, all the said State offices so made vacant.

Resolved 4th, That if in the opinion of said committee the said several officials shall be found not at exorbitant prices, then the said committee shall give thirty days notice as aforesaid, that sealed proposals will be received during the ten days following the expiration of said advertisement, for supplying the said several departments of the State Government with officials and the committee is directed to receive any bids whether submitted by citizens of this or any other State as competitors in the life of office.

Resolved 5th, That the said committee be requested to confer or correspond as may be cheapest, with our Senators and Representatives in Congress and ascertain if they will also discount in a like manner, amounts due them by the general government—and report at the earliest day consistent with economy.

ROANOKE NAVIGATION COMPANY.

In our last issue we referred briefly to the re-opening of the canal from Eaton's falls to Weldon. We are advised that the probable cost of cleaning out the canal and repairs on the locks will not exceed the sum of two thousand dollars at the present rates paid for labor; and if done by convicts, easily obtainable, a saving of at least one half, probably more could be effected.

Quite a large number of farmers in the fertile valley of the upper Roanoke section have to wagon their products, long distances over bad roads at the worst season of the year; incurring expenses of persons which not infrequently causes severe sickness; besides the wear and tear of teams on their journeys, and at the same inconvenience at least in hauling is encountered in carrying home, fertilizers, farming utensils and heavy groceries. All this could be averted by water transportation. Immense quantities of cotton, tobacco and cereals which now go elsewhere for shipment by rail would come to Weldon, the greater portion of which could be sold by the planter in person to our merchants, and he could take home supplies in exchange. It is true that as yet this is no leaf tobacco market, but if the "need" should come here, as a natural sequence, warehouses for selling and factories for manufacturing the same, would spring up. There is no good reason why Weldon may not be made the best market in the State. It is well known fact that the large manufactures in the Northern cities have resident buyers at Durham, Waco, and other tobacco centres in the State. The geographical position of Weldon and the unequal facilities for shipment of back the crude and the manufactured article renders it more attractive than any other location in the State. Buyers would come here and success would be certain.

Foreign cotton buyers are daily seen on our streets, and the prices paid shade closely those of Petersburg and Norfolk. It was originally intended that boats on the canal should be towed by horses, but in this busy day, trade and travel demand steam; we would therefore respectfully suggest that it would be preferable to use a steam tug. It should be constructed to fit the locks and have cabins for passengers. The estimated cost would be two thousand dollars. It could tow a flat of thirty tons capacity, and the draft would not exceed ten or twelve inches. There can be no doubt of the success of the enterprise in a pecuniary point of view. Besides the transportation of freight—the principal object—others of equal importance would necessarily result. The health of any place is a great desideratum especially to those seeking residence. The basin of the canal is full, or nearly so, of mud, rich in malarial producing properties, from which arise odors not as pleasant nor healthful as might be. This should be removed and the volume of water which would then flow down the canal would be sufficient to propel any quantity of machinery.

The Company could easily construct from the stone arch to Weldon several lateral canals, and the water flowing through these could be farmed out and several times utilized.

The large quantities of hickory, gum, persimmon, oak &c., with which our forests abound could be converted into spokes, fellows, rims, shuttles and furniture of every description, and large quantities of bark for tanning purposes could be procured.

The towns of Greensboro, High Point and Thomasville in a great measure owe their prosperity to factories for handies spikes &c.

In this matter the entire community is greatly interested; and the citizens of the town should take immediate action. If the company will not engage in the enterprise, let them leave the property for one or two decades to enterprising men with proper restrictions and security, so that the advantages which must necessarily arise, may be enjoyed by the present generation. We know parties who will take hold of the matter at once.

DAMS FOR THE ROANOKE.

Governor Vance in his message urged upon the Legislature the necessity of inaugurating a system of internal improvements which would benefit the whole State. Speaking of the importance of the subject he alludes to the dams of the Roanoke river and says:

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROANOKE.

As a further illustration of this idea, I beg leave to call your attention to the situation of that rich and once productive region the Roanoke country below Weldon. At one time the Egypt of our State and a source of great wealth to our people, those splendid and luxuriant lands are fast becoming a wilderness by reason of the destruction of the levees which confined the Roanoke within its banks. In the demoralized state of labor there and the reduced condition of the planters, it has been found impossible to replace them, and the whole region will be lost to the State for generations if something is not done to reclaim it. If the counties or citizens interested, will undertake to support the convicts and their guard, I recommend that sufficient force be furnished them to rebuild these levees and thus rescue that important portion of our State from ruin, and enable the citizens thereof to recover their prosperity and increase greatly the public wealth. It is entirely practicable, as I am informed.

We have been kindly furnished by a gentleman of culture and information who has for many years been intimately connected with, and has full knowledge of the subject, with some interesting facts and figures which we publish in another column we invite the attention of our readers to the letter and suggest that immediate action be taken.

RETRENCHMENT.

HALIFAX, N. C., Feb 10th, 1879.

DEAR NEWS:—I see our leading papers are harping on "retrenchment and reform" in State affairs, with how and then a letter on "county economy." Therefore it may not be wrong for us to touch slightly on so important a subject. You know our good old county is never behind in doing right, when in proper hands. Talk about retrenchment, reform and economy! Here is economy in the true sense of that term: On the board of commissioners are of the right grit. At their last meeting they visited the poor-house—previous to the above mentioned visit, the pay of the Superintendent was \$400.00 per annum. The expenses are variously estimated between two and four thousand dollars I believe. Up to the present time there has been a farm carried on at an expensive charge to the county, it requiring three acres of land to make one barrel of corn, now our present board have stopped all these leaks. They have cut down the pay of the officers in charge to twelve dollars and fifty cents per month, this saving to the county \$250. in one of its servants hire. It is supposed that the stopping of the model farm will save \$500 to \$600. The cook and washer-woman were paid \$600 per month each. This was cut down to \$3.00; a saving of \$72. The debtors had been paid \$5.00 per month and \$5.00 for each visit;

this has been cut down to \$2.00 for each visit and a monthly allowance. There are other little savings in this connection too numerous to mention; but the people may rest assured that there is nothing that will escape the crocodile of such men. When the peopled board went into office the servants which were numbers around our little capital here were living in opulence, with nothing comparatively, to do. Now the elements of that dark cloud, that is so fast disappearing have to work like men, for they are no longer drawing on the peoples' test. The peopled board have only one servant at small pay.

The county jailer, formerly received 50c. a day for feeding each prisoner. The Peoples Board have cut his pay down to 25c. per day. Now there are some 28 prisoners in jail. Suppose it average 25 the year round, at a saving of \$9.75 a day it would be about \$130.75, an immense saving to an unpopished county.

Now I have given you a few items of what the peopled Board have done, but I understand that this is only a beginning of what they will do. Hurrab for old Halifax she will come out of the suds after a while.

At any rate we all believe it can't be otherwise with such men Henry J. Hervey, W. H. Whitaker and Col. Prescott at her helm.

HALIFAX

EMBANKMENT OF ROANOKE RIVER.

That the proprietors of the river lands have taken no action in response to the recommendations of Gov. Vance in his message, for the use of convict labor for embanking the low land on the Roanoke river, is a matter of surprise, considering the vast benefits that would result to them as individuals as well as to the whole State.

That the scheme is practicable, does not admit of any manner of doubt, and if the thousands of acres of land now worthless, are ever to be reclaimed, it must be done before the young growth of ash, maple and elm, which now cover them, as thick as piles in any of the old fields, have attained the size of the primeval forest. Previous to the late war most of the lands lying on the river between Weldon and Hill's ferry, were protected from overflow by embankments, varying from 2 feet to 20 feet in high and if the same oversight and annual amount of labor could have been continued until this time, there is no portion of the United States that would have excelled this portion of the valley in the products of grain, hay and cotton.

The distance from Weldon to Hill's ferry by the river is fifty miles—an average width of one mile subject to overflow (and this is rather under than over) covers 62,000 acres of land. These lands are known to be of great fertility and may safely be estimated at a product of 40 bushels of corn per acre, making an aggregate product (if the whole was in cultivation) of 1,280,000 bushels or 256,000 barrels worth at the present market price over a million of dollars.

Estimating the length of the dams on both sides of the river from Weldon to Hill's ferry at 75 miles (a part of the distance being bluffs and needing no dams) and the average highest at ten feet and ten solid yards to the running yard upon the old dams gives 17,000 solid yards to the mile—for the whole distance 75 miles, gives 1,275,000, say one and a half million of solid yards—estimating that one able bodied man can wheel seven and a half solid yards, average say, it will take 200,000 days labor to complete one and a half millions of solid yards, at the same estimates 100 able bodied men will complete the whole in 2000 days.

Estimating the cost of convict labor for feeding and guarding at 15 cents per capital per day, (which we learn is more than the cost on the public works) and we have the cost of darning the river for 75 miles at \$30,000, not one dollar per acre; a sum so insignificant, compared with the benefits, that it is almost beyond credulity. If any action by the land owners is to be taken the sooner the better, as the Legislature will adjourn on the 1st of March and nothing can be done under 2 years. Probably the best modes of action will be by counties or neighborhoods forming associations and sending up petitions asking for 10, 30, 50 or more convicts to undertake this work—will these interested undertake to act at once, or wait until a more convenient season? R. H. S.

In the appropriation bill now before Congress, \$40,000 have been given for improvements in North Carolina. Of this amount, Cape Fear \$15,000, Neuse \$15,000, French Broad \$5,000, Pamlico \$3,000, and Rappahannock \$2,000. In all probability this bill will pass both houses though the amounts may be reduced somewhat.

The almost sedately Democratic House of the Alabama Legislature has elected a colored chaplain.

HON. JAS. L. ROBINSON, of Macon, is President of the Senate.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

As Administrator of Isaac N. Faulcon deceased, I will sell for cash, on Monday the 25th day of February, 1879, all the stock of horses, cattle, hogs, &c., all farming implements, all corn, fodder, shucks, cotton, &c., household and kitchen furniture, belonging to said Isaac N. Faulcon. This 23rd Jan. 1879.

S. JOHNSTON, Admr. Isaac N. Faulcon deceased. Jan 20th

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

Notice is hereby given that all taxes due the 1st of March will be collected by law. L. M. LONG, Collector for Halifax County. Feb 6th

ADVERTISEMENTS.

BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.

CHOICE SEEDS, &c. BY MAIL. For \$1.00 we will mail postpaid, either of following Collections, all choice varieties: 20 Varieties, or 8 Heliotropes, 8 Geraniums, or 9 Fuchsias, 8 Coleus or 6 Roses, 4 Ivies, or 8 Chrysanthemums, or 10 assorted from Home Plants, 5 Gladioli, or 8 Double Tuberoses, or 24-25, or 12-10c plus Garden Seeds, or packets choice Flower seeds. Circular, with additional collections mailed to applicants. D. J. EVANS & CO. Local agents wanted. York, Pa. Jan 20th.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having this day qualified as Administrator with the will, annexed of Isaac N. Faulcon, late of Halifax county, deceased, before the Judge of Probate for said county, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate settlement, and all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned, or his Atty. W. H. Day, duly authenticated within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. This 23rd Jan. 79.

S. JOHNSTON, Administrator. Jan 20th 79.

W. H. Day Atty.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Halifax County.

Superior Court.

Spring Term '79.

E. T. Branch, and Samuel Pope, trading under the firm name of Branch & Pope, Plaintiffs,

Against John E. Hurst, Littleton, B. Purnell, Altered Maddux, Lloyd L. Jackson and W. E. Clark, trading under the firm name of Hurst, Purnell & Co. Defendants.

Notice is hereby given to the defendants above named that the plaintiffs above named have instituted an action in this court, returnable to the Term thereof, beginning on the 31st Monday in March 1879, to recover of said defendants the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars for damages in falling to ship to the plaintiffs for the space of ten days, goods wares and merchandise purchased of them in September last by said plaintiffs, as they had promised and agreed to do, and that if said defendants failed to be and appear at said Term of said court to be held at the time aforesaid at the court house in Halifax town within the time prescribed by law, and answer or demur to the complaint therein which is deposited in the office of the Clerk of said county the plaintiffs will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint. The defendants are further notified that a warrant of attachment has this day been issued against their property to the Sheriff of Halifax county, returnable to said Term of said Superior court to be held at the time aforesaid.

Witness, John T. Gregory, Clerk of said Court, in said Halifax town, this 27th day of January A. D. 1879.

JOHN T. GREGORY, Clerk Superior Court, Halifax County N. C.

Mullen & Moore, Day & Hall, Whitaker Atty's for Plaintiff. Jan 30 79.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Halifax County.

Superior Court.

Spring Term '79.

E. T. Branch and Samuel Pope, trading under the firm name of Branch & Pope, Plaintiffs,

Against Sol. Frank and Charles Adler, trading under the firm name of Frank & Adler, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given to the defendants above named that the plaintiffs above named have instituted an action in this court, returnable to the Term thereof, beginning on the 31st Monday in March 1879, to recover of said defendants the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars for damages in falling to ship to the plaintiffs for the space of ten days, goods wares and merchandise purchased of them in September last by said plaintiffs, as they had promised and agreed to do, and that if said defendants failed to be and appear at said Term of said Court to be held at the time aforesaid at the Court house in Halifax town within the time prescribed by law and answer or demur to the complaint herein which is deposited in the office of the Clerk of said Court, the plaintiffs will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint. The defendants are further notified that a warrant of attachment was issued herein on this day against their property to the Sheriff of Halifax county, and is returnable before the Judge of the Superior Court for said county at the Court house in Halifax town, N. C., on said 31st Monday in March A. D. 1879.

Witness, John T. Gregory, Clerk of said Court, in Halifax town, this 27th day of January 1879.

JOHN T. GREGORY, Clerk Superior Court, Halifax County N. C. Mullen & Moore, Day & Hall, Whitaker Atty's for Plif. Jan 30 79.

PETITION FOR PARTITION.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Halifax County.

In Superior Court.

Thomas M. Pierce, Leon B. Pierce, F. K. Bass, P. B. Bass, Lea T. Woods and Martha T. L. L. Woods, George P. Pierce, A. B. Pierce, F. S. Pierce, W. L. Wilford and T. L. Emory, partners, trading under the name and style of Winfield & Emory, Plaintiffs,

Against R. W. Crump, Minnie Crump, Clark and Alice his wife, Richard Crump and Carrie Crump, the two last named being infants under the age of twenty one years and without guardian, Celestia Wilson, James Wilson, Dallas Hawkins and G. W. Grant, A. B. Lynch and Margaret B. his wife, Defendants.

Appearing to the satisfaction of the court by the affidavit of W. J. Winfield one of the above named plaintiffs, that the defendants do not reside in the State of North Carolina but that the defendants R. W. Crump, Minnie Crump, —Clark and Alice his wife, Richard Crump and Carrie Crump reside in Lake county in the State of California and Celestia Wilson James Wilson and Dallas Hawkins in Bryan city Brazos county in the State of Texas and that G. W. Grant resides in Davenport in county, in the State of Iowa and that personal service of summons cannot be made on said non resident defendants. It is ordered that publication of summons be made for six consecutive weeks in the Roanoke News, a newspaper published in the town of Weldon, Halifax county, notifying said defendants to appear and answer the complaint within the time, otherwise the prayer of the petition will be granted and a copy of the summons & complaint be deposited in the post office at Halifax, North Carolina directed to each of the non resident defendants at their places of residence with postage prepaid. Witness my hand and seal of office at Halifax in Halifax county the 4th day of December 1878.

W. J. WINFIELD, Plaintiff. J. N. O. T. GREGORY, Clerk of Superior and Judge Probate for Halifax county. Day & Hall, and J. M. Grizzard Atty's for Plaintiff. Dec 7 79

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

PRESCOTT & GOOCH

DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE

ANNOUNCE THAT THEY HAVE OPENED THE

LARGEST AND BEST SELECTED STOCK OF

DRY GOODS,

BOOTS AND SHOES,

HATS AND CAPS,

GROCERIES,

&c.

EVER OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC IN WELDON.

They are to be found at the Old Stand of J. T. Gooch and are selling

LOW FOR CASH-

Give them a call and get more for your money than anywhere else. Dec 14ly

GRAND ACHIEVEMENT.

EVERYBODY READ THIS!

M. E. KULL

143 Sycamore Street,

PETERSBURG, VA.

MANUFACTURER OF SUPERIOR

READY-MADE CLOTHING,

at wholesale and retail at New York prices, also a full stock of

DRY GOODS AND NOTIONS

at New York Prices. Clothing manufactured to order in the best manner, at shortest notice and the lowest prices. Fit guaranteed.

FOR SALE.

Valuable residence in town of Scotland Neck, where M. Hoffman now lives. Terms liberal. THOS. N. HILL, Halifax, N. C. Dec 14 3m.

MRS. A. B. JONES

208 Sycamore St, Petersburg Va.

FALL AND WINTER,

78-79

Is opening a New and Desirable stock of

MILLINERY GOODS,

DRESSMAKING,

A SPECIALITY.

CUTTING AND FITTING.

At short notice. Latest styles dress trimmings, fringes, buttons, fancy goods, and notions.

Wedding and party dresses made, and if requested, will furnish the material.

Ornaments for the Hair of Every Description.

Braids, Switches, Jet and Fine Jewelry. Also, Xanthine, an excellent preparation for the hair. In fact, everything to adorn a lady.

EMBALMER OF NATURAL FLOWERS.

We warrant our Embalmed Flowers never to chance their

FORM OR COLOR.

AGENT FOR

E. BUTTICK & CO'S.

CELEBRATED

PATTERNS.

Catalogues sent free on application.

I am prepared to offer customers extra inducements this season, in the style, quality and price of my goods, so as to make it to their interest to give me a large share of their patronage. I therefore hope to have the pleasure of an early call from you, assuring you that I will use my best efforts to make your trading with me entirely satisfactory to you.

Orders from Virginia and North Carolina are solicited, and will be promptly filled upon reasonable terms.

Thanking you for past favors, I remain Yours respectfully, MRS. A. B. JONES.

Oct 19th.

NOTICE.

Having taken the shop that A. Eaton formerly occupied, I am prepared to do all kinds of repairing, wood or iron. Having been here over twenty years everybody in the county knows that I understand my business, making wagons and carts, buggies, and ironing same. Give me a call. D. C. RICHARDSON. Jan 11 6m.

REGALIA MANUFACTORY.

MANUFACTURER OF AND

BANNERS, FLAGS, SCARFS, BADGES, &c.

Also Costumes for Tournaments, Balls, &c, at lowest rates. 410 Broad Street, bet. Fourth and Fifth. Sept 21 ly.

MARX MITTELDORFER.

MANUFACTURER OF AND

BANNERS, FLAGS, SCARFS, BADGES, &c.

Also Costumes for Tournaments, Balls, &c, at lowest rates. 410 Broad Street, bet. Fourth and Fifth. Sept 21 ly.

NOTICE.

The following valuable real estate lying near Tillery's Mill in Halifax county about nine miles from the town of Halifax.

About 300 acres including steam engine, saw mill, fixtures, gin, gin house and fixtures, adjoining the residence of J. R. Tillery. Mike Wilkins, that containing about 97 acres. Pope place containing about 150 acres. Interest to Wade H. Tillery tract, the whole containing about 577 acres. Apply to T. N. HILL, Attorney. Halifax N. C. Dec 11

ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW FIRM.

JAS. L. BASS, B. L. BARKLEY, Weldon, N. C. Garysburg, N. C. Having opened a first class Restaurant and Oyster Saloon, next door to W. H. Brown's, on Water Street, are prepared to serve their friends with anything in their line. They have a splendid Oyster Cook, who will serve the delicious oysters in any style. Oysters by the quantity to their country customers. They will also keep on hand a good supply of Family Groceries, Confectionaries, Tobacco and the best cent Cigars in town. JAS. L. BASS, & Co. Water Street, Oct 19 12m.

A CAREFUL MAN.

ALWAYS CARRIES

A Yearly Policy Of Insurance

AGAINST

ACCIDENTS

YOU CAN SECURE ONE IN THE

MOBILE LIFE INSURANCE CO.

OF MOBILE, ALA.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Will Insure You Against Accidents for One Day in the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS in the event of Death, Or \$15 PER WEEK INDEMNITY for Disabling Injuries.

RATES—One Day - - - 25 Cents Two Days - - - 50 Cents Five Days - - - \$1.25 Ten Days - - - 2.50 Thirty Days - - - 5.00

\$5.00 WILL INSURE YOU

AGAINST ACCIDENTS,

FOR THE TERM OF

1 YEAR IN THE \$1.00

R. F. BUTLER, Agent, Weldon, N. C. May 11 y.

JOHN WANAMAKER,

RELIABLE

STYLISH

READY-MADE

CLOTHING

FOR

MEN, YOUTHS, BOYS

AND

CHILDREN.

LARGEST AND BEST STOCK

IN VIRGINIA

All our own Manufacture, well made, Reliable Goods. Sure to give Satisfaction.

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DEPARTMENT.

AN ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF