

# The ROANOKE NEWS.

VOL. XXI.

WELDON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1891.

NO. 46.

## RALEIGH LETTER

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS AND OTHER MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

The bill appropriating three thousand dollars annually toward the support of the Soldiers' Home in this place has become a law. Several eloquent speeches were made in its favor. "Bryan of Wilkes" spoke in favor of its passage. He is a native North Carolinian but said he fought in the Federal Army because he was opposed to secession, but he was in favor of doing all that could be done for the old soldiers who had no homes and no one to care for them. There was not a vote against the bill in the House. It does not, as some suppose, require any old soldier to give up his home; it is only intended to furnish a home for those who have none and who are dependent upon the cold charity of the world or upon those who are unable to offer assistance. This appropriation will not be near enough to support it, but it will be a great help and will inspire confidence among the people. Among the corporators are Capt. W. H. Kitchin, Col. W. A. Johnston, Major T. L. Emry and Col. F. M. Parker, of Halifax county.

A petition has been presented in the House from citizens of Littleton asking the establishment of sworn cotton weighers. This is the fourth or fifth application of the same kind now before the Legislature, and it seems to be a popular movement in most places.

A bill has been introduced in the House to provide for the issuing of bonds by Northampton county to the amount of ten thousand dollars for the purpose of building a jail. Half of this amount is to be paid in fifteen and half in twenty years. A bill is also before the House to extend the operation of the act providing for tax collectors in the same county.

The bill making it a misdemeanor to solicit labor to go out of the State, punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary unless the agent has paid a license tax of one thousand dollars for each county in which he solicits has been ratified and is now a law.

Another law of general interest is one which has been enacted requiring administrators and executors to plead the statute of limitations against debts. Heretofore it was optional.

An act has been passed also allowing guardians to rent land of their wards privately whenever in their judgment it may be to the interest of the wards.

Under an act which has been ratified the Boards of Commissioners of the several counties may, if they choose, pay poll holders and canvassers in elections for their service not exceeding one dollar a day.

The new county bill was introduced in the Senate last week by Mr. Bowers. It is substantially the same as that reported in these columns a week or two ago, except that it has been changed so that if either the Warren or Northampton cut off shall vote against it the new county shall not be established. Senator Bishop informs me that the people in that portion of Northampton which would be included in the new county are opposed to it. The bill is now before the committee on Propositions and Grievances which will no doubt report it unfavorably as there is a strong feeling among members against new counties.

The bill authorizing the town of Littleton to issue bonds for a hotel, manufacturing enterprise and a court house met with considerable opposition before the committee which had it in charge.

Capt. Leach addressed the committee in favor of it, and letters to the same purpose were received from other citizens. Messrs. T. W. Hawkins, J. L. Shaw, B. B. Pullen and others appeared before the committee in opposition to it, and after a hearing the committee voted to report against the bill. The principle objections urged against it were that the necessary notice had not been given; that the taxable value of property in the town

was less than one hundred and twenty thousand dollars and that the amount of bonds was nearly one-fourth of the value of the property; that the sum which had to be raised annually to meet the interest and provide a sinking fund would be greater than the town could pay, and that in submitting the question to a vote a voter with no property at all would have as much weight as one with twenty thousand dollars worth of property. A bill has been prepared authorizing the town to issue bonds to the amount of six thousand dollars for the purpose of building a courthouse and jail, but it will not be introduced unless the new county bill passes.

The railroad commission bill came up in the House from the Senate a few days ago and was passed about twelve o'clock Wednesday night. Mr. Pritchard, Republican, offered a substitute which was advisory only, but it was voted down. Col. Sutton then offered as a substitute the bill which passed the House two years ago, and that also was voted down. The bill was then considered by sections and a number of amendments were offered but all of them were rejected except two or three of minor importance. An amendment was offered striking out the amendment of the Senate making members of this General Assembly ineligible but the House refused to do so, and the commissioners will have to be selected outside of the Legislature. The bill will now go before the Senate for concurrence in the House amendments. There is a feeling here among the more conservative members that the bill is too stringent and may become unpopular. About this, like it is about all new legislation, there is a difference of opinion, and experience alone can show the wisdom or unwisdom of this particular measure. A great deal depends upon the men selected to carry out its provisions. Who these will be no one knows at this writing, as there has been little or no canvassing on the part of candidates or their friends, although before this reaches your readers the men may be selected and elected.

The Training school bill was reported to both branches of the Legislature a few days ago by the conference committee. The amendments added to it by the House which have been noted in this correspondence, were substantially adopted and the bill is now a law. The Board of Directors is to be composed of one from each congressional district, and to be elected by the Legislature.

The bill regulating the charges made by warehouses for selling tobacco has been reported adversely by the committee on agriculture. It first received a favorable report, as I wrote you, but it was recommitted and there was a hot contest, resulting in a defeat of the bill before the committee. This in all probability means also its defeat when it comes up in the House.

The candidates for railroad commissioner are gathering at the Yarrowburgh. Who the lucky ones will be it takes a better prophet than this writer to tell. Judge Dillard, Ren. R. B. Vance, Mr. Beddingfield, Capt. O. Coke, Mr. McDonald, of Cabarrus, Ex-Governor Jarvis, Capt. Kit hin and T. W. Mason are among those whose names are oftenest heard. The bill was to have been taken up yesterday in the Senate as special order for action on several amendments put on by the House. These will probably be adopted, and the next thing will be the election of those who are to be charged with the duty of executing the law.

A bill came before the House Monday to prohibit the sale of books, fruit and everything else except newspapers on Sunday trains. A substitute was offered prohibiting the running of trains on Sundays. Both the bill and the substitute were sent to the committee. This measure should not become a law, in the opinion of your correspondent. It would seem that this is too sweeping. Mail trains and trains which carry through passengers should not be interfered with, nor is the authority of the State to do so very clear. A bill is pending now in the Senate prohibiting

the running of local passenger trains on Sunday and this ought to become a law. On branch roads and shoofly trains the crews are worked early and late every day in the year, while on the through trains the crews have their regular lay off and one set does not have to run every Sunday.

The charter of the town of Weldon has passed the Senate and is now a law.

A bill is pending which will make a material change in the criminal law affecting capital offences. It provides that all murder perpetrated by poison, lying in wait, imprisonment, starving, torture, or by any other wilful, deliberate and premeditated killing; or which shall be committed in the perpetration, or attempt to perpetrate any arson, rape, robbery or burglary, shall be deemed to be murder in the first degree and shall be punished with death. All other kinds of murder shall be deemed murder in the second degree and shall be punished with imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than five nor more than thirty years. No alteration or modification of existing forms of indictment for murder is required, but the jury before whom the offender is tried, shall determine in their verdict whether the crime is murder in the first or second degree; and if the accused plead guilty the degree of the crime shall still be ascertained by the jury. This is somewhat similar to the Virginia law. The change is recommended by the Attorney-General and is proposed to prevent crime and to prevent too light punishment for offenders.

The city papers of Sunday in their reports of the proceedings of the Legislature stated that Mr. Hall of Halifax had presented petitions asking that the price of the public printing be reduced. This is a mistake. Mr. Hall has presented no such petitions for the simple reason that none has been sent to him. It was Mr. Hill who presented the petitions. Mr. Hall's position on the public printing question was taken conscientiously with all the lights before him, and he has thus far seen no reason to change his opinion. He may be mistaken but no one has yet convinced him of his error.

The bill to incorporate the North Carolina Society for the prevention of cruelty to children and animals has been tabled.

A bill has passed and is now a law changing the names of county porthouses to "Homes for the Aged and Infirm."

The bill to pay solicitors salaries was made the special order in the House for twelve o'clock Thursday. It has already passed the Senate. The main argument in its favor is that it will save the counties much by decreasing the number of bills of costs. It is now claimed that solicitors multiply cases for the sake of the fees when very often one indictment would be sufficient. The fees would be collected but would be turned over to the school fund. In this connection the report of the Attorney-General relative to crime for the past eighteen months is interesting. In Second judicial district for that period the number of convictions was as follows: Murder 10; arson 1; burglary 8; forgery 8; larceny 161; misdemeanors 622. The fees under the bill referred to above would for these cases amount to \$1866, or about \$1244. According to these figures the solicitor of the Second district (Geo. H. White) would be benefited by being paid a salary of \$1,800. In Halifax county the Attorney-General's report shows the following figures as to criminal actions: Whites 81; colored 34; males 159; females 16; convicted 53; acquitted 47; not pros. 69; dismissed 7. Of these two were for murder, one for arson, one for forgery, twenty-five for larceny, 146 for misdemeanors. The law under which this report was made was enacted two years ago and it only went into operation at those spring courts which had not been held at the time of its enactment and the statistics are therefore only for about eighteen months.

The bill to reduce the rate of interest to six per cent. is the special order in the Senate Wednesday at one o'clock and the railroad commission bill at twelve o'clock.

In the House the bill to amend the constitution so that solicitors will be elected by the State at large has been made the special order for Wednesday night.

Messrs. T. N. Hill and W. H. Day, of Halifax, and T. W. Mason and B. H. Gay, of Northampton, were here in attendance upon the Supreme court last week.

Register of Deeds Fleetwood, of Northampton, was in the city a few days ago.

Mr. M. L. Wood, the efficient representative from Bertie, who has been home on sick leave some days, returned to his legislative duties Saturday.

Capt. E. A. Thorne, of Panacea Springs, is here in the interest of the new county.

Senator Bowers went up to Morganton last week with the committee on Insane Asylums to examine the Asylum at that place.

The calendar of the House has accumulated to such an extent that it has resolved on night sessions, the first one being held Tuesday night. The Senate manages to keep up its work. There are not so many talkers in the north end of the Capitol.

## OUR FUTURE.

OUR PEOPLE ARE A GOOD AND ENERGETIC PEOPLE—THE JUBILEE—OUR GREAT WATER POWER—NOT HALF HAS EVER BEEN TOLD.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—While we are glad to see your paper take so much interest in the building up of our town, and enjoyed your article on the "Eve of Prosperity." We think you are wrong in naming us Rip Van Winkle.

Our people are a live, and struggling folk. There is an old saying, "Give a dog a bad name and you had might as well kill him." Now, away back, when the real estate owners of Weldon had no reason for wanting to part with the land on which our present town is building and when they had a plenty and did not care to build up the town, and when our immense water power was kept a secret thing, Weldon was given a bad name, a very bad name. Then these people were poor, very poor, and since then they have bravely fought this bad name, by word and act, they then had no broad-viewed and able paper to turn on the light, as your valuable paper is doing, and reveal to the world the treasures that have so long been hidden from the public. Still these people with everything to contend with, have reached a point, that they are now able to say to the balance of humanity come if you wish and we will welcome you; but our bad name has been proven a misnomer; and our treasures are such, that we can make a city set upon a hill.

Our people are a good and energetic folk, many a community with half the draw backs would have given up in despair long ago, not so with us, we have fought long and hard the battle and we are going to win.

There are fewer loafers and more workers in our town than any town of its size we know of in the State.

We agree with you about the torch-light and jubilee. Let all join in and have a good one. We want not only every citizen, but our country friends to come in and join in the procession.

You speak of the engineers statement, about our water power. They have not told much over half of our strength. If any one will take the trouble to come down the river in a boat or even walk along its banks for a few miles above here, it won't need any engineer to tell them of what we can and will do. Then add to these powers the fine farming lands immediately around us. These lands are classed amongst the finest in the world. They can support a city like New York and still have a surplus of produce to ship to other places.

Our day is almost here. Come all who wish to join us in the onward stride.

A CITIZEN.

Shiloh's Vitalizer is what you need for Constipation, Loss of Appetite, Dizziness and all symptoms of Dyspepsia. Price 10 and 15 cents per bottle. For sale by W. M. Cohen.

## JERUSALEM.

RAILROAD TRAVEL IN THE HOLY LAND A FULFILLMENT OF BIBLICAL PROPHECY.

The locomotives for the Jaffa & Jerusalem railroad have reached Palestine. They bear the names of "Jerusalem," "Ramleh," and "Jaffa." A Philadelphia company has the honor of supplying the motive power. The most interesting fact about the appearance of the iron horse in the Holy Land is that the Jewish rabbis have already figured out a fulfillment of prophecy. In the book of Naham is found that which is now interpreted as a revelation of the locomotive. Consul Gillman, of Jerusalem, tells this in a recent report to the State department. He sends the passage. The words are significant. They are found in Naham ii, 3, 4, and are as follows:

"The chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation. They shall seem like torches; they shall run like the lightning."

Mr. Gillman also reports there is quite in Jerusalem real estate on account of the building of this railroad. More visitors arrived in the Holy City last year than any previous year, and Americans outnumbered any other nationality.

"The Jews of all lands," says Consul Gillman, "continue to come to Palestine to reside in increasing numbers. Many of them are aged persons, who immigrate with the sole object of dying in Jerusalem, in accordance with their religious belief, so that they may be buried on the Mount of Olives. But others of this people join some of the Jewish agricultural colonies established under the Rothschild patronage or engage in trade or traffic. The degree of the sultan obliging the expulsion of such Jews, the modification of which to refer only to Jews coming here in large numbers—practically its repeal—was brought about through the efforts of this consulate. I here refer to in order to state that this modification is of late faithfully adhered to by the Ottoman authorities. Indeed, it would seem to be most liberally construed, as I have learned that recently 400 Jews at once landed at Jaffa without the least obstruction, which is of sufficient proof of what has been accomplished."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## TO BLOW GREAT GUNS.

SEVERE STORMS AND EARTHQUAKES ARE PREDICTED.

If the announcement of weather seers are truly written, then we are in for a year of great tornadoes, blizzards and cold waves.

From a St. Joseph, Missouri prophet comes the awful information that we are nearing the most destructive storm period of recent years—a period that has not been equaled for atmospheric and terrestrial disturbances within the memory of any person now living. The genial citizen who makes this cheerful prediction is W. T. Foster. He says that from May 1, 1891, until May 1, 1892, the year will be one of general destruction throughout the United States.

The period of great disturbances will begin during the early part of May, while Mars will be passing its equinoctial, Mercury passing the sun's equator. But while these storms will be severe they will not compare with those that will occur later in the year and during the early part of '92.

Shiloh's Cough and Consumption Cure is sold by us on a guarantee. It cures Consumption. For sale by W. M. Cohen.

For lame back, side or chest, use Shiloh's Porous Plaster. Price 25 cents. For sale by W. M. Cohen.

Croup, Whooping Cough and Bronchitis immediately relieved by Shiloh's Cure. For sale by W. M. Cohen.

Catarrh cured, health and sweet breath secured, by Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy. Price 50 cents. Nasal Injector free. At W. M. Cohen's drugstore.

Sleepless nights, made miserable by that terrible cough. Shiloh's Cure is the remedy for you. For sale at W. M. Cohen's drugstore.

## AND HIS NAME IS JONES.

AN INVENTOR WHO WILL DO AWAY WITH STEAM AND ELECTRICITY AND SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF PERPETUAL MOTION.

A Mexico, Mo., special to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says:

R. J. Jones, of this city, is constructing a model of an invention that will revolutionize the world and startle such electricians as Thomas A. Edison. Mr. Jones has invented a machine that will ultimately do away with both steam and electricity, and instead run engines and all kinds of machinery with either compressed air or water.

It is a hydraulic engine, and is attached to the regular steam engine by a valve that lets the compressed air into the boiler, and by the simple touch of a lever with the hand sets the machinery in motion, which runs perpetually until shut off by the opening up of another valve that lets the compressed air escape, the hydraulic engine keeping up its work continually. By this means an engine can easily be controlled or governed as if by steam, and run at almost trivial cost. Mr. Jones, the inventor, has a model that has been tried to his entire satisfaction, and he is now constructing one in this city, 12 by 14 inches, expressly to secure a patent. The inventor claims that within a year there will be very few engines in this country run by steam. The model as shown is one of neatness, and is the simplest piece of machinery in existence. The hydraulic pumps in connection will stand the pressure of over 700 pounds of compressed air or water to the square inch, and the inventor claims that it can be made to stand a pressure even greater than this. Mr. Jones says people may call it a fake and all such, but said he:

"An incessant study of twenty years on this subject has at last revealed to me the secret of an invention that will no doubt startle the universe, and after trying my machine to my own delight I am ready to say to the world that perpetual motion has been solved."

Mr. Jones is 44 years old, a native of Virginia, and a farmer by occupation. He moved to Lincoln county, this State, and about three months ago moved from there to Mexico, where he is at present located. He has worked just eight months upon the present model of the machine he is now constructing, and says that in a few days he will give an exhibition of his invention, that the people may be their own judges as to the accuracy of his assertion.

## FOR A SPIRITUAL SONG.

A Christmas story.—A poor country congregation found itself badly in want of hymn books. The clergyman applied to a London firm, and asked to be supplied at the lowest (Church) rates. The firm replied that on condition the hymn books contained certain advertisements, the congregation should have them for nothing. Necessity knows no law, and the minister sorrowfully complied, thinking to himself that when the advertisements came they could be removed from the leaves. The hymn books arrived, and—joy of joys—they contained no interloving advertisements. At the thanksgiving service the good patron joyously gave out the Christmas hymn, and the congregation sang the first verse with fervor. When they reached the last line they found that this was what they had been singing:

"Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Beecham's Pills are just the thing;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
Two for man and one for child."

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

That Hacking Cough can be so quickly cured by Shiloh's Cure. We guarantee it. For sale by W. M. Cohen.

Will you suffer with Dyspepsia in Liver Complaint? Shiloh's Vitalizer and guaranteed to cure you. For sale by W. M. Cohen.