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WASHINGTON NOTES.

WHAT NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESSMEN ARE DOING.

The Appropriation for Public Building at Wilmington Passes the Senate --The Silver Question.

Special Correspondence of the Sentinel.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The sorrow felt over the keath of Gen. Hancock was deep. Both Houses of Congress were taken by surprise, though the Senate believed a continuance of business a course the dead warrior would have approved. The news reached the Senate during the passage of a number of bills to erect public buildings, North, South, and West. But no matter what act of respect legislation prevented, the feeling of regret among the citizens at the Capital was great. Many to whom the General's face was familiar, had longed that he would live to be General of the Army. Flags, of course, were lowered, receptions postponed, and other tokens of respect paid his memory.

THE SENATE

soberly discussed the Blair educational bill. Senator Blair has been the target for numerous educators. Besides introducing the temperance question into the public schools of the Capital, he was urged to introduce a bill that will require all teachers to be physiologists. Senator Hoar, who alarmed the Senate by calling attention to its laziness, favorably reported his bill to change the meeting of Congress to fall. The bill for open executive sessions was reported adversely. Silver received its usual quotum. Steps were at once taken towards erecting a monument to Gen. Hancock. The bill to erect a public building at Wilmington was passed.

THE HOUSE

considered the question of war taxes on States. Resolutions of respect to the memory of Gen. Hancock were promptly passed, and the usual adjournment followed. No decrease was visible in the number of bills. One provides for a commission to ascertain the progress of the Negro from 1865. The question of a telegraph line between Georgetown and Waverly Mills, S. C., was broached. Representative Bennett sought relief for wardens and vestry of St. James, Parish, Wilmington. He also sought arrears for Calvin J. Cowles and Geo. B. Hanna, of U. S. Assay O. Charlotte.

MR. REID,

not winking, but our Reid, was busy last week. He intrduced a bill to provide for the sale in lieu of the destruction of illicit distilleries. Annether, to take steps towards the reduction of public printing. Mr. Reid sought relief for R. A. Holderby and J. W. Gurrent, and Henry N. Wolf, a pension for Wm. Rommel, and postal dues for Wm. Bradfield. He was also fairly overburdened with committee work.

THE SENATE'S EXTRAVAGANCE

is again recorded. It "split the difference," so to speak, and gave the family of its deceased committee clerk only six months', instead of one years' unearned salary. But this scarcely splits the principle of the transaction; it is just as unconstitutional. Several years ago several Senators thought several handsome appropriations for several deluged communities outrageous. They were severally silent last week; the amount was too small to disturb their conscience. And yet, taken as a precedent, there is greater magnitude. It means that the families of Senate clerks have mortgages on the U. S. Senate, aggregating $70 000. It should be remembered that thit is unearned salary, and that the Senate is Republican.

THE TARIFF QUESTION,

on which Mr. Morrison's political past, present, and future rocks, recoils at every step of increased taxation. Economists who are free-traders redouble their economy. But economists who are protectionists are almost at a loss. It is asserted that Republicans have "method" in extravagant appropriations, but no incentive is necessary; they take to extravagance like ducks to water. Though tempted as well as accused, Mr. Randall will not relax his economic features; he is not a hypocrite. Bnt complications do not settle the question; indeed, some have gone so far as to guarantee that it never will be settled, but remain just as it is. The Hon. Mr. Kelley, better known as Pig-iron, took a horoscope when he said, "There isn't a man on the floor of this House who under stands the question!"

THE SILVER QUESTION,

with Pig-iron's consent, may be understood. Certainly, neither side is as afraid of it as of the tariff. It has been discussed by the Senate, and jingled in the House. Last week suggestions of the re-coinage of subsidiary coin, the increased coinage of standard dollars, and the issue of silver certificates, were added. The millions stored in the Treasury still worry many. And, in the meantime. the workingman is perplexed not so much by an honest dollar and an honest day's work as an honest day's work and an honest dollar.

POVERTY BREEDS ECOMOMY,

but the United States must continue to pay everything and everybody. Seventy-five millions for the regular pension roll is not enough. A great, patriotic feeling rises to extend the Acts, Mar. 3, '79, and Mar. 3, '85, as well as to pension decendants of Revolutionary soldiers from 1812 to 1832. The United States, unable to pay her presents debts, is asked to pay what no longer is, and never can be, due.

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

is at last promised an Assistant Chief Examiner. This, it will be remembered, is what the SENTINEL suggested last August. One is absolutely necessary, though we ventured then to, and do now, suggest four. A burden too great for the shoulders of one or two Examiners-in-Chief exists; work is delayed, appeals neglected, and applicants discouraged. We had not then, nor have we now, space to prolong the subject. But a study of the question will bring all to the conclusion there ought to be at least as many Examiners-in-Chief as commissioners.

THE SHORT HAIR CRAZE

continues to spread. It is no longer the badge, as it always was at the Capital, of woman suffragists and the virago. It is becoming general, from the school-girl to the old maids. Women of sixty are just as "crazy" as sweet, innocent creatures of seventeen and twenty. The line is drawn nowhere; poor and rich, pious and worldly, fast and staid share the fashion. For a time, the short-haired female of fashion was a curiosity, with scrutiny and doubts against her. Now she is a beauty. It is an abbreviation; it saves time, labor, and hairpins. It presents the female head in an ever-readyclose-cropped form around which man's lips may hover without former dangers. He prefers this, at least, to the bleaching craze. But the effect is spoiled when the hair is permitted to assert itself. When once begun, the fashion should be continued—close cropped monthly. Woman has no right to let herself or her hair grow ugly.

SHADOW.

SOME LOCAL HISTORY.

Origin of the Names of the Sauratown Mountain and the Dan River.

From the Danbury Reporter.

SAURATOWN MT.—This word (Sauratown) is possibly, as has been suggested to me by Mr. Powel, (director of the Bureau of Ethnology, Smithsonian Institute Washington,) a corruption of the Algokian word Saweno, signifying southern. Acording to the narrative of Collen who doubtless borrowed from Nicholas Perot, the Satonos or Shawnees were driven at an early day by the Five Nations from the neighborhood of Lake Erie to the Carolinas. A portion of them were for a long time upon the head waters of the Santee (Catawba) and the great Pedee (Yadkin) rivers under the name of "Ontawagannha," This people began a migration in the latter part of the 17th Century to Pennsylvania, which continued at intivals for many years. Their name may not unlikely have been perpetuated in the mountains of Stokes county. Major Hairston informs me that his father Samuel Hairston Esq., was a volunteer officer of the U. S. Army in the war of 1812, and was stationed at Buffalo, N. Y. While there he met Red Jacket a chief of the Shawnee tribe, who had formerly lived in this region. Red Jacket said he thought this region the most beautiful country he had ever seen, and had never been satisfied since he had been compelled to leave it. His heart still clung to it, and he seemed much gratified at meeting one who had lived there,

DAN RIVER.

What is now called the Roanoke was known as the Moratur, forming, as Byrd describes it, all that part of the Roanoke below the great falls towards Albemarle Sound, the falls being situated thirty five miles below the fork of the River, according to this authority. The tribe of Moratues, according to an old map, had their location in the vicinity of the Roanoke river. I am indebted for a kind and interesting communication from Major Powell, of the Ethnological Bureau of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, a distinguished expert in the language and history of our Indians, in which he says that 'this Bureau has considered the Moratues as of Algonkian stock, and that their name bears much resemblance to the Powhatan word for enemy.' The Algonkian family embraced, among others, the powerful tribes of the Powhatans and Shawnees in the South. There is no authorative ground for associating the Moratues with this locality, (Stokes county), nor was the Dan, as far as this investigation has penetrated, ever called the Moratuc River, this name as we have shown, having been limited to the waters of what is now called the Roanoke.

I know of no written authority for referring the origin of the name Dan River to the word Danapahaw who is said to have been a chief of the Sauras. If Byrd named the river he likely took the name from the Dan of the Bible, as he named a track of land in Rockingham the Garden of Eden.

W. SHARTWOOD.

How About the Shinplasters?

From the Philadelphia Times.

If the silver dollar were coined in such a shape as to resemble the moon when its visible surface is twenty one per cent, off from being full, it would not be so handsome as it is now, but it would be a slight more honest.

A Send Off from Salisbury.

From the Salisbury Herald.

We are glad to note the progress of the *Western Sentinel* and hope the citizens of Winston will give this lively sheet the support it deserves.

GEN. HANCOCK DEAD.

ONE OF THE NATION'S HEROES QUIETLY PASSES AWAY

At His Post of Duty on Governor's Island, After a Brief Illnes of Forty-Eight Hours.

For The Sentinel.

One by one the heroes of the greatest struggle of modern times are passing away and with them are passing the bitter feelings, the anguish and the agony that was engendered by the civil war. General Hancock was one of the noblest figures in the civil war and since its close has gained the esteem of his opponents, as he has the veneration of his friends. On February 9th General Hancock died unexpectedly at his post of duty on Governors Island. For only forty-eight hours had

GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT HANCOCK.

he been confined to his bed. The first indications of disease was the appearance of a slight boil on the back of his neck, which was lanced but in four days thereafter developed into a carbuncle. The matter however gave hm little trouble and only on Wednesday previous to his death did he admit feeling unwell. Kidney troubles and diabetes manifested themselves and on Sunday the patient took to his bed, on Monday, however he was much improved, but the carbuncle caused some concern. Early on Tuesday the diabetes became worse and there was a hemorrhage from the sore on the neck. Medical assistance, from New York, in addition to the post staff was called, but fatal symptoms had appeared and without a struggle, calmly, quietly, the here passed away at thee o'clock P. M. February 9th, 1886.

General Hancock was born February 14th, 1824 in Montgomery county, Pa. He graduated from West Point Academy in 1844 and in 1846 received his commission as Lieutenant of infantry. He served during the Mexican War and at its close was quarter-master of his regiment. In 1855 he took part in the Florida campaign against the Seminole Indians. In 1861 he was appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers and served in the Amry of the Potomac. He accompanied McClellan's army to the Peninsular in 1862 and distinguished himself at the battle of Williamsburg. At the battle of Fredericksburg in December 1862 he commanded a division, which suffered severly and for his meritorious conduct on this occasion, received a commission as Major-General of Volunteers. He was a most conspicuous figure in the battle of Gettysbury, and did much to enable a Union success. He was wounded during the engagement. In April 1864 he was promoted to the command of the 2nd Army Corps and was engaged in the battle of the Wilderness campaign. He was promoted to be Brigadier General of the regular army in August 1864, Brevet Major General in March 1865 and Major General July 1866. After the war he was successively Commander of the Middle Department, Department of the Missouri, Louisiana' Texas and Dakota. Upon the death of General Meade, in November, 1872, the President appointed him to the command of the Army of the East, with head-quarters at Governor's Island. In 1880 he was chosen as the standard bearer of the Democracy in the presidential race, but he was defeated at the polls by the late President Garfield, who received a majority of 59 electoral votes.

General Hancock had command of the cortege attending the obsequies of Grant and his appearance on that occasion fully substantiated the claims of his friends that he was the handsomest and most soldierly looking officer in the army.

"Know How to Appreciate It."

From the Lincolnton Press.

Mr. E. A. Oldham, the enterprising publisher of the Winston *Sentinel*, will in a short time commence the publication of a semi weekly edition of his paper, and if that meets with sufficient success he will publish a daily. The *Sentinel* is a live paper and the wide-awake citizens of Winston know how to appreciate it.

AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY.

A Soldier's Widow who Receives Mysterious Letters.

From the Washington Capital.

A very remarkable case has come to our attention through a friend in the Pension Office, which furnishes incidents for a novel as powerful as any Dumas or Eugene Sue ever wrote. In 1864, a lieutenant from an Ohio village was killed in one of the battles of Virginia, and his body was sent home, buried with military honors, and a handsome monument erected over it by the citizens of the place. Thousands of people paid their tributes of honor to the young hero, and looked upon his face as the body lay in state in the town hall. He left a widow to whom he had been married only a year, and for more than twenty years she has been trying to get a pension; but, although she keeps fresh flowers upon her husband's grave, she cannot prove that he is dead.

The records in the adjutant-general's office are perfect, and affidavits can be furnished from thousands of people who saw and recognized his lifeless body, but every few months she receives a letter from him, written in a hand as familiar as her own. Two letters never come from the same place; now they are post-marked in Colorado, then in Texas, and then in New York. Once she got a note from him dated in Washington. He appears to know what is going on at home, and always alludes to local occurrences with a familiarity that is amazing. He sends messages to old friends, and gives her advice about business matters which it seems impossible for a stranger to know. She cannot answer these ghostly missives, because he never gives any clew to his whereabouts, and no detective has ever been able to find him.

Her friends believe that the writer of the letter is some crank or malicious person who takes this way to annoy her, and the distress this poor woman suffers cannot be measured by any other human experience, for we do not believe there was ever such a case as this. Long ago she ceased to open envelopes which came with the familiar address on them, but sends them sealed to her attorney, who uses every possible means to secure a clew to the identity of the writer. The only circumstances to suggest that it may possibly be her husband are the penmanship and the familiarity the writer shows with the lady's private life, but how he could keep himself posted is another mystery that cannot be solved.

Several times the writer has intimated that he might pay her a visit, but the next letter always contains an apology for not having done so. The woman has suffered agony of mind beyond description, and her life has been ruined by this horrible mystery; but of late she has become more resigned, and would be neither surprised nor disappointed if her husband should some day walk in at the door.

Concerning a Daily in Winston.

From the Greene Co., Enterprise.

Mr. Edward A. Oldham, the energetic editor of the Winston *Sentinel*, one of the best papers in Western Carolina, will in a few weeks begin the publication of a semi-weekly edition of that paper, and if his venture is successful will also publish a daily. The live town of Winston certainly needs a daily paper, and Mr. Oldham is the man to give them one if they will only encourage him. We wish him success in his new venture.

How to Drive a Nail.

From the New York Morning Journal.

A close observer says that one reason why woman has not reached eminence in the mechanic arts is because she has never been able to rise superior to the idea that the right way to drive a nail is to do it with both eyes shut.

A Diplomatic Suggestion.

From the Nashville Union,

Now that Ireland has proved a banana peel to the standing of the Troy Ministry, they might try sitting down on Greece.

HAPPY THOUGHTS.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THEIR READY AND INFINITE PRODUCTIONS.

A Good Plan is to Keep Company With Pleasant Authors and Really Sensible Folks, and to Keep Your Eyes Open to the Beauties and Your Hearts Free to the Benign Influences of Nature.

BY EDWARD PAYSON HALL.

For the Sentinel.

Who will invent a specific to make every one good humored? Till a better be devised, I beg leave to commend to your readers an old and thoroughly tested receipt for an elixir of vivacity and contentments—the perusal of Charles Lamb's "Captain Jackson." Happy indeed, might they be if the train of thoughts thus engendered should grow in them to the dimensions of a mental blooming garden, a well-filled spiritual larder! Happy, thrice happy would they all be with that pervading equanimity and sunniness of temper which piled the Captain's meagre board with rare appliances of wassail, imagined to be sure, but none the less toothsome and which transmitted his small beer into steaming punch and generous Madeira!

Are you poor, sick, weak, friendless, unfortunate? Read Leigh Richmond's "Shedherd of Salisbury Plain." Does the meanness of mankind bother you? Read Lawrencr Sterne's "Tristam Shandy?" Mad at blundering ignorance? Take a dose from Samuel Lover's "Handy Andy." Disgusted *ad manseam* by clowns and clodhoppers of the ruffin breed? Take as a tonic a draught from Judge Hall's "Georgia Scenes" before breakfast, every morning in the week, S. E. Troubled by an attack of the blue devils? Swallow "Don Quixote" and "Hudibras." Discouraged, fearful, about to wilt? Dip into "Davy Crockett," "Xenophon" and "Early Life of Charles II." Happy thoughts will spring from seeds like these and bear an hundred fold. It is genius fighting Satan.

Next, seek genial companions—real live, hearty, healthy human beings—not rowdies, but men who have sense and politeness enough to try to be agreeable. I know a good companionable fellow the moment I get my eyes on him, by a thousand little unmistakable but mostly indescribable signs—by his look, dress, manner—by the twinkle of his eye, the way he wears his hat, the way he holds himself even. The ring of his voice is as the tone of a merry bell of pure metal. His laugh is worth all the millions of dollars the drug stores invest in quack medicines. He is surrounded by an atmosphere teeming with the constituents of life and love and gaiety—the sweet air of enjoyment, which I can sniff and recognize intuitively by the time I get within forty feet of him.

The next best thing is to retain the vivacity of your childhood as long as you can. Don't shut your eyes and steel your heart and affect clean-gone wisdom because it's counted manly to do so by the great majority of dudes. Look! Look upward, outward, everywhere! See what's to be seen and feel what's to be felt. Don't be a dried and withered Solomon before you're twenty-five. Better be a real man with a slight touch of wickedness than a draped and dignified fool. Take the practical Dutchman's view of the case:

"O crown your het mit roses, lofe!
O keep a liddle sprung!
Oonendless wisdom ish but dis:
To get it while you're young!
Und Age vas nefer coom to him,
To him Spring plooms afresh,
Who finds a livin' spirit in
Der Teufel und der Flesh."

And mind what I tell you just here and now: don't get in a habit of fault-finding and criticizing and gambling. If you do, all happy thoughts will very soon be banished as far from you as the East is from the West. Pin this verse from "Reynard the Fox" in the crown of your hat, and repeat it as often as the Moslem says his prayers:

"O, is it not a cruel thing
That there's no end of censuring?
What's good we don't inquire about;
But what is bad we soon find out.
And our delight is to descry
The splinter in our neighbor's eye.
Of this we like to say and sing,
But not to praise a handsome thing."

Pin your faith to all the religion and morality, the churches, lodges and such that inculcate loves to your neighbor and duty to your Creator. *Act* charity; *act* worship. But canting and whining and quoting Scripture by the yard never made happy thoughts in a man.—"Consider the lillies." Why consider them, vulgar utilitarianism would object, seeing that they toil not neither do they spin? But that is the very reason for considering them. They are clothed from above with surpassing beauty, without taking thought for themselves, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever;" and *that* is undeniably to be of some "*rise*" in the world.

Help the poor. Of all the ways to happy thoughts that is the royal road. It is paved with pleasure and strewed with garlands the angels placed there.

Stand up manfully for the right. Don't be a coward and trickle down. Stiff knees and a brave arm here! When the contest is over, you will be hitched to the victor's chariot.

"Fear God and keep His Commandments." *That* is your "whole" duty. And *duty* is synonyonous with *happiness*.

Mt. Vernon, N. C., Feb. 12.

AN ADDING MACHINE.

Contrivance of a Rook-Keeper After Twelve Years' Work.

From the Springfield Republican.

C. G. Spalding, who keeps books for Day & Johnson, has perfected a machine that is designed to aid brother book-keepers or accountants in running up long lines of figures. He has been at work on the invention since 1873, and had the thing patented something like a year ago. The adding machine is being manufactured in parts at New York for him, while he puts the instruments together himself at room 7, No., 345 Main street. The machine is cased in a light wooden box about eight inches square and three deep, and, lifting the cover, the interior is seen to hold an enameled white surface, on which are two dials, and which shows the brass key-board in the lower left-hand corner. The larger dial of the two is on the left of the machine, and is divided into one hundred sections. The rim of the smaller dial is likewise cut into twenty sections. The hand which moves about the first dial is called the unit pointer. That which moves about the smaller one is called the hundreds pointer. A little finger play on the brass keyboard makes the object of the dials anp the reason of the pointer's names quickly understood.

The nine keys on the board are numbered from one to nine, and are placed in regular order, but also in two rows, 2, 4, 6 and 8 being above, and the odd numbers below. The key is a brass upright, and as the finger draws on it, a spring allows it to slip back towards the lower end of the box. The pulling of each key on the board sends the unit pointer along on its journey around the dial as many points as there are units in the number of the key, Pull the 9 key, and the dial set at 0 goes to 9. Pull the same key again, and the unit pointer moves to 18. Pull the 1, 2 and 3 keys now, and the pointer goes consecutively with a hop, skip and a jump to 24. When the unit pointer, keeping up its agile athletics, has reached its starting point again, there is a quick little motion on the right hand dial. The pointer then has "dotted and gone one." The machine's internal clock work is more accurate than any human head can hope to be. It isn't troubled with malaria, nor is it ever larger in the morning than it was the night before. All the accountant has to do is to run his eye up and down the columns, pulling each respective key as he reaches the corresponding figure. A day is sufficient in which to learn the key-board, and the motion of the hand quickly becomes almost involuntary. The expert can run the figures in his head and on the key-board simultaneously, thus "proving" his work by one trip up or down the column. Carrying is performed by setting the pointer at the number to be carried. To set the unit pointer all that is necessary is to hold down key 1 and turn the pointer forward to a number one less than the one carried. On releasing the 1 key the pointer is on the desired number. The hundred pointer can be moved in either direction. The hand easily operates the nine keys, thus: Nos. 1, 2 and 3 with the first finger, 4 and 5 with the second, 6 and 7 with the third, 8 and 9 with the fourth. The inventor claims for the machine unerring accuracy and surprising rapidity, He says an expert can add 240 fiugres a minute with it.

TWO COONS.

A Little Fellows Discription of a Person County Coon Hunt.

Willie T. in Nashville Advocate.

My papa is a preacher in the Virginia Conference. We visited my grandpa in Person county, N. C., two years ago. Papa and my uncle went turkey hunting. They had two dogs—one a setter, and the other a large bull dog. They found two large coons up one tree. Papa wanted brother Ben and I to see the fight; he came after us. We had to pass by a negro's house; papa asked him to go with us; he had a large dog, and wanted to take him. Papa asked him if he could kill a coon; he said Rover was "too much for *any one coon*." So Rover went. We were told where to stand until the tree fell. It stood on the bank of a large creek. when it fell, both coons got in the water. My uncle's dog ran in and got one and brought him to the bank, and after a long fight killed him. But Sam's dog was not so fortunate, for the coon he went for was in deep water. When he got near him, he turned and caught the dog by the nose and carried him down under the water several times. Finally Sam said: "He gwine drown Rover." Papa said: "Rover is too much for any one coon." The weather was cold, but Sam was unwilling to run risk of losing Rover, so he plunged in water up to his neck, got Rover by the feet and pulled them out on the bank—the coon and dog each holding the other. For same time the battle raged, but the coon got the advantage and got back in the water. Papa said, "Sic, Rover, sic." Rover went, but if he had failed iu getting assistance from the shore he would a watery grave. Rover's master went in this time and carried the dog and the coon a hundred yards from the creek, and with the assistance of another dog the coon was finally killed. The two coons weighed twenty-five pounds. Papa tells me to remember Rover, Sam, and the coon, or I may get into deep water.

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