

Vol. XXVIII. - NO. 22. WILMINGTON, N. C. SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1881. WHOLE NO. 4,264

Mr. W. C. Rencher, son of the venerable Hon. Abram Rencher, an alumnus of the University of the class of 1866, and who has resided in Europe six years, has addressed a circular letter to the State Board of Agriculture and Immigration, which meets at Raleigh on Tuesday next. Mr. Rencher presents at length his views and opinions regarding the best means of promoting immigration from Europe. He proposes to the Board:

1st. The establishment of an office and an agency for Europe in London, because it is the best location in respect to Great Britain and Ireland, France and Holland, and it is to those countries we must chiefly look for an income to North Carolina of productive capital and desirable immigrants; and

2d. The appointment by your honorable Board of a Commissioner or Agent of Immigration resident in London, and in charge of said office.

He says this office need not cost more than \$500 a year. The printed matter to be distributed abroad to be sent from North Carolina. Mr. Rencher enforces his views at large. They deserve consideration at least. It may prove a more advantageous investment than the agency the Board now has in England. Mr. Rencher insists that his plan is the most effective and the cheapest. Then try it, we say, for it cannot do less well than the old system has done.

Don Cameron, the red-headed Senator from Pennsylvania, got excited a day or two ago and shook his fist at Ben. Hill. If he wishes for some one to "tread on the tail of me coat" we hope he will be gratified. It is said some of the Northern Radicals are showing bad temper. They will not make any more in that game than they have in making terms with the Virginia midget. Bullying never paid yet when Southern men were to be dealt with. Here is the State's account of the Cameron circus.

"Everybody looked solemn or excited. But when Don Cameron suddenly jumped to his feet as if his neighbor—Gorham—had stuck a needle through the chair bottom and with angry voice and threatening manner interrupted Hill with the exclamation, 'What do you mean by that?' the galleries broke into a broad grin. All eyes turned quickly toward the Pennsylvania Senator, who dropped back into his seat when Hill merely glanced at him and said he was only dealing with the Senator from Virginia. Nobody knows what stirred up the hot-headed Don, but he is reported to have said that he didn't think it was right to let Mahone be imposed upon by everybody."

Bishop Lyman confirmed three persons at Hartford, two at Newburg Chapel, and three at Elizabeth City, the last closed.

Enfield Sentinel: Charlie Sykes, a little son of Mr. Clinton Sykes, aged nine years, was killed by the passing of a train, and so badly injured that he died Monday morning.

Winston Leader: "What is friendship?" asks the Whitehall Times. It is a station on the N. W. N. C. Railroad. Winston is fascinated over foot-ball. It is reported that Col. James Martin, a young and enjoyed with great brilliancy.

Rutherford City Economist: But a new era is dawning for Edenton. Two railroad lines, strong and stalwart, are "knocking at the outside gate" and seeking an alliance with its beautiful harbor. The R. C. & N. Railroad and the Suffolk & Albemarle Railroad are both seeking a terminus at Edenton Bay. Welcome them both. Let them both strike the Sound at this point and Edenton will soon become the pride of the Albemarle, a railroad centre, a busy mart of trader work, Washington county items: Our people have spruce culture on the brain ever since this spring, and every man that has had suitable is planting this week. Fishermen are striving hard, but taking in fish slowly, owing to the high winds and low tides. They command a good price. Shad 75 cents per pair; Herrings \$1.50 per hundred.

The steamer Orion is running a daily mail from Edenton to Winton, where Charles Pettigrew, of Collins Lake region, we learn, has 430 acres planted in rice this season.

Goldboro Messenger: The dwelling of E. W. Melvin, in Turbull township, Bladen county, together with kitchen and dining room furniture, were consumed by fire on the 6th inst. Notwithstanding all the efforts that were made the fire, driven by a strong wind from the house, communicated to fencing and entered a pine fence where it burned about 1,000 acres of boxed lumber before it could be stopped and only then by coming to a swamp. Mr. Melvin had no insurance. Several others shared a loss in the burning loss.

Thos. W. Swan, Esq., has some fine cattle, among them an Arabian, a splendid specimen of cattle. With a young calf her average is six gallons of milk a day. Mr. Swan realized from her in one month 1,100 pounds of milk, and as much as twelve and a half cents for each quart. The surprising Geo. Allen, Esq., sets up the following claims for the city of Newbern: One cotton factory, one wood plate mill, plow factory, plug tobacco and cigar factory, two foundries, three machine shops, boiler works, saw mills, three grist mills, steam cotton gins, candy manufactory, clothing establishments, rice mill, marine railway, brick yard, box factory and broom factory, employing to about four hundred operatives.

Raleigh News-Observer: The machinery law passed by the late General Assembly, for the collection of taxes, creates changes in the manner of selling property levied on for non-payment of taxes. The provisions of the law are such as to bid off the property for the county, unless there be individual bidders. Formerly the property in such cases was bid off for the State. As the county is made responsible for the non-payment of taxes, it is not reasonable to expect that property-owners can be shown as much leniency as formerly.

The following will show the state of the thermometer, at the stations named, at 3.00 P. M. yesterday, Washington mean time, and also the amount of rainfall in inches for the twenty four hours ending daily at 3 P. M., except Tuesday, when it is 48 hours, as furnished by Sergeant James W. Watson, Signal Officer at this Station:

Table with columns: Station, Temp., R. F., Weather. Includes stations like Atlanta, Augusta, Charleston, Charlotte, Columbia, etc.

The following are the indications for the South Atlantic States to-day: Stationary or higher barometer and temperature and westerly winds and fair weather.

Absence of Mind. The absence of mind under certain circumstances, which is so characteristic of so many of the human family, is seldom more aptly illustrated than it was in the case of a certain prominent member of the legal fraternity of the city a few days ago.

The Magnolia Murder. Chief of Police Brock received a "postal" yesterday morning from Magnolia, Duplin county, in regard to the murder alluded to in our last, stating that one Handy Bass killed Adam Bass and escaped, and requesting that a lookout should be kept by the officers here for the murderer. He is described as being about 30 years old, five feet high, of a dark complexion and of a sullen, downcast appearance.

Since the above was written we had a visit from Mr. A. J. Groves, who arrived here Thursday night to watch the trains, who gives us fuller particulars of the murder. Adam and Handy Bass were half brothers, the former aged 34 and the latter 30, as already stated. A feud had existed between them for the past three months about a colored girl whom they were both in the habit of visiting. On Wednesday night last, Adam Bass, who was at work with Mr. Charles Matthews on the Magnolia section of the W. & W. R. R., went to the house of the girl, about one mile from Magnolia. About 9 o'clock Handy Bass also arrived there, and commenced cursing and abusing Adam. The latter finally told Handy he understood he was going to shoot him, upon which Handy, with an oath, replied that he did intend to do so. Adam then caught hold of Handy, when the latter drew a razor and flashed it across his throat, cutting it from ear to ear, and then fled. Adam, accompanied by the girl, started immediately for Magnolia to get the services of a physician, but the wounded man gave out when about half way. He was taken to a house near by, and Drs. McMillan and Devane were summoned to his bed side. There was no help for the poor fellow, however, and he breathed his last in about one and a half or two hours after the wounds were inflicted.

Mr. Groves stated that the affair created great excitement in and about Magnolia, and that Deputy Sheriff Mathis, with a posse of about twelve or fifteen men, scoured the country a round about all day Thursday in search of the murderer. He has a brother living here, and also one in South Carolina. Up to the time of the murder he worked with Mr. Alfred Hollingsworth, in Magnolia.

Major Charles M. Steadman, Wilmington, N. C.: DEAR SIR:—The heated contest over the bill for the relief of farmers and fishermen has excited much interest and widespread attention. It marks you anew as a man of the people and for the people. The bold stand you have taken in this matter of delivery, the very efficient and signal service you have rendered in breaking down the monopoly of the new Market House organization of Wilmington, and thus standing by the rights of labor and securing for farmers and fishermen the benefits of a free market, endears you still more to the producers and industrial classes, and excites the thanks of the people of Fender. As some evidence of this general appreciation, we are authorized to tender you a public dinner at Burgaw on an early day. Please notify us of your acceptance of this cordial invitation to meet, socially and around the festive board, the people of our new county. Very truly, your friends, W. S. Larkins, Daniel Shaw, Jas. W. Westbrook, E. Porter, R. O. Cowan, P. Montague, Geo. F. Lucas, John D. Powers, James H. Moore, G. F. Walker, Geo. A. Ramsey, L. P. Bell, James Garrison, S. S. Sachwell, T. H. W. McIntire, April 13, 1881.

GENTLEMEN:—I arrived in the city last night after an absence of more than a week, and found your very kind letter awaiting me. It will account for the long delay of my answer. I wish it were possible for me to accept an invitation, so courteously extended, and so grateful to me in its terms and spirit. But I cannot make an engagement to be with you on an early day, being unable to forego with any certainty that I can keep it. I have never received such kindliness from the entire people of Fender county, and am deeply sensible of the renewed expression of their regard. It is always pleasant to have the approval of one's own conscience; it is still more pleasant when to that is added the approval of friends. I should not have hesitated, however, in my consent upon this Market House question, had I been deserted by my very friend and neighbor. Knowing full well, as I thought, the meaning of the contract which was sought to be enforced against the people of this city and the surrounding country, realizing that its terms were manifestly wrong and unjust, I should have been a traitor to the people amongst whom I live, and a coward unworthy of their confidence, had I hesitated. The contract, with the ordinances intended to enforce it, which I think were destroyed by the Supplemental Act, drafted by myself, was not in my opinion compatible with the rights of a people living under our great Republic. The cry raised by its advocates, that the Act interfered with the police and sanitary regulations of the city of Wilmington, was but the flatter of the rights of the citizen, and freedom of thought and freedom of speech upon public matters, as far as is consistent with the feelings and rights of others, are guaranteed to all citizens in this country. 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