

State Library

Spirits Turpentine. Agricultural Congress meets in Raleigh in June.

Table with 2 columns: Term (1 Year, 6 Months, 3 Months, 1 Month, 3 Weeks, 2 Weeks, 1 Week) and Price.

Post Office Money Orders may be obtained in all the cities, and in many of the large towns. We consider them perfectly safe, and the best means of remitting fifty dollars or less.

Subscription Price.

The subscription price of the WEEKLY STAR is as follows: Single Copy 1 year, postage paid, \$1.50; 6 months, 1.00; 3 months, .50.

Both old and new subscribers may be included in making up Clubs.

At the above prices the WEEKLY STAR is, we think, the cheapest paper in the State, and its circulation will be doubled in twelve months, if those who have worked for its success in the past will increase their efforts in the future.

THAT 'CONFEDERATE KING.'

The Washington Republican - Falstaff, divested of the element of humor, of the press in this country - says that "the man who does not see that a military ring, composed of ex-Confederate officers, is successfully at work in the South gaining control of the Democratic party, is simply blind."

In this State, as an accomplished Virginia contemporary has noticed, only one Senator was in the Confederate service. We believe only one of Georgia's able Senators was in the army, certainly only one was prominent in that service.

No, the words of the Radical organ are a vile slander, and deserving of the reprobation of the better sort of Northern journals and people. The charge that there is any desire on the part of ex-Confederate army officers to unduly control the action of the Democratic party is utterly preposterous, and were it not calculated to do this section hurt in some quarters would be matter only for a contemptuous smile.

DEATH OF JUDGE WOODWARD.

An Atlantic cable dispatch from Rome announces the decease in that city Monday of the distinguished Pennsylvania lawyer and jurist, Hon. George W. Woodward. He was on a tour of recreation, Judge Woodward's distinction as a lawyer and Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, and his prominence in political affairs for more than thirty years are well known. He was a leading Democrat of the best school.

CIRCUMVENTING THE HEATHEN CHINESE.

We have just read of an ingenious way in which the San Franciscans keep even with the Chinese. The similarity of names among them gives an abundant opportunity for fraud in the payment of taxes. It is said that in the collection of poll-taxes there has always been a good deal of difficulty in preventing the transfer of receipts from one Chinaman to another, whereby a single receipt is made to do duty several times over. For the purpose of detecting and frustrating this imposition one of the assessors has devised a system of marking receipts when they are issued to Chinamen in such a way as to indicate the prominent external characteristics of the man's physique.

SIX MILES ABOVE SEA.

Mount Everest, of the Himalaya range, has been regarded for a long while as the highest mountain on the earth. But if Captain J. A. Lawson, who has recently published a book of travels, is to be believed, there is a peak still more elevated. He claims to have taken the altitude of a mountain in New Guinea, and found it to be 32,783 feet, which is more than 3,500 feet higher than Everest. It rises from a plain only 2,000 feet above the ocean level. This is a remarkable fact - if a fact - and shows that we are not far from reaching the limit of geographical and physical research, for the whole island where this monster peak is situated has not been explored and other lands in the vast Southern Ocean, not to speak of Interior Africa, remain a sealed book to the explorer.

NOTHING CENTENNIAL.

It is pleasant in these memorial days to find that many of the States, and very many of the prominent counties and cities of such States, have each some prominent Revolutionary event to commemorate. It is the period of Centennials. Fayetteville will probably celebrate the 21st of June approaching, as on that day one hundred years ago, according to the authentic records of the ancient borough, certain sterling patriots assembled, in the words of the Gazette of that city, "to declare their devotion to liberty, their hatred of tyranny and their determination to throw off British rule."

NORTHWESTERN WHEAT CROP.

Crop reports of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Iowa indicate that from one-fourth to one-third of the crop of winter wheat has been killed, but that has been nearly offset by the increased area of cultivation. The spring wheat promises to bring the whole product up to the average. About one-fourth of last year's crop remains in the hands of farmers. The amount of corn being put in this year greatly exceeds that of last year.

The Baltimore Gazette wants a suitable short name for one who follows the literary profession.

"Litterateur" is not English; "man of letters" is cumbersome; and "writer" expresses too much or too little. The Gazette remarks that "as to a generic title for his profession, a literary man is a 'Pariah,' and asks, 'Who will invent the right designation?'"

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES F. HARRIS.

It is a mournful fact to chronicle, and we write the words with sad heart, that the festive week of the Editorial Convention should close with the death of one of the brightest of the fraternity. At six minutes past eleven o'clock last night, in his room at the Parrell House, died Mr. Charles F. Harris, editor of the State Agricultural Journal of Raleigh and of the Concord Sun. On Tuesday at both sessions of the Press Convention Mr. Harris remained more than his usual five or six days. His many witty sayings kept the body much of the time in a state of hilarious excitement. On Wednesday Mr. Harris went down the river with the other excursionists on the steamer Raleigh. He was taken violently ill soon after his return and was carried to his room at the Parrell House, where every kind of attention was bestowed upon him by Colonel J. H. Davis, the proprietor, and his assistants. On Saturday morning at 10 o'clock he was able to get up and walk up and down his room, remarking that he felt a great deal better. Said he though he was able to get home. Asked the servant in attendance if he did not have a little fever. The reply was, "Yes, sir." Dr. M. J. DeRoset was sent for. The patient getting rapidly worse, Dr. DeRoset called Dr. J. F. King in consultation. At 9 o'clock P. M. Mr. Harris' case had become critical, and the attending physicians resorted to the strongest remedies. He had been suffering from congestion of the lungs, but later in the evening a more malignant form of disease seized upon him. An extravasation of blood in the brain, in the patient's exhausted condition, retarded his recovery hopeless, and at the time above specified he quietly breathed his last. For some minutes his pulse beats had become fainter and fainter.

When the end of our brother in the craft came there were thick clouds over the face of the sky, but the bright lines of moonlight shone athwart them, and in his light he passed.

During his illness Mr. Harris was faithfully and kindly attended, and nothing that could be procured for his comfort was withheld. The Masonic fraternity, of which he was a useful member, have charge of his remains, which await the disposition of mourning relatives and friends.

Charles F. Harris was forty-two years of age. We think he was a native of Cabarrus county. We know nothing of his life anterior to his going into the profession of journalism some three years ago. He founded the Concord Sun, a weekly newspaper, which soon acquired a reputation for good humor in its local department. Its editor was often alluded to by his contemporaries of the State press as "the Mark Twain of North Carolina." He was certainly considerable as a wit, his fun taking the broad form of humor and burlesque. Two or three of his best effusions are still remembered by the fraternity. In this portion of the State he was little known personally. A few months ago he was called to Raleigh to succeed Mr. Johnston Jones on the editorial staff of the State Agricultural Journal. He was a warm and enthusiastic Granger, and worked zealously for the new order of Patrons of Husbandry. Out of its proper place we must state that he undertook the publication some two or two and a half years ago of a Masonic organ called the Bright Mason, which he conducted with credit. The paper was printed only a short while when it was discontinued, having been merged with another. Mr. Harris was a member, as we have said, of the North Carolina Press Association. In that body there was personally perhaps no more popular man. His bonhomie, infinite jest and general playfulness won and retained friends. Charles Harris will be affectionately remembered by all of us for his good nature and fine traits of character. Peace to his ashes! God rest his manly spirit!

A Curious Old Book and its History.

The Centennial furor gives to everything a hundred years old or thereabouts a heightened interest. There is an ancient book in the possession of a lady of this city which has a worn and battered appearance. The leaves are brown with the years and use it has seen. The work, which is a small 16 mo. with oaken lids, bears the responsible title: "A Book of Knowledge." It was presented by a Gipsy chief to Dr. Wm. E. Henderson, of Granville county, son of the revered Chief Justice Henderson of the Supreme Court of the State, as a reward for curing him of a severe fever. It is stated that the Doctor had conscientious scruples about accepting a Gipsy's money, and that the Chief being too proud or grateful to allow the physician's services to go unpaid forced him to take the book as a gift, remarking that no amount of money could have purchased it. The volume was presented from Dr. H. to the lady. The title page says: "Written by Ezra Pater, a Jew Doctor in Astronomy and Physics, born in Bethany, near Mt. Olivet, in Judea; made English by W. Lilly, Student in Physics and Astrology." Many of the terms and proper names are of Arabic origin, and the mind is incessantly turned to contemplations of the days when the old south-seer drew his inspiration on the plains of Chaldea from profound study, of "the hosts of heaven," the star-gemmed canopy above us.

War Melts.

We are informed that Col. Charles R. Jones, of the Charlotte Observer, carried to Charlotte this morning, three large brass buttons, which were gathered upon the battlefield at Guilford Court House many years ago, and which from appearance undoubtedly formed a part of the uniform of the British gendai of that day. They are to be placed on exhibition at the coming celebration. The same gentleman has also succeeded in getting the history of a battle flag, which was carried by Company "G" of the 12th United States Infantry during the war with Mexico. The flag is to be carried in the procession which is expected to take place on the 20th, and is valuable only for its history. It was presented to Lieut. Chas. R. Jones, of Fayetteville, afterwards Gen. Charles R. Jones, of Iredell, in 1846, and carried by his company in the memorable campaign of Gen. Lane's command, from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, in 1847. It proudly waved over the American forces at the battle of "National Bridge," "Himantla," "Atlixco," "Perote," "Jalapa," and other places, and is deemed a proper object to appear in any procession which has for its object the due celebration of the glory of the nation.

Wilmington Retail Market.

The following prices ruled yesterday: Apples, (dried) 12 1/2 cents per pound; dried peaches 95 cents per pound; walnuts, 25 cents per peck; pickles, 20 cents per dozen; lard, 20 cents per pound; butter, 40 1/2 cents per pound; cheese, 35 cents per pound; grown fowls 90 1/2 cents a pair; geese 81 1/2 per pair; beef 10 1/2 per 100 lbs; corn, 12 1/2 cents per bushel; mutton, 12 1/2 cents per pound; ham, 10 1/2 cents per pound; shoulders, 12 1/2 cents per pound; tripe, 30 cents per bunch; clams, 25 cents a peck; open clams, 20 1/2 cents a quart; soup bunch, 5 cents; eggs, 18 1/2 cents a dozen; sturgeon, 25 cents a chunk (5 lbs); potatoes, Irish, 50 cents a peck; sweet 25 cents; fish-trout 25 cents per bunch; mullets, 10 cents per bunch; turkeys, 10 cents a bunch; onions, 50 cents a peck; cabbages 10 1/2 cents a head; Bologna 30 cents a pound; lard, 20 cents per pound; hogs head cheese, 20 cents a pound; New River oysters 51 1/2 a gallon; Round cod, 80 cents a gallon; wild ducks 50 1/2 cents a pair; radishes, 50 cents a bunch; lettuce, 5 cents a head; parsley, 5 cents a bunch; onions, 5 cents a bunch; carrots, 5 cents a pound; rice, 12 1/2 cents a quart.

Man Killed.

We understand that a man was killed by being run over by the down train on the Carolina Central Railroad yesterday evening. It seems that as the train was approaching Lumberton, a white man was seen walking upon the railroad track. The whistle was repeatedly blown but the man instead of leaving the track fled about and allowed himself to be run over. Both his legs were cut off and other injuries inflicted, which caused death in a short time after wards. It is thought to have been a case of deliberate suicide or else that the deceased was intoxicated. His name is not given.

Suppression of Stamps.

The government strikes out in the right direction when it begins to squelch humbuggery. The stock of a cigar manufacturing firm was forfeited in New York on Monday on account of their using counterfeit account-house stamps to defraud. They had invented the account-house stamp for the purpose of inducing the belief that their cigars were imported.

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Important Suit Decided.

The following we take from the Raleigh Watchman regarding the decision of an important case. The defendants are both well known to this community: "Ed Perry, Plaintiff, against E. R. Brink and L. G. Cook, Defendants." "This case, which has been litigated for about nine years, and which has attracted considerable attention from the public, was brought to trial the second week of our Superior Court. The case had been previously tried in the county of Davidson, but the jury failing to agree, a mistrial was ordered, and the case removed, upon the affidavit of the plaintiff, to the Superior Court. A large number of witnesses were examined on each side, and three days consumed in the investigation and trial of this case. The testimony developed the fact that the store house of the plaintiff, which was then occupied by the defendants, as merchants, caught fire from the Court House, and its proximity to the latter building rendered all efforts to save it fruitless and unavailing. "During the progress of the case both Perry, the plaintiff, and Brink, one of the defendants, were placed upon the witness stand, and proved themselves gentlemen of unexceptionable character. Besides the matter of dollars and cents involved in the controversy, the character of the defendants was at issue, as one of the allegations of the plaintiff was that the defendants, being insured to a large amount, had maliciously set fire to the store house in the hope of gain. The jury, after the charge of His Honor, retired for a few minutes, and returned a verdict for the defendants, thereby vindicating their characters and exonerating them from all blame in the premises. There was a distinguished array of legal talent on either side, the plaintiff being represented by J. M. Clement, Esq., F. C. Robbins, Esq., and our worthy Representative in Congress, the Hon. W. M. Robbins; and the defendants by the Hon. J. M. Leach, Hon. Burton Craig, and Wm. H. Bailey, J. M. McCorkle, and Luke Blackmer, Esq. It is not often that we see so many gentlemen of the bar, who have hitherto occupied prominent public positions, engaged in the trial of the same cause."

Fourth Letter of ex-Secretary McCulloch.

The fourth letter of ex-Secretary McCulloch appears in the New York Tribune of Saturday, and is devoted to the debt of France by way of illustrating the practical results of standing armies. At the outbreak of the Franco-German war the debt of France was about \$2,700,000,000, and by the expenses of that war and the payment of the indemnity it was raised to a sum more than equal to twice the present debt of the United States. The second empire had more than doubled the debt as it stood in 1859, although it had been engaged in no expensive wars, the explanation for which is only found in the fact that France when not engaged in war has been, as she is now, preparing for war, and that all her previous governments have "lacked the nerve to raise by taxation the revenues which have been required to cover necessary expenditures." The present government has made "a good start in the right direction" in the latter respect. The standing army, says Mr. McCulloch, has been at the bottom of all the financial troubles in France, and it is her standing army and the standing armies of other countries that menace the peace of Europe. He holds it to be an absurd supposition that armies are necessary to preserve peace, and declares that they mean war and nothing else. He regards Germany as the great military power of Europe, and that her organization is so far mightier than that of France that she will always be more than a match for France in war. But France, he says, is "superior to Germany in the excellence of her soil, the variety of her productions, and in the taste, the skill, and refinement of her people," and that her aim should be to excel all nations in the arts of peace. This she now does to a great extent, and would do so in a still greater degree if she would get over the delusion that she must become again the great war power of Europe. An American in Europe, adds Mr. McCulloch, finds much to learn from the older nations, but sees nothing to lessen his regard for his own country, and there is nothing more gratifying to him than the fact that the United States have no standing army and are paying their debt.

The Pulpit and the Stage.

In his sermon at the funeral of Mrs. Conway, the actress, the Rev. Dr. Nye, addressing the members of the dramatic profession present, said: "It is not my desire or purpose to address, at any length, at least, the large and intelligent class of women and men represented here, identified with the profession to which she belonged. They come in honor to her memory, come as her friends and the friends of the family, to condole with these afflicted ones and to aid in these funeral rites. For my own part I see no necessary antagonism between the stage and the pulpit, between the drama and the church. This human life is not for work only, but for play, and there will be, ought to be, music, art, mirth, pleasure, while the world shall stand. In your view the world needs the drama, the stage. Well, it is not fitting in me to ask you here to-day to remember this good woman and her husband, who strove to redeem and elevate the stage, and beg that you will strive by your presence and united influence to make it what purity and temperance, and morality and religion demand?"

And one other thought.

If the world needs the stage, does not the world and the stage need the church - need the Christ whom the good God has sent to heal and love the world? We must all meet temptations. Duties are pressing on us every hour; and don't we need faith in invisible and eternal things? We must all meet death, and can we meet sorrow and death - you and I - without faith in God and without hope in the immortal life? May we all so live that when our human work and play are over, and we come to the shore of the river which lies between us and the eternal home, we may be able calmly to say, "Thanks, Amen."

A Lively Time in the New York Stock Exchange.

When the New York Chamber of Commerce held their annual election on Thursday last there were two tickets in the field, and the steady old merchants, who had all their lives been accustomed to only one, thought there were lively times, but stock exchange brokers more than discounted the political spirit of the chamber by putting six sets of candidates up for votes in their election on Monday. Ten days ago the committee especially appointed to make nominations reported a ticket called the regular, from which the different cliques made five splits, the independent, the conservative, the compromise, the Tammany and Old Guard. The bogus vote was the largest ever cast in exchange - 700 voted. George W. McLean, independent candidate was elected by 398 over John T. Denny, who received 355.

The Government strikes out.

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The Charlotte Methodist church has a new three hundred dollar bell.

Mr. B. D. Blalock is announced as Local reporter of the Charlotte Stage. Hillsboro has no person by the name of Smith in her entire population. The Messenger says Goldsboro pea growers are making heavy shipments this week North.

The festival of the Hillsboro ladies is aid of the Centennial turned out \$34.45.

The Raleigh News, sturdily advocating the project of building a cotton factory in that city. H. Clay Waler, Esq., of Davidson county, shot himself severely in the thigh with a gun on last Sunday. U. S. Circuit Court meets in Raleigh on the first Monday of June, Judges Bond and Brooks presiding. Capt. Samuel A. Ashe delivered the Memorial address at Raleigh, which had been postponed until Wednesday.

The old and abandoned colored sexton of the Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, Moses Vainant, is dead.

A printer attempted to commit suicide in Lexington on last Saturday by cutting his throat with a razor. The Grand Lodge of Mechanics for the State of North Carolina will meet at Stoneville, Pamlico county, on the 17th inst. The Graham Gleaner sagely remarks that no better magazine for North Carolinians can be found than Our Living and Our Dead.

At a county meeting in Hyde county on the 11th, Col. Wm. S. Carter was nominated as a delegate to the Constitution Convention.

Mr. W. D. Cooke, of Raleigh, has been tendered a position of importance in the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Staunton, Va.

The "Centennial Book" containing Gov. Graham's Memoir, and other important matter, is out from the presses of E. J. Hale & Son.

Capt. Tom Evans has just received a call with the offer of a handsome salary from the abt. journal in Mississippi, says the Milton Chronicle.

Last evening Gen. Cissman was to have delivered his lecture on "Science and Christianity," at Charlotte, for the benefit of the Centennial.

Bishop Lyman, assisted by Rev. W. S. Pettigrew, of Henderson, dedicated, last week, a neat little Episcopal Church on the Gosport road, eleven miles from Oxford.

Our condolences are tendered to the Vadesboro Herald on the death of its local editor, which sad event occurred at the residence of his father in Anson county on the 8th inst.

Wilson Advance: Miss Avy Broadstreet, of this county, near Black Creek, died on Monday last, aged 90 years. She was highly respected and esteemed by her neighbors.

An article more than three columns long on the legal aspects of the Grange controversy, appears in the Raleigh News from the pen of that able lawyer, Hon. D. F. Moore.

Aurora: In Rutherford county on Sunday, the 1st, John Goforth struck Joseph Kennedy on the forehead with a rock, knocking him senseless for sometime. Liquor the cause of the difficulty.

Raleigh News: We regret to learn that the large saw mill situated near Washington, and owned by Dr. McAllum, of this city, was destroyed by fire on last Thursday. There was no insurance.

The same Mr. J. H. Livesay, who has previously attempted suicide, tried again to take his life in Greensboro. He was demented. Mr. Livesay is a printer about 60 years of age, and is a very worthy man.

The beautiful Memorial Address of Capt. Samuel T. Williams, delivered at Wilson on the 16th, appears in the Advance of yesterday. The speaker was introduced by Jno. W. Blount, Esq. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Primrose.

Wilson Plain Dealer: We believe the feeling in our party is generally hopeful, perhaps confident of a successful result, but it will be well to avoid being over-confident, as that might cause apathy and indifference.

Raleigh News: We feel as assured of the triumph of our party in the ensuing election as we can of anything yet in the future, but if we are so foolish as to yield to an overweening confidence and go glibly into the contest then we are liable to be a victim to all the evils that such folly is heir to.

A correspondent at Elkton, Md., advises the Baltimore Sun that Abram Alexander, John McNeill Alexander and Ephraim Brevard, signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and leaders of the movement, were natives of Cecil county, Md., where many of their descendants now reside.

Weldon News: "It is stated in some of our exchanges that Hon. M. W. Ransom, of Weldon, will read the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence at the Charlotte Centennial. We hear from the General himself that this is a mistake - his health not being sufficiently good to allow him to participate in the Centennial." We regret this, as the Senator is of fine presence and is a splendid orator.

Richmond Enquirer: We are glad to hear that our friends from the Carolina friends in celebrating the Mecklenburg Centennial, in which case Virginia will be well represented, as a company will be present from Norfolk, another from Petersburg, and we suppose the Danville and Lynchburg military will also be on hand. This is as it should be, and our sister State will be doubly gratified by the interest we manifest in this object so dear to her heart.

Musical Information.

[New York Correspondence Charleston News.]

It is announced that during the next autumn three great singers will visit these shores with the view of reviving our taste for opera and extracting our shekels. The first and most illustrious of these is Madame Tietjens, the only one of the first-class prima donnas dominating the European lyric stage who has not been in America. She comes at a cost to her manager of not less than that which was paid by Strakosky for Nilsson.

The other acquisition will be Madame Fesha-Lentner, whose phenomenal voice burst upon the astonished ears of the Americans at the Boston Jubilee three years ago, and Herr Wachtel, the great German basso. The latter created an extraordinary sensation during a brief visit to this country in 1872. Madame Peschke-Lentner was under a life contract with a German opera house, but it appears that she has been able to buy her freedom.