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THE WEEKLY STAR.

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DO NOT LEAVE.

We meet often with paragraphs relative to the experiences of those who have left North Carolina. Sometimes we publish them. We are always pained when we see it stated that good citizens have left their native homes in search of fortune abroad. We are satisfied that where one man is benefitted, nine are disappointed. We could give dozens of examples that have come under our own observation during extensive travel through several of the States south of us. We have met scores who did not hesitate to say that they wished they were back in the Old North State. We knew not less than fifty persons to leave one of our counties some years ago. Of the number living now at least three fourths have returned to North Carolina.

We heard a gentleman living in one of our best counties say last summer, that his brother, who removed to Mississippi soon after the war, had visited him a year or two previous, and after going through the old neighborhood and meeting his old friends and seeing how they were prospering, had said in sorrow: "I would be very glad to move back, but my children have grown up in Mississippi, and their associates and friends live there, and they do not, therefore, wish to break up and go among strangers. But, it would be to my interest to come back if I could, for you all are doing very much better than I or my neighbors." This was the judgment of an intelligent, industrious, religious, well-to-do farmer. It is only one of a hundred cases. The moral we would draw is—Remain in North Carolina. If you are industrious, economical and sober you will thrive here if you will thrive anywhere.

We can name a hundred farmers in North Carolina who have made more clear money since the war than you can find in Alabama, or Arkansas, or Texas. Then remember, there are so many things you have to give up if you go away that you will not find farther South. Let us give one striking example.

In a certain county we could name there are two brothers, originally quite poor but now very thrifty. They are excellent farmers. They heard so much of Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas they were quite desirous of going on a prospecting tour. They had no idea of moving from North Carolina without first seeing other States. A Louisianian came into the county to hire negroes for his sugar plantation on the Red River. He secured about 130, and needed two or three white men to take charge of their transportation. The two brothers referred to availed themselves of the opportunity to see the South, and taking charge of the negroes went to Louisiana. They spent two months in travelling thro' portions of Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas, visiting many fertile and favored sections. When they returned their neighbors and acquaintances gathered around them and asked, "What will you do?" The answer was prompt, "We are content to remain where we are. We saw no one during our entire trip who makes as much money to the hand, to the acre or to the horse as we do. We saw no place that offers the same inducements in the way of health, climate, water, church and educational privileges, good citizens, obedience to law, variety of products, and good markets. The two brothers are still at their old homes, and their neighbors are satisfied to remain the balance of their days in staid, honest, modest old North Carolina.

THE WAR.

The war news seems uncertain. At this writing we are unable to say definitely whether Kars has fallen, whether invested, or whether the Russians have been repulsed. It is quite certain that the Russian force in Asia Minor is large and formidable every way. The army before Kars is estimated at 40,000. The one advancing on Erzeroum is estimated at 50,000. The total number of Russians in Asia Minor is put down at 150,000. The probability is that Kars will not be taken at once, if it has not fallen already, but will be invested. In 1828 it was captured by the Russians, but in the Crimean war it was defended bravely by the English under Gen. Williams and the Hungarians under Gen. Kruetz, and was only taken after a two months siege, after starvation had begun its fearful work. Russia is in a far better condition for war now than she was then. Now she has a railroad to the foot of the Caucasus, and a macadamized road over the mountains to Tiflis. Her army of invasion is composed of veterans, and will do good fighting.

Some writers think that Russia's main fighting will be in Asia Minor. We are not prepared to reject or adopt this opinion. The belief is that she is massing slowly a very heavy force on the Danube preparatory to an advance upon the Turkish lines of defence in European Turkey. Possibly, as we said the other day, Russia means to operate heavily in both directions—in European Turkey and in Turkey Asia.

Whether England will hold off is very uncertain. The tone of debate in Parliament, the anxiety of Earl Beaconsfield to precipitate a war, and the utterances of a portion of the press are of a character not to authorize any confident assertion as to the final course of Great Britain. The matter may be determined within a few days.

RUSSIA.

Russia dates back a thousand years in its history. In 1613 the House of Romanof was elected to the throne, and it has continued to rule ever since. Peter the Great was the first very able ruler. Under his reign Russia became a great European empire. Before his day it was regarded as an Oriental Khanate, somewhat tributary to the Khans of Tartary. It had been conquered, and for hundreds of years was a province of Asiatic despots. It was in 1489 that Ivan III. consolidated the various provinces, after repelling the Tartars, it into the Russian monarchy; but it remained for Peter to make it a great power. Since the Crimean war, a little over twenty years ago, great and wonderful changes have taken place. Since that time no less than twenty million of slaves or serfs have been restored to freedom. The present Emperor is an exceedingly able and progressive monarch, and it has been definitely arranged that under his successor Russia is to have a Constitution. For hundreds of years it has been a consolidated despotism, the Emperor's will being supreme.

We will add some information we derive from a high source. Ordinarily in this country the title of the Emperor is written Czar. Wallace, the author of the great work on Russia, says it should be written Tsar. This is the abbreviation of Tsesar, Cæsar or Emperor. You read of Tsarevitch, which means simply a prince or the King's son. Then there are two other perplexing words—Tsesarevitch and Tsesarevna. The former means son of Tsesar or Emperor, and is applied to the eldest son. It corresponds with Prince of Wales in England or Crown Prince in Prussia. The other word—Tsesarevna—means Princess or Consort, and is applied to the wife of the Prince.

Witchcraft is prevailing in portions of Forsyth.

THE CROP PROSPECT IN EUROPE.

The grain crop report for Europe shows that the weather has been unusually cold and unfavorable in England, Holland, Germany and Hungary. The crops have not been damaged, but greatly retarded. In the end this may turn out a blessing if the remainder of the growing season should be favorable. The prospects in France are flattering. The wheat crop of 1876 in India was very large, and a large part of it is still to be delivered. The shipment of wheat to Great Britain for the three months ending with March amounted to 1,334,000 bushels. The new crop for 1877 has been already gathered. Of this crop 1,556,000 bushels have been sold for delivery in May. This fact may have a decided influence in repressing the advance in wheat and flour in the English markets for some time, unless Great Britain declares war.

ENGLAND'S ATTITUDE.

The debate now progressing in the English Parliament is one of intense interest and spirit. The men engaged in it are among the ablest statesmen of this century that has been so prolific in greatness. Mr. Gladstone, the leader of the Liberal party, and the ablest man in England, leads the opposition to the war. The English Cabinet, with Earl Beaconsfield (Mr. Disraeli) at its head, is evidently very much inclined to take sides with the Mussulman. The whole matter is not only of the first importance to Great Britain, but there is not a man, woman or child in the United States whose welfare is not involved more or less. If England is drawn into the war the grain growers and manufacturers of munitions of war will be greatly benefited, but the cotton growers, and corn, wheat and flour buyers in the South will be greatly injured.

Mr. Gladstone has modified his resolutions materially, but as they now stand the sense of the British Parliament will in part be arrived at—whether they will remain strictly neutral, or whether they are for taking sides with the Turk against the Muscovite. The English people are not yet prepared to form an alliance with the butchers of Christians in the Danubian provinces. We rather expect that Mr. Gladstone's modified resolutions will fail in the House of Commons, because their approval would be the overthrow of the present Ministry; but a majority of the English people, we apprehend, are hostile to all Ministerial projects for a foreign war. Gladstone will have a powerful following out of Parliament. The Philadelphia *Record* remarks upon the discussion now pending:

"Whether the intermarriage of a Russian Princess with a British Prince may be reckoned as having any weight upon the British mind in favor of Russia we cannot say; but that there are many reasons for believing that the heart of the British nation is opposed to the Turks is quite evident. All the prejudices of race and religion and the recollection of the Bulgarian and other Turkish atrocities are in Gladstone's favor; and while Beaconsfield may count upon the interests of the English government in the East, and talk of protecting them by opposing Russia, the great mass of the British people will naturally desire the defeat of Turkey. But at present Beaconsfield appears to be strong in Parliament and with the governing classes, and it is not probable that Mr. Gladstone will immediately achieve success in the House of Commons. Nevertheless the debate on his resolutions is a matter of very great interest, and will be watched with great anxiety by the world."

In the debate on Monday Mr. Gladstone made a powerful and aggressive speech. He denounced bitterly the policy pursued by the English Government, and accused the Disraeli Ministry with having deliberately defeated the efforts of Lord Salisbury to compel the Turks to enforce genuine reforms. The Conservatives made strong replies to the assault, and the debate will continue until a vote is reached. Meetings are being held, some to uphold the Ministry, others to sustain Mr. Gladstone.

At St. James' Hall a great meeting was held on Monday night. Mr. Thomas Hughes, M. P., author of "Tom Brown at Rugby," presided. The Dukes of Westminster and Argyle sent letters of sympathy. Resolutions were passed declaring that for England to engage in war which might have the effect of prolonging Turkish rule would be a crime against the world. The meeting separated in disorder, an amendment having been proposed to vote confidence in Mr. Gladstone. An overflow meeting was also held at Trafalgar Square, at which counter-resolutions were proposed expressing confidence in the government and in Mr. Gladstone. It is impossible to say which were carried.

Mr. Gladstone gained a partial triumph in the House by a vote to allow him to move his resolutions with Mr. Trevelyan's amendment. In the course of the debate Mr. Gladstone said:

"He did not intend to move a censure on the government, because he did not see what public interest would be thereby promoted. He did not refrain because he believed them uncensurable, for he knew "no chapter in the history of the last sixty years of our foreign policy so deplorable as that of the last eighteen months." He repeated his former accusations as to Sir Henry Elliot's encouragement of the Turks during the conference. The conference became a farce from the moment Turkey was informed that England would not enforce any decision that might be arrived at. There was a power behind Lord Salisbury which determined he should not succeed, and when the Porte was informed of the fact it drew from the Grand Vizier expressions of gratitude to Lord Beaconsfield. Mr. Layard's mission was another mistake, because Layard is a partisan of Turkey."

We are all concerned in this debate, and we shall watch the conclusion of the matter with deep interest.

SEWING MACHINES.

We referred Thursday to the reduction in the price of sewing machines. We are glad. The various companies have enjoyed a tremendous monopoly and hundreds of thousands of people have been made to pay the most exorbitant prices. The New York *World* gives the cost of a first-class sewing machine, retailed at $70, as but $15, the profit to the manufacturer $13 50, or nearly one hundred per cent.; yet leaving $41 50, or nearly three hundred per cent. to be divided among agents, appropriated to the expenses of sub-agencies, or absorbed in interest and costs of collections. This leaves an opportunity for a reduction of at least one-half, and the public should not be satisfied with less. As a contemporary justly says, sewing machines, instead of depending on the pertinacity of agents, often running into an encroachment on private rights, should become one of the regular articles of trade, and if sold with a fair living profit only, their sale would be largely increased and they would find their way into thousands of families from which their cost has hitherto shut them out.

Thus far prices have fallen but twenty-five per cent. They will come down at least fifty per cent. more, so do not buy now. A hundred dollar machine will be bought for fifty dollars before six months.

The monopoly has been immensely profitable. One company paid eight hundred thousand dollars in ten years for the right to use the "needle-plate." Inventors should be allowed certain privileges, but a strictly useful invention should be entitled to no such great privileges as the sewing machine inventors have had.

THE PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION.

The idea of forming a Permanent Exhibition at Philadelphia is a good one. It will grow, and finally become one of the most attractive places in our country. The magnificent and immense Main Exhibition Building of last year has been purchased or retained, and, located in the grand Central Park, it will be visited annually by tens of thousands of strangers, in addition to the home citizens who will flock to it in large numbers. It was opened on May 10, and ex-President Grant and President Hayes were present on the interesting occasion. The Philadelphia *Press*, referring to the purposes to be served by the Permanent Exhibition, says:

"It is intended to make it a permanent display of progress in every branch of intellectual effort. It will be cosmopolitan in the largest sense of the word. All the nations of the world are invited to associate in its development. Wherever a new invention has been devised promotive of human comfort, conducive to the welfare of humanity, and lessening the cost of living and the difficulties of existence, it can best be brought to general notice through the medium of this Exhibition. It will be a Temple of Janus ever open, where the arts of peace will be cultivated and honored, and where the fraternity of men of all races and religions will be recognized. It will be a temple of art, of industry, and of science, where all men can bring their offerings and lay them on a common shrine. The East and the West, the Saxon and the Latin, the Mongolian and the African, will find a welcome within its spacious precincts."

The war continues in the East but without any startling developments recently. Russian and Turk are preparing for the struggle. After a little while the skirmishing at long taw will cease, and then they will begin the death grapple. Russia is massing slowly a large force, but in the meantime Poles and Circassians are meditating revolution at home, so the Czar is threatened in rear whilst he is threatening in front.

CHRISTIAN UNION.

Within the last few years there has been happily a tendency among Christian denominations to unite the different branches of the same family. Already some two or three fusions have taken place. At present there are ministers and laymen from some ten or twelve States in session at Baltimore, representing the Northern Methodist Church and the Methodist Protestant Church, who are considering the possibilities and basis of a re-union of the two bodies. As far as we are informed the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church has no representative in the Convention. The questions that caused the separation in the South, and led to the formation of a Methodist Protestant Church, were chiefly, if not entirely, the Superintendency or Episcopacy, the office of Presiding Elder, and lay representation. The last question has been removed from all possible controversy, as the M. E. Church years ago adopted it as a part of its polity.

The Late Atrocious Murder in Duplin County.

Speaking of the late atrocious murder in Duplin, spoken of by the STAR a few days ago, the Magnolia *Record* says: "Alexander McCullough, a negro man, living at Hallsville, in this county, was found buried beneath a compost heap in the field of David E. Sandlin, of that place, on the 3d inst. His remains were found about two feet beneath the surface of the earth, under the manure heap. A new rope was around his neck and one side of his face and head broken in. The coroner held an inquest, and the jury returned a verdict that the deceased was murdered by David E. Sandlin, Faison Sandlin and Levi Parker."

Great excitement was created by the mysterious disappearance of the murdered man and the subsequent finding of his body. The Sandlins and Parker, the former of whom had been previously much esteemed in the community, have fled. Parker is a colored man. The difficulty which culminated in the death of McCullough grew out of alleged improper relations with the murdered man's wife on the part of David E. Sandlin. The Sandlins are both young men.

More Feats of Marksmanship.

Mr. A. Giles, of Giles' Mills, Sampson county, having noticed the specimens of marksmanship which have appeared in the STAR, thinks he can go one better, especially on snakes, as he says he can prove by the best of witnesses that he killed nineteen of the "varmints" at one shot.

Mr. Durant Rhodes, of Onslow county, who was in this city yesterday, says that in 1875 he killed three deer at one discharge of an ordinary shot-gun. They were approaching him in a narrow hog path and he shot at the foremost one, the other two being entirely hidden from his view. In three successive drives after this he killed six deer, or two at each shot, and during the year the amount of venison slaughtered by him footed up seventeen hundred pounds.

Personal and Ecclesiastical.

Rev. G. D. Bernheim, of St. Paul's Evang. Lutheran Church, has returned from Synod and will fill his pulpit as usual to-morrow.

Mr. Bernheim leaves for Europe on Monday next, where he will remain about four months. He goes principally for the benefit of his health, but he also has an appointment from the Lutheran Synod of North Carolina, to examine into the church government of the Lutheran church in Germany, with a view of introducing the office of Superintendents in this State, a position similar to that of the Bishop of other Protestant churches.

Rev. F. P. Cook will fill Mr. B.'s place during his absence.

The Shooting and Subsequent Capture of One of the Alleged Duplin County Murderers.

Levi Parker *alias* Levi Cox, colored, one of the party alleged to have been complicated in the murder of Alex. McCullough, colored, in Duplin county, alluded to in this paper, has been captured. The circumstances leading to his arrest are as follows: On the morning of Thursday, the 10th inst., Parker called at the residences of Mr. R. H. Brown in the neighborhood of Hallsville, Duplin county, near where the murder took place, and requested to see that gentleman. Mr. Brown asked Parker to walk in, and he was about to do so, when he discovered the presence in the room of another party in the person of Mr. S. D. Farrior, upon which he (Parker) darted from the door and ran off at full speed. Mr. Brown seized a gun near at hand and shouted to the fugitive to stop, and, upon his failing to do so, fired upon him, but with what effect he was unable to judge. Parker continued his flight, but Messrs. Brown and Farrior did not pursue. Subsequently, however, the fugitive was discovered in a neighboring field by a colored man by the name of David Cox, said to be a relative of Parker, when it was found that he was badly wounded between the shoulders, though the hurt is thought not to be of a dangerous character. The facts of the fearful tragedy in which he is thought to have acted a part will probably now be brought to light.

Senator Bruce, colored, of Mississippi, has been interviewed, and he says that he shall not oppose the President's policy so long as he believes, as he now does, that the desire in pacifying the South is to open for the colored man that era of quiet best adapted to his mental and material development. The Senator says that "Southern governments supported by Federal bayonets are out of the question."

The President and the South.

[Col. A. K. McClure in the Phila. Times.]

Those who dream the dream of separating President Hayes from the Republican party will have only dreams for their hire. He starts South as did Tyler and Fillmore and Johnson in one regard—his policy offends the more Radical partisan elements of the organization that elected him; but there is one controlling distinction that destroys all analogy between him and them. They sought to build up a personal following with the succession in view, while Hayes is resolute in his purpose not to be considered a candidate for re-election, and he desires no political combination that would make him self its central figure. He will part reluctantly with the support of Republicans who shall choose to alienate themselves from the measures of his administration; he will welcome all, of every faith, who sustain his official acts on their merits, and he will bargain with none and surrender to none, touching his patronage or his policy. To give the whole country repose from the passions of war; to give the South government and thrift in exchange for debauchery and desolation; to elevate the tone and the aim of public authority on every hand; to make public officers public servants instead of arrogant masters, and to arrest profligacy and plunder in their riotous reign—these are, I believe, the honest aims of the President; and if he shall but be faithful to himself, even the now scoffing placeman will return with the multitude to pay tribute to his patriotic achievements.

Fire Insurance.

[N. Y. Journal of Commerce.]

The hard times have told on fire insurance, as on every other kind of business. There was a decrease of about 7½ per cent. in the total risks taken and 16 per cent. in the premiums received, while the losses paid showed an increase of 8 per cent.—contrasted with the previous year.

It should be noted here that the companies had done remarkably well for some years prior to 1876, and they have no good reason to complain of the late shrinkage in receipts and profits. They are still doing much better, relatively, than many other branches of enterprise employing an equal amount of capital, and, as a whole, are in a healthy condition. The competition and undercutting have made the rates much lower and the general receipts of course much less; and this decline will probably appear more marked now that the National Board has given up the idea of trying to enforce a uniform tariff. The good, sound companies, however, will not suffer by a reasonable reduction of rates, but will gain a larger and improved class of business that will make up for the loss now experienced. There is no ground to fear that cheap insurance will be pushed so far as to injure companies deserving of support.

Expiration of Sewing-Machine Patents—Extent of the Business.

The two patents granted to J. Bachelder for sewing-machines on the 8th of May, 1849, for a term of fourteen years, and twice extended for successive periods of seven years each, will expire at noon to-morrow. One of them is for the "four-feed" invention. These are said to be the last of the important patents hitherto in force controlled by what is known as the sewing-machine combination. It appears from statistics in possession of the Patent Office that during one year (1874) there were over 2,100,000 sewing-machines manufactured and sold by the five principal companies engaged in the business in this country, besides about 120,000 more which were manufactured by ten companies.

The Grain Market.

[Baltimore Sun, May 10.]

There was a marked lessening of the excitement in the grain speculation yesterday, and unless the political affairs of Europe should take some sudden turn it is probable that the trade will soon return to its regular channels and accustomed proportions. Western corn for June delivery sold before Change at 66 cents on a scare caused by advices of a decline at Liverpool, but recovered on Change to 68 cents, and in the afternoon rose to 68½ cents. Corn for immediate delivery (usually designated as spot corn) and for May delivery closed at 69 cents. The markets at New York and Chicago exhibited no special features, and both closed firmer.

New Orleans Rejoicing.

NEW ORLEANS, May 10.

There was a magnificent parade to-day in celebration of the success of the Nicholls Government. The Washington Artillery, the Continentals, and Irish Rifles, local military organizations and regiment, and a battery from Mobile, the 13th United States Infantry, under command of General DeTobriand, and the sailors and marines of the steamer Plymouth, took part in the procession. The Federal soldiers and sailors headed the column. Business was suspended, and the Postoffice and Custom House were closed.

A gentleman in England committed suicide the other day, and left a paper stating that he did so because his wife was a great deal too good for him. That's why the jury returned a verdict recording their opinion that deceased was of "an unsound state of mind."

Spirits Turpentine.

—J. B. Palamountain, of Tarboro, has been elected M. W. G. Chief Patriarch of the Grand Encampment I. O. O. F., of North Carolina, and Andrew J. Burton, editor of the *Wilson Advance*, has been chosen Grand Master of the Grand Lodge I. O. O. F.

—Magnolia *Record*: The following is the result of the municipal election held in this town on Monday, the 8th inst.: Mayor, W. T. Hannaford; Commissioners, T. A. Newberry, H. Hollingsworth, J. M. Hartsell, J. F. Croom, J. D. Wilson and J. H. Groves.

—Mrs. Milton, of Mecklenburg, made an assault upon Mrs. Bechtler, first with her fists and next with a knife. She was bound over in the sum of $300 amid tears and sympathy. She is handsome, and twenty men stood ready to go on her bond, according to the *Courier*.

—Raleigh *Observer*: A telegram was received in the city yesterday evening from Fraternal, N. C., announcing the sudden death near that place of Mr. Carter Bo Harrison. Mr. H. was for many years a resident of this city, and was highly esteemed for his many good qualities as a man and citizen.

—Magnolia *Record*: We understand that Wm. B. Cosson, of Pender county, committed an assault upon Mr. J. K. Bannerman, at South Washington, a few days ago, which resulted quite seriously. The assailant struck Mr. B. with a piece of timber, and gave an ugly and serious gash on his head.

—Wilson *Express*: Mr. Jep Lind, of Nash county, was found dead in his bed last Friday morning, and in the evening Mr. J. W. Vaughn, of the same county, was found dead on the door of his residence. Heart disease is thought to have been the cause of the death of both. Both parties lived in Cypress township.

—The Charlotte *Observer* says of the Greensboro election: Mr. Silas Dodson, of the McAdoo House, was elected Mayor, and Messrs. Eldridge, Kerr, Cunningham, Sikes and Ecols, Aldermen. We are also told that no political question entered into the contest, but that the ticket elected was regarded as the "best ticket."

—Concord *Sun*: Court in Court began yesterday, Judge Clark presiding. Several capital cases are on the docket for trial. Among the number is Levi Gray, from this county, for rape. From what we can learn of the case we are inclined to think that a few years' railroading, if not an acquittal, will be the result.

—Wilson *Express*: While Joshua Woodcock, a young man who lives in Wayne county, was on his way home a few days ago from Elmwood, and when within a half mile of home, about 8 o'clock at night, he was knocked out of his cart and robbed of $2 00. There is no clue to the perpetrator of the dastardly act.

—Norfolk *Landmark*: On the second Tuesday in June a grand match of cock fighting will take place in Norfolk between well known sportsmen and chicken raisers of North Carolina and Virginia. The money wagered aggregates $2,000—ten battles at $100 each. The fighting will last four days, and each party will show thirty-one cocks. The sports anticipate a grand season. The forfeit money was put up last Monday.

—*Orphan's Friend*: Jonesville on the Yadkin side of the Yadkin, and Elkin on the Surry side and on Elkin River, make one beautiful town, connected by a splendid bridge and watered by two noble rivers. These clever people look after the interests of their schools, and the children are in good hands. O how refreshing to find one town with schools in lively operation. Elkin has also a large cotton factory, and enterprise always improves the appearance of a country.

—Salisbury *Watchman*: W. A. Posten was tried this week before His Honor, Judge Kerr, for abusing and mistreating his wife. Mr. Posten is worth about $30,000. His Honor let Posten off very light, only fining him $300 and imprisoning him for six months, and making him give a $1,500 bond for his good behavior for twelve months, and at the end of which time he is to show to the court that he has faithfully kept said bond.

—*Landmark*: Hon. Langdon C. Draper, Secretary of the State Historical Society, of Wisconsin, has prepared for the press a History of Mecklenburg County. He is gathering material for a biographical sketch of General Sumter, of Revolutionary fame, in South Carolina. For this he is corresponding with persons in this county about some of the family who lived and died in this vicinity—Robert, James &c., some of whose descendents live in this region.

—The Commencement exercises of Western Female College, Murfreesboro, will occur on the 5th, 6th and 7th. Rev. Dr. Jas. A. Duncan preaches the sermon. A correspondent of the Norfolk *Virginian* writes: The class, invested *pro hac vice* with the elective franchise, chose for salutatorian Miss Helen Thorne, of Halifax county, N. C., and for valedictorian Miss Nellie Whitehurst, of Norfolk, Va. The selection was highly complimentary, in view of the unusual number of gifted writers in the class. During the collegiate year 140 girls have matriculated.

—Dr. E. Burke Haywood, of Raleigh, has been elected President of the Board of Directors of the Insane Asylum. The Executive committee are Julius Lewis, Chairman, and J. M. Pool of Raleigh, and J. S. Amis, of Granville. Dr. Grissom made a report of the condition of the institution, number of patients, &c. The Board was then conducted through the house and grounds. On returning, Col. Burr, of Wilmington, offered a resolution expressive of the gratification of the Board at the neat and cleanly appearance of the buildings and surroundings, which was adopted. This from the *News*.

—Prof. Humphreys, now of Statesville, has a museum of natural history, composed exclusively of specimens from Western North Carolina. The *Landmark* says the Inorganic Department is made up of the native ores: gold, copper, lead and iron; the sulphurets of copper and iron, ilmenite, samarskite and rutile. Beautiful crystals of milky, crystal, smoky, black and amethystic quartz grace the collection. Splendid varieties of beryl, garnet, tourmaline, opal and chalcedonic quartz represent the precious minerals of this section. The result of a few months' study and field prospecting abundantly confirms the oft repeated assertion as to the qualitative and quantitative wealth of North Carolina in every branch of natural history. A large collection of building stone and mineral waters will soon be added to the museum.

—Judge Schenck is in earnest. A conflict between him and Judge Dick as to authority is imminent. The Raleigh *News* publishes this: A correspondent writing us from Jefferson, Ashe county, where Judge Schenck is holding court this week, encloses the following, which is a copy of an order just issued by His Honor:

AT CHAMBERS,
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

To the Clerk of the Courts:

You are ordered not to obey any writ of *certiorari* issued by the judge or clerks of the Circuit or District Courts of the United States in North Carolina, which may command you to certify to those courts for trial any *criminal case* where the parties are indicted for breaches of the peace in your county.

Refer the officer serving any such writ to me.

D. SCHENCK,
Judge Superior Court.
Assigned to Tenth District.
May 3, 1877.