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Subscription Price.

The subscription price of the WEEKLY STAR is as follows: Single Copy 1 year, postage paid, \$1.50

GROWTH AND STRENGTH.

It is reported that the Nationals number some ten or twelve thousand members in New Orleans alone. We do not believe that these figures are correct, but it is quite strong judging from what we have seen stated in the New Orleans Times.

We note these things because they teach us a lesson. North Carolinians should hesitate long and look well before they leave the strong, pure and patriotic old party to identify themselves with a new party whose principles are not systematized and defined.

Gen. Jo Johnston and six others are candidates for the Congressional nomination in the Richmond (Va.) District. The Richmond correspondent of the Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle writes: "It is believed that, in the selection of delegates, the primary election plan will be adopted."

ARE THE NEGROES DYING OUT OR INCREASING?

In our two editorials of some weeks ago upon the mortality among the negroes, we said that we doubted if the excessive death-rate found among those people in cities and towns prevailed also among the country darkies. We remember that before the census of 1870 it was said that the negroes were rapidly dying out, but when the exact figures were obtained it was found that there was an increase, though not so great as in the previous decade.

A correspondent of the Charleston News and Courier, writing from Barnwell Court House, takes the view we have heretofore presented: that there was great mortality among the colored people in cities and towns

THE WEEKLY STAR

but a good health exhibit among the country negroes as a general thing. He says he has kept plantation books from his early manhood. Up to 1865 the increase among his slaves was 25 per cent. decennially. Immediately after the war there was great mortality owing to vice, dissipation, &c.

There are now living on my lands here 178, including men, women and children, and their natural increase during the last decade, from 1868 to the present time, is 21 per cent. From my own experience and what I have learned in conversation with other planters in Carolina and in Georgia, I am of the opinion that the negroes in the Southern States are not dying out, as some persons imagine, and that the next census will show a considerable increase."

Gen. Roger A. Pryor, Hon. John R. Tucker, and other learned and able counsel, have been retained in a suit involving, it is said, the tremendous sum of \$90,000,000, as lease money, exclusive of title to fifty acres of land in New York city near Broadway and Canal streets. The New York Times says that one Robert Edwards, in the 18th century, owned the land and leased it to the British Crown. The lease expired in 1871. This Edwards married a Miss Bibb. She had a sister Nancy, who married a Virginian by the name of Martin Key. Edwards and his wife died without issue, so the Virginians are the sole legatees with the exception of one brother. A meeting was held last April when an investigating and prosecuting committee was appointed. Among those appointed are Rev. Lawrence Bibb White, W. E. Bibb, and S. G. Dueron, of Virginia. Similar meetings have also been held recently in Kentucky and Indiana, at which similar action was taken.

The fish culture operations are decidedly important and interesting. At the Salmon Creek station, on the Albemarle Sound, North Carolina, the operatives obtained 12,730,000 eggs. These turned out 5,000,000 young fishes. At the Havre de Grace station they obtained 12,200,000 eggs, which turned out 9,575,000 young fishes. The following are in part or in whole the distributions made in Southern waters:

Table with 2 columns: Location, Quantity. Rows for Tombigbee River, Forked Deer River, Chesapeake Bay, etc.

There was a split among the Nationals at Syracuse, but finally the Shupe seceders came to terms, and adopted a resolution accepting the name, platform, organization, candidates of the convention, and pledging hearty, undivided support to the proceedings of the convention. This is the telegraphic news, but from the city of New York there come tidings of great dissatisfaction. The split appears to be only partially healed.

The publication of an additional newspaper, in any settled community, does not add materially to the number of newspaper readers, or to the volume of advertising business. For the most part, they who read newspapers at all have taken, for years, a newspaper to which they have grown accustomed. In this manner, advertisers have settled upon a newspaper which they know, by experience, to be adapted to their wants. The newly published paper, therefore, under ordinary circumstances, can build up a paying business only by taking circulation and ad-

vertising from another newspaper occupying the same field. A newspaper does not rest on one prop, or on a hundred; the small payments of thousands of customers form its solid foundation. Such supporters cannot be swept away at one blow; they must be cut out one by one. To vary the simile, the business of a newspaper is like a large heap of small pebbles. It cannot be blasted out or shovelled away, but must be taken down a pebble at a time, as it was built up. The essence, then, of success in a new venture in journalism is time to allow the readers of the established newspaper to note the merit of the new comer; time to enable them to see that the other paper suits them better than the one they have been reading."

THE NORTHERN SLAVE TRAFFIC.

The Northern papers are still harping on Mr. Davis's Mississippi City speech. There is nothing in that speech to frighten anybody but a born fool. Whilst he advocated the right of secession, he did not remotely hint that it ought to be used. To the contrary, the Southern people were bound to stand by the Union and obey the laws, and to forgive the past. Northern stirrers up of strife may rest assured that the Southern people have no plans or purposes that are not strictly patriotic. They would not leave the Union if they could, and would not allow the Northern people to go into the slave-trade again and bring their cargoes into the South, if such should be the design.

The people of the South have accepted the situation in the utmost good faith. They want peace above all things. They are sincerely devoted to civil liberty. They will do all they can to preserve the constitution, to perpetuate soul and civil freedom, and to prevent the Empire. They will never follow any leaders who are for strife, or for making assaults upon the citadel of the constitution, or who are striving to abridge the rights and privileges of a free people. The South is for progress in the right direction. There are no disunionists in the South to-day. We have not seen a man in more than a decade who regretted that the negroes had been freed. The South did it by voting for the 13th Amendment, and the South stands by its acts and its pledges.

We see it stated that the New York Greenbackers are proposing to form an alliance with the Chamber of Commerce. The proposition appears absurd, for the new party is ridden thus far by very wild and distracting doctrines and elements that must appear dangerous to the moneyed men of New York and elsewhere. The Journal of Commerce, remarking upon the strange alliance thus proposed, says:

"The new party cannot for a moment expect that the Chamber would adopt its greenback and other wretched ideas. Nor is this asked. All that the Nationals want is the co-operation of the merchants in securing a proper legislative representation at Albany next winter. For this purpose they would be glad to give the men's votes without an endorsement of the principles of the party. Nothing seems more improbable than a junction of this party and the New York merchants on any platform or any candidates. But in reform movements even stranger things than this have happened. No such alliance could be made now (if at any time), however. If the Nationals are half as much in earnest as they pretend to be, they will prove their professions by nominating for office only men of high character for integrity and ability. Platforms are rubbish, the world over."

The result of the recent canvass in California for a Constitutional Convention shows very singular and startling changes. It shows that there has been a fearful disintegration going on, and that strange amalgamations have taken place. The old parties appear to have gone to pieces, and to have sought new and singular alliances and combinations. The classification is as follows: Democrats 7, Republicans 11, Independents 2, Non-Partisan 81, Kearneyites and Workingmen 51.

ABOUT PAPERS.

The Charleston Journal of Commerce has succumbed to the pressure. It was well edited, and was a good paper. There does not appear to have been room enough in Charleston for a second daily. The News and Courier has so thoroughly occupied the field, and is such a capital newspaper, that it would be impossible, we would suppose, for any rival to succeed. That paper incurs an annual expense of \$75,000, and no paper can possibly compete with it unless it is prepared to spend as much money. People who are in the habit of reading each morning a good newspaper will not be satisfied with an inferior one. Everybody now in all business centres wants a newspaper—a daily map of a busy world—a repository of all the current news. If they have a great deal of leisure, if their business is dull and time hangs heavily, the business man will read long articles, long letters, long editorials, long selections; but if he is active and full of business he wants news boiled down—the news of the world, at home and abroad, in Europe and America, wherever there is communication.

Publishing a paper we talk with others to find out their views and notions about journalism. We learn from the great mass that they want the news—commercial, political, literary, religious, scientific and general. The Charleston News and Courier makes some reflections on the occasion of the death of its contemporary, a part of which we copy:

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NEW COMBINATIONS.

It is believed by some that the Greenback movement in North Carolina owes its inspiration to the Republican managers. They have shown themselves in the past quite sagacious and inventive, and it is not improbable that they may have cunningly resorted to the spirit of independency and the advent of a new party to make a division among Democrats. By combining the two agencies or elements—using the one to give impetus to the other—they may hope to accomplish what they would simply despair of accomplishing in open warfare.

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ONE MORE UNFORTUNATE.

We have just heard that a dead tramp was found by an old well near Burgaw a few weeks since, and his bundle was subsequently discovered in an old house close by. How he came there and how he died, are among the mysteries which so often surround this unfortunate class when they flee from the cold charities of the world to the regions of the Great Unknown.

IMPORTANT TO COTTON GROWERS.

On and after Monday, September 2d, 1878, cotton covered with flax tow bagging containing shives (or small pieces of straw) or manufactured from unwrotted or imperfectly rotted flax, shall be deemed unmerchantable, and shall not be good delivery in this market. This is a rule of the New York Cotton Exchange, passed June 6th, 1878.

THE GREAT DROUGHT.

From private correspondence received in this city from some of the neighboring counties, we learn that rain is needed in some localities to that extent that the people are holding religious meetings and fasting and praying for it. In some sections, we understand, there has been no rain to speak of in about eight weeks and many of the crops have been almost utterly destroyed.

SUPREME COURT.

In this Court on Thursday, as we learn from the Raleigh Observer, the consideration of appeals at the end of the docket was resumed and cases disposed of as follows: Alexander Oldham vs. W. M. Saeed, from New Haven; argued and continued for absence of counsel on both sides, under the rules.

F. J. Swann et al. vs. George Myers et al., from Columbus; argued by F. H. S. & D. J. Devane, T. H. Sutton, and Battle & Mordcaid, for the plaintiffs, and A. T. & J. London for the defendants. Chief Justice Smith, having been of counsel in this case, did not sit on the hearing.

H. H. Humphrey vs. H. W. Humphrey et al., from Onslow; argued by H. R. Bryan for the plaintiff, and W. A. Allen and W. S. & D. J. Devane for the defendants.

W. C. Monroe, adm'r, vs. T. S. Whitfield, adm'r, from Bladen; argued by J. W. Hinsdale for the plaintiff, and T. H. Sutton for the defendant. J. D. Williams et al. vs. E. W. Wooten, adm'r, from Bladen; argued by T. H. Sutton for the plaintiff, and J. W. Hinsdale for the defendant. State vs. James M. Lanier, from New Hanover; argued by the Attorney General for the State; no counsel for the defendant. W. A. Rogers, et al. vs. Robert McKenzie et al., from Robeson; called and continued under former order.

WHO WAS HE?

The following from the Kingstree (S. C.) Star evidently refers to the old man who was picked up from the sidewalk near the Front street depot, on Thursday night, the 19th inst., and taken to the station house, from whence he was sent to the city hospital, and where he died the same evening (Friday, 19th). The description suits him exactly, including the wounds he had received. He was understood to say here that his name was Daniels, and that he was from Duplin county, but it was with the greatest difficulty that he could articulate, and he may have been misunderstood. Can no one give any clue as to his identity with the following facts before them?

"On Wednesday night last an old man apparently 70 years of age, or more, was robbed by a negro footpad of all the money he had, some thirty or thirty-five dollars, while he was asleep. He said that he was making his way to Wilmington, N. C., to see his children after an absence of twenty-seven years, having left them to their parents in the death of his wife. While he was asleep the negro robbed him of money and pocket-book by cutting out the whole pocket. Upon waking and finding he had been robbed, he started on his journey on the railroad track just before the up-train arrived, and was knocked from the track about fifty yards from the depot. His deafness and the darkness caused the accident. He was badly cut on the cheek, and very much bruised about the throat and upper portion of the chest. No thing saved him but the very slow speed of the train. He said that his name was Sellers, and that he was from the C. C. depot at Wilmington. Detective Loftin went along with him to Florence to hunt up the thief. The railroad authorities sent the old man to Wilmington."

MAYOR'S COURT.

The case of David S. Martin, colored, arrested Friday afternoon on the charge of shooting at Major Henry on North Water street, near the foot of Princess street, an account of which appeared in the STAR of yesterday, came up for a hearing before Mayor Flahbate yesterday morning. The evidence was substantially as detailed by us, and after hearing all the testimony the defendant was ordered to give a justified bond in the sum of \$300 for his appearance at the next term of the Criminal Court. He was turned over to the Sheriff, and, in default of the necessary bond, lodged in jail.

Salem Beasley and Alex. Bowen, two colored young men, charged with fighting over the railroad on Friday afternoon, next had a hearing. Beasley was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 and the costs or be locked up for fifteen days in the city prison, and Bowen was discharged.

THE RETURN OF THE AZOR.

The Liberian emigrant bark Azor arrived here to-day, having left Monrovia June 18th. She brings fifteen colored persons sent out last winter by the American Colonization Society, and Mr. A. B. Williams, the News and Courier correspondent. The emigrants carried to Monrovia by the Azor were being cared for at last accounts by the Liberian Government. The Azor will probably take out another ship load of emigrants next month.

GOV. VANCE ON INDEPENDENTS—THE GREAT DANGER AND SOVEREIGN REMEDY.

NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Raleigh, July 20, 1878. Editors Chronicle and Constitutionalist: Sirs—I greatly regret that my official duties, together with distressing illness in my family, prevent my yielding to your request. The great and only danger to our party arises from so-called independents. If we cannot maintain discipline the party will go to pieces, and we should be high places, not the aspirants for minor offices. The General should be dealt with before the private.

Yours, respectfully, Z. B. VANCE.

THE VALUE OF AN ADVERTISEMENT.

The value of advertising can only be calculated by the circulation which an advertisement receives. Low priced advertising is not so cheap. If a paper with a circulation of five thousand copies charges ten dollars for a certain advertisement, and a paper printing but one copy, that is four hundred and eighty copies, charges only three dollars for the same advertisement, the ten dollar paper is the cheapest; for it charges much less per hundred impressions of the announcement than the three dollar cheap paper does. Any shrewd advertiser can make the calculation for himself.

POLITICAL POINTS.

It is our opinion that General Grant, if nominated in 1880, will be worse defeated than General Scott was in 1852.—Wash. Post, Dem.

John Sherman has hired one hundred and ninety-three negroes to testify before the Potter Committee. If these negroes are sharp they will not take John's word, as Eliza did.

The more Grant is talked about as the candidate of the Republican party in 1880 the less chance he will have for the nomination. This is the teaching of history.—Phila. North American, Rep.

"Fraud" has probably made few Democratic votes, but it will hold together the Democratic vote of 1876, unless opposed with some more respectable issue, which it does not seem likely to be.—Springfield Republican, Ind.

The New York Times does not think the names of Michael Macallister Shupe and John Juniper Junio, who lead the Nations, are just the thing to conquer with. Wherefore not? They do not lack in the power of their spell.

Kellogg is fairly caught at last. The young man Kennedy, whom the Post treed, is the ubiquitous individual who took Kelly out of Louisiana and lost him. Kelly is the mulatto who knows how the Louisiana electoral certificates were forged. Kennedy is Kellogg's right hand man in the Senate. Caught at last. Eh! Mr. Kellogg? Wash. Post, Dem.

CLOSE OF THE NORMAL SCHOOL.

(Star Correspondence.) CHAPEL HILL, N. C., July 25th, 1878.

After a six weeks' session the University Normal School was formally closed to-day. Yesterday Miss Coe exhibited the result of her kindergarten training. Everybody was delighted with the performance of the pupils. They certainly looked sweet and deported themselves commendably. At night we had a delightful musical concert. After the concert was over the students repaired to the ball room and library, where they enjoyed themselves a while longer in sweet social intercourse.

This morning the Normal Debating Society discussed the query, "Should the State establish Compulsory Education?" The manner in which the Southern people treat Yankees was exhibited here to-day by the "boys" giving Prof. Ladd a decent caning. The cane had a good head, with an appropriate inscription. The "girls" presented President Battle with a handsome clock. Dr. Battle had ordered himself to the "Normalites." He has worked hard for the interests of the teachers, and has been uniformly courteous, kind and sociable. Their presence exerted a beneficial influence in every possible way their aid and encouragement. The admission of lady teachers to the school has proven a wise step. They have generally excelled the gentlemen. Their presence exerted a beautifying and refining influence.

The school has been visited by the Governor, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Agriculture, and many prominent citizens of the State. They all encouraged us with their words of wisdom. We had a lecture nearly every night on some scientific subject. Nearly every hour of the day, as long as there was time, was occupied with some religious lecture. The teachers have formed an association on a solid foundation, which we hope will lead to correct many errors in our school system.

We hope the Legislature will aid us in every possible way.

Yours, truly, PENDER.

A MODEL FARM.

At the store of Messrs. Gore & Gore, yesterday, we noticed some of the finest peaches we ever saw, which were sent to them as a present. They were raised by Mr. R. C. Willard, near Smithville, who has a model farm, his stock, poultry, &c., being raised from the choicest breeds, imported from a distance and at considerable expense, while his agricultural and horticultural experiments are conducted on the same scale, and usually with great success.

CHARLESTON, July 24.

The Librarian emigrant bark Azor arrived here to-day, having left Monrovia June 18th. She brings fifteen colored persons sent out last winter by the American Colonization Society, and Mr. A. B. Williams, the News and Courier correspondent. The emigrants carried to Monrovia by the Azor were being cared for at last accounts by the Liberian Government. The Azor will probably take out another ship load of emigrants next month.

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Spirits Turpentine

A first class signal station is to be established at Charlotte. This was brought about by the action of the Chamber of Commerce.

Shelby Aurora: Mr. J. A. Parker has brought us in the largest tomato that we have seen this year. It weighs one and a half pounds. Who can beat it? The crops in some sections of this county are suffering for rain.

The local editor of the Charlotte Observer has seen a photograph of Kate Southern, the Georgia murderer. He says: The face indicates hard stock and chain lightning—liable to insert a knife between the ribs of anybody that foiled with her.

Raleigh News: The lower portion of this county, together with parts of Johnston, Nash, Wayne, Wake, Edgecombe and Halifax, are suffering from an extreme drought. So great is the suffering that farmers despair of making a crop. Yesterday at Pine Level, Johnston county, the people closed their stores and houses, and went to the church, where they prayed most devoutly for rain, but ceasing to pray until late in the afternoon.

Charlotte Observer: Some Stateville people call Mooreville "Grab All," because she got the terminus of the proposed railroad from Winston. It is stated that up to this time fewer persons have left Charlotte for summer resorts than for several years past. The Charlotte District Conference assembled in Wake-horo on the 8th of August. Nearly all the railroads running into the city represent their business as very much larger than it was at this time last year.

Raleigh News: Jas. K. O'Hara, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for Halifax county, has recently had a Board to allow himself five hundred, and two other lawyers one thousand dollars each, total two thousand five hundred dollars, to defend the case of the O'Hara bonds, said bonds having long since been declared invalid by our Supreme Court in Leak vs. Commissioners of Richmond county. This is a last grab for the O'Hara.

Granville Echo: We learn from Messrs. C. Burroughs, who returned from Virginia this week, that the Burroughs and his confederate were seen on the roadside on Thursday last week about five miles this side of Clarksville, by a Mr. Falkner. They were seen to get into a house, approaching them. They were seen against approaching them. They were seen against approaching them. They were seen against approaching them.

Alamance Gleaner: Rev. W. S. Long, who has a farm and lives a short distance from the village, sowed last fall one of those packages of oats sent out by the Agricultural Department at Washington, containing certain seeds, more than a quart of seed, and the yield was ninety-five quarts of cleaned oats. They were a white winter oat, grown in Tennessee, and said to be rust proof. We are sorry to learn that Mr. W. M. Andrews, living near here, has had the misfortune to lose one of his children from diphtheria, and that he has several others quite sick with the same disease.

Tarboro Southern: In the 64th year of his age, died in Warren county, Mr. Thomas Macnair. He was for many years a merchant in Tarboro, doing business under the firm name of Macnair & Bro. From Tarboro he removed to Petersburg and plied a mercantile calling with Mr. William Weddell until the close of the war. Somebody ought to get together the costals of those high falutinists, Blount of the Advance, and Roberson, of the Torchlight, and pull them down to earth. Hear the latter: "He wore a coat of fine broad cloth, and his garments were of the most delicate fabrics of elegance, with which he had the misfortune to lose one of his children from diphtheria, and that he has several others quite sick with the same disease."

Charlotte Democrat: It is announced that the Richmond & Danville Railroad intends giving the Western North Carolina merchants a free ride to Richmond and back. It seems that only those living along the line of the Western North Carolina Railroad are invited. Will the Richmond & Danville Road give a free ride to the merchants living on the line of the road from Danville to Charlotte and back? Or is it turn about now? The address of the Tuesday last four Lodges of colored Odd Fellows were here coming from Columbia, Lincolnton, Dallas and Shelby, which, together with the Lodge of this city, marched in procession through the streets, accompanied by hundreds of their colored friends. Fine rains are reported along the N. C. Railroad as far down as Raleigh. It is terribly dry in portions of Mecklenburg and surrounding counties. The address of the President of this week from Colonel John Stillwell, of Griffo, Ga. He is a native of Mecklenburg, and was once Deputy Sheriff of the county under Sheriff Sloan. He moved to Georgia forty years ago, where he has prospered and become a prominent citizen; but he still has a loving heart for his native county.

The Conference of the Local Ministers within the bounds of the N. C. Conference at the M. E. Church, South, assembled in Calvary Mission Church, in this city, on Thursday morning, July 25th. Rev. J. W. Heppinstall, Vice President, called the Conference to order, and Rev. L. B. Branson acted as Secretary. The address of the President (Rev. R. L. Abernathy, who was not present) was read by the Secretary. A committee on Divine Service was appointed, consisting of J. F. Butt, Thomas Ledwell and W. H. Chick. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Mescham.

Winston Sentinel: A meeting of the citizens of Winston was held in the Court House on Tuesday night to take steps to complete the subscription to the Mooreville & Winston Railroad. One Weatherly, white, was arrested near High Point, on last Saturday afternoon, by Mr. Christ Burke, of Mt. Airy, from whom Weatherly had stolen a fine horse on the previous Thursday night. There has been a plague of butterflies in the gardens all the year. It is the small, white fly, that stings the cabbage, and all the first, and most tender growths of vegetables, depositing eggs that poison all they touch.

The business and condition of the Winston National Bank seems to continue to improve, and we notice in their last statement of several weeks ago, the resources of the institution had touched \$346,659.87. How peaches have been shipped out yet by the orchardists here. New York, and they are somewhat discouraged accordingly. It was extremely cool on Monday night and Tuesday morning, in strange contrast with the heat of the previous days. Our sweetest singers and mocking birds are being eagerly sought after in the South, by taxidermists North, as the male bird very often brings a fabulous price there; and the female, if it is the hottest day of this year, the thermometer in the shade indicating 103 degrees at 3 p. m. That is above blood heat.

We learn that a young woman by the name of Crouch was killed by lightning on last Friday evening in Yadkin county. Wheat is ranging in price from 85 cts. to \$1.10 per bushel. Corn 50 to 55 cts., according to quality. Good rains last week. Theacco crop is not very promising. At best not more than half a crop will be housed in this section this year.