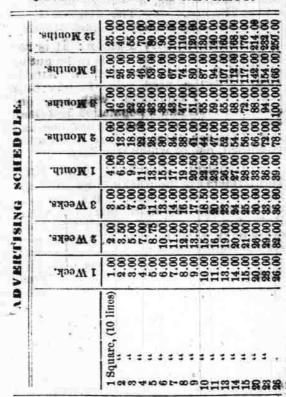
Virginian Court.

Che Weekly Star,

WILMINGTON. N. C.

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REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY-BAT-

TLE OF GUILFORD C. H. "Horæ Paulinæ" must havebeen impressed and edified with the striking arguments he adduces in proof of the authenticity and genuineness of the letters of the Apostle Paul-the greatest intellectual battery at work in the New Testament. By ingeniously using the "undersigned coincidences" of Paul's various letters to the Christian disciples, Paley builds a most irrefragable argument in behalf of the truth and inspiration of those letters. It is well known that there can be no more striking or convincing form of evidence than that which is found in the concurrent statements of two or more independent witnesses, who write without knowledge of what each is saying.

Now let us apply this. We go back to 1781, and desire to direct attention to the battle that was fought at Guilford Court House.

It is known to almost every one that the North Carolina militia are reported to have behaved badly on We may say something hereafter of the plan of the battle and what Gen. Green, the American commander, and Gen. Lee ("Light-Horse Harry"), the distinguished father of our greatest Captain, the incomparable Robert Edward Lee, has to say about the hotly contested fight that hastened the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, the ablest British commander of the We will merely say the battle was not faultless in its plan, as we can show, and that much injustice has been done the North Carolinians. But to the main pur-

pose of this editorial. Long years ago-it may be twenty or twenty-five years, or even longer, an article appeared in either the old Raleigh Register or the Fayetteville Observer - we think the latter - written by Mr. James Banks, of Fayetteville, (we think it was,) on the battle of Guilford Court House. We write from memory entirely. He produced two letters written by two British officers who participated in that battle. These letters were written soon after the engagement, and gave an account of what happened. Each writer tells the story as he saw it. These letters were written to persons living in different parts of England, and were published independently of each other. It is evident neither writer never knew anything of what the other was doing, and, as far as it appears, may not have known each other personally. The letters were published long after they were written. What do these letters testify to? They state clearly and distinctly that the North Carolina militia, who were posted three hundred yards in advance of the Virginia American army, received the British advance with such a terrific volley as to throw the front line into disorder -- that the British quickly reformed and advanced up the hill, when they were again fired upon by these same North Carolina militia, with deadly effect-that the militia finally broke and fled, but many of them firing a

This is our recollection of the state ments of these interesting and important letters. Our object in writing is to bring out these letters, for they are worth a great deal in settling the question of the conduct of our militia on that day.

third volley ere they did so.

VOL. XI.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1880.

The venerable editor of the old Fayetteville Observer, Edward J. Hale, Esq., may be able to throw ARRESTERSEREES | light upon this question. The files of the old Observer must be in existence somewhere, and they will show whether Mr. Banks's letter appeared in that paper or not, and if so, whether our recollection as to the main points is correct or not.

We hope some one who is interested in our North Carolina revolutionary history will look into the matter and ventilate afresh. We feel almost certain that the letter appeared in the Fayetteville Observer. If we are correct in this no doubt the editor of Hale's Weekly will recollect it, and if so he may be able to exume the article of Mr. Banks and lay i before the public.

MACHINE POLITICS IN PENNSYL-

VANIA. The result in the Republican State Convention of Pennsylvania is striking exemplification of the truth of what we said yesterday about mathe statements of leading Republi-The reader of Paley's admirable can papers of that State there is no doubt that a very decided majority of the rank and file of that party are in favor of Blaine for President. He is a native of Pennsylvania, is a man of great personal magnetism, and is immensely popular with his party But machine politicians are too much for the people. Grant is victorious. He is bossed by Don Cameron, whose greatest talent consists in making money and managing men, for he has none of the ability that gives power and usefulness to statesmen. He has managed to control a small majority of the delegation, and the vote of Pennsylvania is to be given to Grant. The vote stood 133 to 113 in favor of instructing the delegates to cast the vote of the State for Grant. We expect to hear this action-this snap judgment-this reversal of the choice of the party loudly denounced by both the organs and independent press of that State. If the machine politicians are to have their way the people might as well

surrender at once. We believe that

it is the duty of the intelligent people

of the whole country to give more

time and attention to the subject of

selecting proper candidates. It is

because intelligent, well informed

men allow the professional politicians

to do the acting if not the thinking

for them that the machine is so suc-

cessful. As between Grant and

Blaine the STAR has but little choice.

Both are corrupt and both are unfit

to be President.

REDUCING THE PUBLIC DEBT. John Sherman reports that public debt was reduced eleven millions of dollars in the month of January. He is said to be very ambitious to reduce the debt below \$200,000,000 during his term of office. He is now within \$784,000 of it. Of course he can accomplish his feat by laying the taxes heavily upon the country. The revenues of the government are constantly increasing in spite of all the evil forebodings of Radical organs when the Democrats took charge. But we would like to inquire if it is desirable that the public debt should be reduced \$11,000 .-000 in one month? Is it right to make one generation pay off the debts of a government-debts that were created for the benefit of generations to come? England and France do not attempt such financial miracles. By 1900 there will be eighty million of people in the United States. They will be abundantly able to bear their proportion in cutting down or paying off entirely what shall remain of the public debt after the present generation has paid its equitable proportion. Sherman's anxiety to grind the present generation to the farthest militia, and over five hundred yards | point of endurance is neither wise nor in advance of the main body of the just. It is in keeping with his other financial card -resumption. This was accomplished, but it bankrupted thousands and cost the country hun-

> A writer from Cumberland county, in the Statesville American, favors the sale of the Western North Carolina Railroad, but admits he would not do so if there were not other railroads that could be constructed with convicts. The trouble will be found to get iron, which has advanced one hundred and fifty per cent., and then equip the roads. The Cumberland county writer says:

dreds of millions of dollars.

"Sell this road to the New York company, then use our convict-labor to build a

road from Salisbury to Fayetteville, and thence to Morehead City. Let said road come down from Salisbury through Stanly and Montgomery counties, direct to Fayetteville, thence by a direct line to Morehead, through Sampson and Duplin coun ties. Such a road should and will be built and it would be, in my judgment, the best located road in the State.'

It is very difficult to construct long lines of road, even with the aid of convict-labor. The Western North Carolina is an instance. Whilst it may be an excellent thing to have the road from Salisbury to Morehead, by way of Cumberland and Duplin, it may be very detrimental to other interests to make the proposed sale

RAILROADS AND NORTH CAROLI-NA INTERESTS.

The sale of the Western North Carolina Railroad appears to be foregone conclusion. There appears to be an overwhelming sentiment among our State exchanges that the road shall be sold, and the most of them are ready to demand its sale to the Best Syndicate, we apprehend We regret this, for we think we see in the proposition evil, only evil, and chine politics. If you may credit evil continually. We believe that before five years after the completion of the road, and it is under the control of foreigners, that the great mass of our people will derive no more benefit from it than they do now from the road from Greensboro to Danville. Some of our Raleigh contemporaries are much more hopeful, and we believe they all favor the sale.

Hale's Weekly says: "Meantime, it is not improper for one who has been its unfaltering advocate for more than a quarter of a century to say that if the road can be sold at a fair price and its speedy completion to Paint Rock and to Ducktown secured beyond peradventure, it ought to be sold. We have no fear that North Carolina will break faith with he people of the West and sacrifice its own best interests by withdrawing the aid now given to the road. * * * We have no fears of any foreign corporations using the road to the disadvantage of North Carolina or of any portion of it The day when railroads were managed for the benefit or injury of this or that locality has passed away. Railroad managers whether native or foreign, run their roads to make them pay; just as, for instance, the leased North Carolina Railroad was some years ago and is now run, not for the benefit of Richmond or Danville, but to make money, and make it by running on a North Carolina policy.

We are unable to see the matter in the light our friend sees it, nor canwe take the cheery view of the future that gladdens and refreshes his eyes. We have not seen railroads and other corporations managed by foreigners made tributary to the special interests of our people. So far from this there are gentlemen in this section who can point out possibly a dozen instances in which North Carolina has been plucked during the last forty years, and her schemes of improvement turned to the advantage of other peoples and States. We have no sort of belief or confidence in the Richmond & Danville Railroad being a benefactor to North Carolina whenever Virginia interests are to be subserved.

The Raleigh Observer, referring to the Western North Carolina Road,

"It is the missing link to put our coast in close communication with a great inland empire-the vast territory whose centres are Cincinnati, Louisville and St. Louis. For this reason Beaufort, Newbern and Wilmington are all interested in its comple-It is not a mere local affair, it is a State matter. Statesville, Charlotte and Salisbury will feel the effects of its completion. Durham, Greensboro, Winston, Fayetteville and Henderson, every point at which there is a cotton or tobacco factory, will likewise be benefited by the opening of this new route by which they can reach new customers, or place goods with old customers at lower freights.

This is in accordance with the view of the STAR as to the importance of the Road to the State at large. The section through which the road will pass can never make it pay. It can be made profitable only by being a link in the long line of roads. All who live this side of the link and all who live on the farther side are interested. We believe if the link is owned and controlled by the Richmond & Danville, or any foreign corporation, that it will be used for the benefit of Charleston on the one hand and for Richmond and Norfolk on the other hand far more than for the benefit of the cities and towns of North Carolina.

The Observer says further: "If the present proposition made by Mr. Best shall be favorably considered by the Board of Directors, the Governor may, by and with the advice of the Council of the State, convene the General Asiembly in extra session by his proclamation, stating therein the purpose for which they are convened. Between the assembling of the Board of Directors and the assembling of the Legislature, if it shall assemble, any North Carolinians who may be disposed can perfect their plan of arrangements, and no one doubts that our Legislature will hearken to their wishes in preference to those of any stran-ger and no one can doubt that if in any event a trade shall be made with Mr. Best, every possible precaution will be taken, and every reasonable guarantee required, that our own towns shall never in any way

whatsoever be discriminated against by the managers and owners of the railroad."

We do not see why there should be any hurry in the matter. We cannot see why Mr. Best's new proposal shall not be made public. We cannot see why the Board of Directors shall consider the proposition favorably or unfavorably at once. Mr. Best's proposition ought to be sound enough to keep. If in good condition it will not spoil, specially as the weather is cool. If it is in a decomposing condition already, use charcoal freely and put it on ice. But seriously, where is there any necessity for calling the Legislature together? It will entail great expense upon the people of the State to call the Legislature together in extra session. There can be, it seems to us, no good and sufficient reason for such

If that body is convened it will cost the people \$1,200 a day besides thousands of dollars in mileage. An extra session will cost probably \$20,000. Why this expense? Why this unseemly hurry? After Mr. Best's proposition is accepted, and the people are made to pay a heavy expense for extra legislation, that may in the end prove a serious injury to their interests, then the people of Wilmington, or from any other section may be allowed to come forward with their proposition. Why tax the people in this way? Why not wait for a few months? The road will not fall to pieces. The Mud Cut will not fill up probably. As to what our friend of the Observer says about the people of Wilmington and other sections being not discriminated against in case a sale is made to Best, we must say we can have no confidence in any such arrangement. It will be the introduction of another wooden horse filled with armed enemies into the midst of North Carolina interests. So we view it.

Hale's Weekly encourages us with

"But, however all this may be, our friend of the Wilmington STAR may be assured that there will be ample time and opportunity for maturing and presenting the proposals of our Wilmington friends to buy and finish the road, and for discussing fully that and all other propositions. No State railroad can be sold without the assent of the Legislature, and if the Governor and his Council and the Railroad Directors, all of them true North Carolinians and men of hard, practical, business sense, regard the propositions to buy as worthy of serious consideration, the Legislature will be called together. From the State and Railroad of ficers and from the Legislature, the STAR may feel sure, any proposals from a North Carolina company will receive the most earnest and favorable consideration."

It appears to be manifest that a sale is determined upon. North Carolina means to sell out. It only remains for Wilmington and other places whose interests are so seriously imperilled to take such speedy and positive action as may be wise and possible under the circumstances. delay in the sale is not made, then long farewell to the cherished scheme of a line of railway from our seacoast to the Western cities, to be run with reference to our necessities and ad vantages. If the Best sale is consummated we feel that the interests of our people, Mazeppa like, will be bound upon the wild horse of Promise and sent forth upon the race of destruction. In other words, the North Carolina towns will be "done for," sacrificed, smashed.

Since this was written we have seen a notice in the Raleigh Observer that the Board of Directors are to meet at Raleigh on next Tuesday, the 10th, to consider Best's second proposition which he keeps hid with his dark-lantern concealed. With the State Journal we say "turn on the light." If our friends here are to do anything they must do so at once. A decent time will not be allowed them to perfect their plans. The Best proposition will not keep it seems. It is already tainted as we

"To beguile the time, Look like the time -- look like the innocent flower, But be the serpent under it."

There were bitter times at Harrisburg and the discussions were fierce and angry. Blaine would have triumphed but for the Camerons. Bildad, of the Richmond State, writes on the 6th:

"The Blaine men here do not hesitate to say they were betrayed by Congressman Harry Bingham, of Pennsylvania, who at a critical moment assumed to speak for Blaine and whose intimate relations with him were supposed to justify it. They say he informed them that Blaine didn't want to fight Grant; that Grant would be withdrawn in good time, and Blaine get the delegation, provided he did not make Cameron mad. "Congressman Frye says nine delegates voted for Grant instructions because they thought it would not injure Blaine and

would oblige Cameron. "The Grant men say it is all bosh to talk about a bargain; that Blaine could not have carried the convention by any possibility and that Gen. Bingham acted wisely under SORGHUM MANUFACTURE.

The STAR is constantly on the alert to find any new industries that may aid our people and strengthen the resources of our State. It has many times urged a diversity of crops and also a diversity of industries. We notice that in Minnesota there is an association known as the "Amber Cane Growers." A meeting has been held quite recently at Minneapolis. We believe that this is nothing more nor less than an association of sorghum makers. Our object in noting it is to show how important an industry it is becoming already in Minnesota. The New York Sun says:

"In the year 1876 there were 1,534 acres of cane in Minnesota, producing 70,479 gallons of syrup; in 1876 there were 1,695 acres and 72,489 gallons; in 1877, 2,200 acres and 140,153 gallons; in 1878, 3,207 acres and 429,660 gallons; in 1879, 4,624 acres, with the number of gallons not yet returned, but probably 700,000.

"Here we find in five years the acreage under cultivation increased threefold, and the saccharine product probably tenfold, in one State. The increase in production to the acre is specially remarkable; but in this direction further advances will be made."

The great desideratum in the culture of the amber cane is to get from it . the best sugar-sugar that is pleasant and pure. Cane mills of a superior kind are essential to obtain the full benefits. We notice that a Mr. Kenney obtained six pounds of sugar from every gallon of syrup. In one day he obtained 200 gallons, which yielded sugar worth \$96. But the sugar was not palatable. The way to refine it properly is yet to be understood. At the recent meeting \$97,917; cordials, \$1,954; ale, \$4,452; there were long discussions as to the entire process of cultivating the cane and making the syrups and sugars.

"Discussions were had on the processes of purifying by heating and by treating the juice with alum and lime; on the value of bagasse as fuel in evaporating the syrup; on the methods of skimming and cleaning the pans; on the best construction of furnaces and the best wood for burning; on seeds, soils, and harvesting. Hundreds of samples were examined, and reports were received from cane growers in all parts of the State, most of whom seem to be satisfied and confident."

The necessity and importance of manufacturing more sugar in the United States can be seen from the amount of sugars consumed annually. It is said that about 1,700,000,000 pounds are used. This costs \$115. 000,000. Of course if the production of our own sugar can be arrived at all this money will be kept at home. If North Carolina can raise its own cane and manufacture its own sugars it will be taking a step greatly in advance on the high road to prosperity. Here are some figures worth con-

"One farmer wrote to the Minneapolis Convention that it cost him \$9 10 to produce an acre of wheat, \$41 55 for an acre of sorghum, \$8 05 for an acre of corn. But he expected to sell an acre of wheat for \$15, an acre of sorghum for \$75, an acre of corn for \$19. If the refining of the amber cane sugar can be carried on until it is as palatable and commercially valuable as the foreign sugar, the prediction that Minnesota's sugar production will one day equal in value that of its wheat may be fulfilled.

AN ENGLISH JOURNALIST ON HI TRAVELS.

Mr. Sala, the English journalist, is well pleased with the South thus far. He writes a very favorable letter to his paper, the London Telegraph, in | 980; amount \$1,636.60. Colored, 1,760; which he gives an encouraging account of Virginia, and shows that he is quite willing to do justice to the South. He says for instance: "I remained nearly a fortnight in Rich-

mond, and there I was treated with so

much kindness, and I made so many friends, that I feel confident that I could have passed at least six of the very pleasantest of months in the State of Virginia alone. Please to remember that the Old Dominion s no "one-horse" State. Its divisions of Tidewater, Middle Piedmont, Blue Ridge Valley and Appalachia.comprise an area o 40,000 square miles. Its acreage is about 27,000,000, and the population, so far back as 1870, was nearly a million and a quarter. It possesses all the requisites of a healthy region-an equable temperature, a rolling. well-drained, splendidly-rivered country, abounding in natural products. * * Virginians are hardy, robust, ruddy and long-lived. They are mighty sportsmen and fox-hunters. The soil yields gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, granite, limestone, marl, plumbago, manganese, brick and fire clays; wheat, oats, buckwheat, Indian corn in profusion, fruits and vegetables in plenty; and it is the native home of to-Live stock of every kind The taxes on real and personal property are not one-eighth of the amount levied in and about New York ty, and not above half the amount levied in newly-settled Nebrasks, and farmers desirous of purchasing homesteads in Virginia can buy land here at a cheaper rate than they can buy it out West, and, instead of bare prairie, can procure improved farms, with all the necessaries and comforts of life close at hand. This ancient State, to sum up, offers the fairest possible inducements to immigration to the people of the Old World seeking new homes, and to the people of the northern and middle States seeking a milder climate and a richer soil than they can find in their wn parts,"

We must try to induce Mr. Sala to make an extended visit to North Carolina before he returns to his own people. He is at present in New Orleans. The authorities of Wilmington, Charlotte, Raleigh, and New Berne would do well, it strikes us, to extend an invi-

tation to him. If he could learn something of our unsurpassed fisheries and inland seas; of our rich cot ton lands; of our unequalled tobacco productions; of our rare and inexhaustible mineral wealth; of our fine grazing sections, and, above all, of the excellent facilities offered for manufacturing purposes, he could make it known to his hundreds of thousands of readers who could not be reached in any other way. It would be an important step in the right direction to induce this accomplished member of the press to see North Carolina for himself.

PUT ON THE BRAKES.

Just as the STAR predicted, as our

readers will remember, the excessive importation of goods over exports is having a disturbing influence and is attracting the attention of the business men in the great commercial centres. Whenever our country buys more than it sells, or imports more than it exports, then the balance of trade is, of course, against us, and we are the shippers instead of the receivers of gold. Last week our imports nearly doubled our exports. Specie imports have ceased entirely. Among the noteworthy items in last week's entries are the following: Jewelry, \$74,073; toys, \$26,019; perfumery, \$14,060; watches, \$19,661; buttons, \$106,316; cigars, \$34,120; fancy goods, \$19,045; oil paintings, \$22,384; champagne, \$14,301; brandy, beer, \$6,567; wines, \$55,208. Al these may be classed as positive lux-

The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, an exceptionally reliable and intelligent correspondent, says of this excessive importation of

"There are some economists who argue that the importation of luxuries is to be accepted as an evidence, not of extravagant tastes, but of increased ability to purchase and that in so far it ought to be accepted as a sign of increasing national prosperity. But this philosophy must have a limit somewhere, because if we go on, as now buying twice as much as we sell, it is mere question in arithmetic when we shall get to the bottom of our purse. The 'boom' in iron and metals is plainly visible in these customs returns. Railroad bars foot up \$88,224; hoop iron, \$19,812; pig iron, \$41,-258; sheet, \$14,610; ore, \$,179; other iron, \$203,709; metal goods, \$25,349; cutlery, \$59,890, and so on.

Tom Keogh was at Harrisburg. He says Sherman or Grant will be nominated. General Garfield strong for Sherman and in his denunciations of the Cameron set at Harrisburg. It is not our fight and it will not be our funeral. Let the mourners proceed.

Apportionment of the Schoel Fund. At the late meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, on Monday last, the Board made an apportionment of the school fund, based upon what was thought to be the census of 1879. Since then it has transpired that the Clerk of the Board unconsciously substituted the census of 1878 for that 1879, whereupon the Board of Finance met and made a correct apportionment at \$1.67 per capita (instead of \$2.10, as formerly), as follows:

Wilmington-District No. 1.-Whites, amount \$2,939.20 District No. 2,-Whites, 916; amoun

\$1,529.72. Colored, 1,265; amount \$2,112.55. Federal Point-District No. 3.-Whites, 85; amount \$141.95. Colored, 82; amount Masonboro-District No. 4 -Whites, 97

amount \$161.99. Colored, 82; amount Harnett-District No. 5 -Whites, 151 mount, \$252.17. Colored, 287; amount

Cape Fear-District No. 6 -Whites, 50 mount \$83.50. Colored, 400; amount \$668 Total whites, 2,279; colored, 3,876. Total amount, \$10,278.85.

Sampson County Items.

From a private letter from a gentleman n Clinton, Sampson county, we learn that very interesting entertainment was given at that place, on the 20th ult., by twentyfive young ladies of the Clinton Female College, which was largely attended by the good people of the town, and proved to be a very enjoyable affair. The programme consisted of calisthenic exercises and vocal and instrumental music.

The letter also mentions the fact that German professor of music, by the name of Charles Louis, was found in a dying condition, on Sunday evening last, about 10 o'clock, on the streets of Clinton. He was taken to the residence of one Albert Smith, but expired in about an hour afterwards. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that he died from exposure and hard drink. Deceased was well known in Duplin and Sampson, and was apparently about 55 years old. He was unmarried. The writer says we may look for plenty of rafts coming to Wilmington by next week, as there has been an abundance of rain in that section.

Personal. From a gentleman who received a letter from Capt. W. J. Potter, bearing date the 20th ult., and written from Harbor Island, New Providence, we learn that he arrived safely after a four days' passage, and is prosecuting his work as a colporteur by the distribution of books and tracts and visiting the poor, sick and aged. The people received him kindly and are eager after our readers to a communication from sevebibles, tracts and good reading. Capt. ral prominent gentlemen of this county on that subject.

lioa Republican, will next week begin the issue of The Voice of the People. The voice NO. 16. of the paper will be for Grant, and against Sherman and the rings, says the editor. years 1861 or 1862, premiums were offered by the State for the largest yield of cotton on one acre. George W. Collier, of Wayne, raised 3,473 lbs; D. A. Sugg, 3,490 lbs, and W. A. Darden, 3,300 lbs. The two last gentlemen are residents of Greene. Can our farmers make such an exhibit in 1880 ? - Kinston Journal: While the

discussion is going on about seiling the State's interest in the Western North Carolina Railroad, we suggest that the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad be thrown in for wedgewood. It has never paid any profit to the State for the money invested, and if anybody will give anything for it, it had better be sold.

- Hillsboro Mail: Rev. Mr. Durham will hereafter hold monthly service in the Hillsboro Baptist Church. — Shanties are being erected for the use of the cunvicts who are to construct the Chapel Hill Railroad. - The new wrought iron cage was recently built in the jail by Geo. W. Tate, of Mebaneville. The cage is tuirtytwo feet in length, ten feet wide and eight feet high. It is divided into four cells.

Spirits Turpentine.

- Salisbury Watchman: The Graded School in this place now numbers about 175 pupils and is steadily increasing.

- Raleigh Observer: And we are to have another paper. W. D. Turner, colored, erewhile editor of the North Caro-

- Snow Hill Advocate: In the

- Salisbury Watchman: The Cape Fear people, as appears both from the Wil-mington STAR and a Wilmington correspondent of the Charlotte Observer, are opposed to selling the Western N. C. Railroad at all; but if it must be sold, insist that it should be owned by citizens of our own State, and that no sale should be made without giving them the opportunity of buying it. To all this we most hearnly subscribe, and we doubt not that that w.li be the response of every honest North Caro-

- Raleigh now leads Charlotte in the cotton business, having 38,730 bales receipts to February 1st, as against 30,968 at Charlotte. The greater portion of this gain we take to result from the completion of the Raleigh Augusta Air Line. But it will be wise to prepare for a falling off when the Wadesboro & Cheraw Railroad opens for traffic, as it will ere the next cotton season. True, our buyers may underbid Charleston, but will they?-Farmer & Mechanic. If they will grade like Charleston they may hold their own .- STAR.

-Raleigh Observer: Mr. Bailey Willis, of Washington, was in the city ye terday. Mr. Willis, with a corps of mineralogists, has been appointed by the Census Bureau to investigate the iron ores of the United States and obtain specimens of the same for analysis, which will be published in the forthcoming census report. In a few days he will start on a tour of investigation through North Carolina and East Tennessee. We hope every facility will be offered him to obtain facts and specimens of our irons, many of which are unsurpassed in quality.

- Farmer and Mechanic : George Allen, Esq., of New Berne, is doing a work for North Carolina not equaled by any other citizen. We refer particularly to his efforts to encourage settlers and advertise the truck-farming capacities of that region. He sends us a circular issued by the New Berne Railroad, allowing 500 miles free transportation over the road to settlers from beyond the State's borders who shall occupy not less than 40 acres, in the region adjacent to the line of the road. And not less than half-rates of freight on tools, machinery and material for mills or factories along the line. This is liberal or long-

- Goldsbore Mail: Gen. Robert Ransom was on our streets on Friday of last week. He is progressing satisfactorily with his work on the Neuse. The river should by all means be cleaned out and dredged as high up as Smithfield, if no farther. - A postal card from Nashville informs us of the death in that place, on the 30th ult., of Miss Mourning Joyner, aged 87 years 3 months and 26 days. A surviving sister of the deceased lady is in her 91st year. — From a private letter from the Meadow section in Johnston county, we learn that whooping cough and measles are prevalent. Most of the people have slaughtered their hogs, and much of the meat has tainted. Wheat crops are

- Raleigh Observer: The Insane Asylum, with 310 patients, keeping up the same excellent diet and care of patients as heretofore, cost the State for the year 1879, \$44,500, whereas about 278 patients for the previous year it is understood cost more than \$70,000. The Deaf and Dumb Asylum has been managed as well, if not better, than any other public institution. The principal of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum reports that the actual expenses of the asylum for the year 1879 were \$32,479.35, and that there is a balance of \$7,510.22 to be carried over to the next year, as the result of the savings of the two previous years, and that the institution has been operated at the smallest cost of any previous year. - Raleigh Observer: A number of

the fire insurance companies yesterday paid to the Secretary of State the taxes on gross receipts of premiums in the State. The following were the companies: Phœnix, of Hartford, Connectiont; Royal, of Liverpool and London; Home, of New York; Franklin, of Philadelphia; Niagara, of New York. - Senator Vance has introduced a bill for the restoration of the oxecutive letter books of North Carolina These books were taken from the capitol just after the war and carried to Washing-They contain much matter that will be invaluable when a full history of North Carolina's part in the great war comes to be written. - There are in Wake county 188 public schools, of which 98 are for whites and 90 for colored. The number of white pupils enrolled is 4,296, of which 2,433 are males, and 1,843 females. The number of colored pupils enrolled is 4,765, of which 2,411 are males, and 2,354 females. The total number of children in attendance at the public schools is there-- Weldon News: Hon. W. H.

Kitchin laid before the House, last week, a memorial of the Board of Trade of Newbern, asking an appropriation for the improvement of Trent river. Referred to the committee on Commerce. - Richard Higgs, of Scotland Neck, a colored man of good sense and possessing some property, ent to Washington, Tuesday, to testify before the Exodus committee. - On last Thursday J. T. Evans, Esq, resigned his Thursday J. T. Evans, Esq, resigned his office as magistrate, and Judge Gregory appointed Major L. M. Long to fill the vacancy. — Died, at his residence, in Halifax, Tuesday morning, of dropsy of the heart, after a long illness, W. H. Arrington Mr. Arrington was about fifty years of age.

— Alfred White, of Scotland Neck, had a brother named Redding, who joined the Confederate army during the war, and engaged in several battles, in one of which he was supposed to have been killed, and it was so reported. A few days ago Major Emry went out to Cincinnati on business, and found him there, where he had been living for some time. He sent messages to his family. — We publish in this issue another of the articles on the life of the Rev. Thos. G. Lowe, from the pen of that able writer, T. B. Kingsbury. Mr. Lowe certainly should have a monument to mark his last resting place, and call the attention of