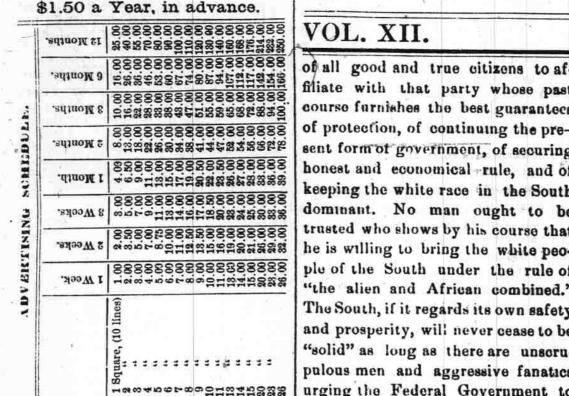
Che Weekly Star,

WILMINGTON. N. C.,



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RIGHT SOLIBITY.

Senator Butler, of South Carolina, in a letter to the Greenville News, sets forth his views more fully in regard to the course that the South should pursue. The letter contains much that is similar to what he said in the interview on the cars before alluded to. His views as to the necessity of the South remaining "-elid" in a certain sense will be approved by most of the Southern peoph. He is not for mere sectional soudity, but he is for that solidity which will continue to guarantee honest home government. He says: "The Radical party gave us carpet-bag-African domination and infamous State verements for eight years. The Dem-

ocratic party has given us pure, honest, home State governments for four years. As long as the Democratic party continues to give us good, honest State governments, I am 'solid' for the Democratic party, and I think every man who loves his country "I do not mean 'solid' in any sectional

sense, or in any sense which would intertere with the toil and loyal discharge of ev ry duty due to the National Govern-And if the North sees fit to get 'selid' from sheer perversity, and because we are 'solid' for good home governments, and a pure upright, impartial administration of the National Government, then I say, we cannot help it. We can only wish them joy in their 'solidity,' and go on attending to our own-business."

We are more interested in the purity and excellence of State and county governments than we are in mere national questions. As long as the people of North Carolina can ob tain men of unquestioned character to serve them, and the public affairs are attended to with fidelity and promptness, a proper regard for economy combined with efficiency being steadily held in view, they can stand a great deal of bad government in Washington. With abundant crops, fair health, virtue and intelligence among the people, due protection of life and property, and a determination to push on the car of progress, the people of North Carolina may for the next few years consider less what the Stalwarts propose, whilst steadily maintaining the Demlines intact. As Senator Butler affirms, it is the Democratic party that has given the Southern people good, honest, economical government, and it is to that party alone that they must look for a continuance of the political blessings of the past.

Our people should not be factious or fault-finding, but they should scrutinize the work of officials and see that they do their duty. We do not believe in sharp criticism save when deserved; nor do we believe in praising men or measures simply because they are classed as Democratic. The Legislature is soon to meet. We hope prudeuce and judgment will prevail, and when it has adjourned that the voice of all discreet and thoughtful people shall be-"Well done, good and faithful servants." The STAR is always glad to praise men and measures, but it will not approve simply because a Democrat or the Democratic party proposes a certain measure. Let the press be faithful guardians of the people's interests. If public men feel assured they will be condemned by the press of the State if they do wrong they will be careful and circumspect. Unfortunately there are papers that will not condemn a favorite or oppose a public measure of its party. They praise indiscriminately all that is done. The King can do no wrong.

poem of the last two hundred years, But we have digressed from the In Memoriam, speaks of a "wide and point with which we started; to keep wandering grave," which is highly up Democratic organization through poetical. We tried to use the latter out the South, as on that depends vesterday, but we are made to drop much of our futnre security, happiinto the time-worn "watery graves," ness and prosperity. It is the duty | with which we dismiss the subject.

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filiate with that party whose past

"solid" as long as there are unsoru

people by the combined agencies o

Radical carpet-baggery, home scal

any other section, or of getting control of

GUARANTERS AND GAUGES.

position that he had nothing to do

with the sale of the Western North

Carolina Railroad, and that the

Legislature alone is responsible. Our

friend of the Wilson Advance says

"We cannot conecive how 'our new

State administration' can be held responsi-

ble for the change, as the Western North

Carolina Railroad was sold to Best & Co.

without constraints on the gauge, by an almost

unanimons vote. Democrats and Republi-

cans vied with each other in their baste to

get rid of the intolerable burden. If, in

their anxiety to sell, they forgot to incorporate

in the terms of sale any condition restrain-

ing the purchasers from changing the

gauge, the Legislature, it seems to us, and

be held 'to the fearful responsibility."

not 'our new State administration,' should

This may be the correct view, but

we thought really that Governor

Jarvis had much to do in the way of

official influence in bringing about

the sale, and upon the terms accepted.

If we were mistaken we beg pardon.

But perhaps it was impossible for the

Legislature, organized as it was, to

secure the proper "restraints." It

may have been not so much -forget-

fulness as inability. We think it

was well known that it was simply

impossible to obtain proper guaran-

tees for the sale—that the friends of

Governor Jarvis in the Legislature

fought all efforts to obtain proper

guarantees, and we believe that Best

had laid down the law to the mem-

bers. One Senstor acknowledged on

the floor of the Senate that if certain

guarantees were entertained that

Best "would not buy." How could

any "restraints" have been adopted

with such a Legislature anxious to

The Louisville Courier-Journal

does not believe the Philadelphia

Times is correct in the statement we

copied that the clause in the Demo-

cratic platform-"a tariff for revenue

only"-lost Hansock his election.

The Louisville paper thinks the state-

ment erroneous, and if not erroneous

it asks how it happened "that the

same plank did not cost us so dearly

in 1876 and in 1856, when, standing

upon it, the Democratic party won

great national victories?" Outside

of the circle of protectionists, and it

cannot be said to be a very large

one, no one in this country can be-

lieve seriously that the war tariff

should be continued, high, unequal

and oppressive as it is. If the North

defeated Hancock because of the

words "a tariff for revenue only" be-

ing in the Democratic platform, it

must have placed but little confidence

in the sincerity of Garfield, a pro-

nounced free-trader. The Courier-

"There is nothing new in 'a tariff for

revenue only.' It is a Democratic truism

as old as the party. The Cincinnati plat-form, indeed, is less offensive, because less abusive, aggressive and specific, than any

of its predecessors. The plank was fully

considered in committee, and passed with

but two or three votes dissenting. It was

read to the Convention and ratified unani-

mously. The truth is, the late campaign

was based not on a principle, but on a de-

lusion; and Col. McClure rebuts himself as

a witness when he ventures the opinion

that the tariff plank 'cost Gen. Hancock

more votes in Pennsylvania than would

That great English poet, Alfred

Tennyson, in the grandest elegiac

have given him the State."

oblige such an Administration?

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1880.

THE LEASE OF THE MAILROAD.

Southern papers are just now havcourse furnishes the best guarantees ing something to say about Southern of protection, of continuing the preindustries and the way for our peosent form of government, of securing ple to act. The STAR, immediately honest and economical rule, and of after the election, said that our peokeeping the white race in the South ple had their State Governments and dominant. No man ought to be they must go to work in earnest. trusted who shows by his course that The census of 1880 is full of encouhe is willing to bring the white peoragement. It shows that the South ple of the South under the rule of is growing, is prospering. It shows "the alien and African combined." that in spite of disasters and bad go-The South, if it regards its own safety vernment our people have made and prosperity, will never cease to be great strides in the way of recuperation and expansion. It shows that pulous men and aggressive fanatics there are more encouraging signs in urging the Federal Government to the hated South than in the insolent, acts of oppression and threatening aggressive North. It shows that the the liberties and happiness of our South is abundantly able to take care of itself even though there was no dominating and boastful North, and liwagism and the negro. We again that its progress would be even quote from Senator Butler. Hesays: greater if it had been kindly treated "The Democrats of the South ought to and fostered instead of being a vicremain impenetrably 'solid,' not perseveringly so, or for the purpose of antagonizing tim of revolutionary sectional assaults. The South to-day is a very the National Government, as some of the Stalwart demagogues falsely charges us: important factor in the growth and but in self-defence, and because it is to her best interest that she be 'solid,' as she is prosperity of this country. When at present situated and surrounded. By the Northern negrophilist and civil remaining thus 'solid,' she stands invincible against the attacks of those who hate rights advocate undertakes to perseand a desirable abiding place for those who cute and depreciate the South and make it less productive and progressive, he is as stupid as if he had Some of Governor Jarvis's special the fabulous goose that laid the friends among the papers take the golden egg and slew it.

Let the South, for the present, give less heed to general politics, and devote its time and energies to developing its great resources. There is one thing our people ought to do. They ought to raise home supplies. They ought to diversify crops and become less dependent on the North. There are a hundred articles produced in the North and sold to our people that ought to be produced here in the South. We must cease to buy breadstuffs from Northern people, and we must not have our smoke houses in Cincinnati and Louisville.

Farmers of the South, stop that folly. We must have our own cotton mills. We must cease to buy and wear cotton fabrics manufactured in New or Old England out of cotton grown at our doors. Don't do that. It is wrong; it is suicidal. Let the cotton mills be brought to the cotton. We have shown often by indisputable facts that the South has a great advantage over New England in the manufacture of cotton. Raise home supplies and manufacture our cotton into fabrics, and we will grow more and more independent of the

unfriendly North. The South ought to do another thing. It ought to form direct trade relations with foreign ports. Let the products of the South be shipped direct to Europe and South America and other portions of the world. Let us trade with people who do not hate and abuse us. Let us be manly and self-respecting. Let us build up our Southern cities. Let us trade more with our own people. A leading Southern paper, the Montgomery

(Alabama) Advertiser, says: "The products and the trade of the South have been the real causes of the revival of business and the financial success of the United States Treasury in this country; but while the South has reaped little of the accruing benefits, the North has grown lusty and waxed fat therefrom. Let the Southern money now invested in Northern stocks be withdrawn while such stocks are igh and be put into manufactories and cals will not permit ships to be bought in the cheapest markets, let foreign associations be formed who will buy with it cheap Clyde steamers and establish direct lines between Southern and foreign ports, and i will not only return larger dividends than it is now doing, but will make the South

North Carolina has unbounded mineral deposits, the greatest variety of woods and most important fisheries. She makes the finest tobacco grown on the American Continent, although Virginia gets credit for it which ought not to be allowed. When our people become a manufacturing as well as an agricultural people; when her mines are more developed; when her farmers cease to buy the supplies that should be raised at home; when wool-growing is developed as it can and should be; when a great spirit of independence is awakened and we cease to be hewers of wood and drawers of water for a people in no sense our superiors and in many particulars our inferiors, who delight in using and despising us, then, indeed, will this fair land

Commerce perpetrates a joke. Its leader of the 26th is headed "Stand by the Canals." Of course they will. What else can they do as long as they are frozen up?

be The Great South.

We gave yesterday an extract from the account of the late meeting of the stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad, but we did not give all. We supplement it with a few facts. There was an overwhelming sense on the part of the private stockholders to lease to the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad. The vote as published showed that, Col. John L. Morehead, who represented 350 shares of private stock, declared unequivocally that he was against Best's proposition under any circumstances, and the reason he did not vote for the Wilmington & Weldon offer was because he did not wish to commit himself, but hoped for a still better bid from some one

who accompanied him. The Kinston Journal says that "the State's proxy, in obedience to the Governor's telegram, refused to vote on the question, and thus defeated the lease." It says further that the "will of the private stockholders was overwhelmingly in favor of leasing."

else. The bid of the W. & W. was

\$33,000; that of Best \$34,000, and

still the sentiment against Best was

overwhelming. In fact, he stood no

chance of getting but 39 votes, and

a part of this was by his attorney,

It then reproduces two extracts from articles in the Journal, of the dates of August 12th and August 26th, 1880. We give the gist of these articles:

"We took this to be an intimation that the State's Proxy would break up the meeting in September by refusing to participate in its deliberations, but Gov. Jaivis, in his speech here last Saturday, put a to allow the will of the private stockholders to govern in the matter, and to allow them to lease whenever they desired and to whom they pre-

"We think we can answer in a very few words why the State's proxy will not withdraw from the meeting:

"1. Because Gov. Jarvis openly asserted in his address here at Kinston that the will of the private stockholders should be allowed to govern in the matter.

"2. Because Mr. F. M. Simmons, the State's proxy, on the test question of leasing, at the June meeting voted aye along with about 1,300 voters of private stock, and after'so voting upon full deliberation he would never resort to a trick to nullify that vote. He might change his opinion as to the advisability of leasing, but would never consent to block the will of the private stockholders unless positively command-

The STAR reserves all comment for the present.

PRACTICAL CIVIL SERVICE RE-

The country is sufficiently advanced in its convictions of the necessity of genuine civil service reform and it would stand a great deal in that direction. The present incumbent of the Presidential office has disappointed every one. In some respects good official, he has brought reproach upon his Administration by his profound hypocrisy in regard to reforms in the civil service. He has palavered and promised and issued orders concerning reform, but they have come to nothing. Indeed, this very Hayes Administration, that promised more than all other Administrations, has done less. Nay, it has been more distinguished for the abuse of its patronage and for its own violations of civil service propriety than all others combined. Not satisfied with appointing to office scores of the dirty scoundrels who stole the Presidency for him and debauched the ballot, but it has been a regular stumpspeaking affair, and from Hayes down there has been nothing like it seen before in our country. Every member of the Cabinet left his office and went out on campaigning trips, thus setting an example of official partizanship and obtrusiveness and demagoguery that is a blistering shame and stigma not only to the superserviceable fellows who did the scavenger work, but to the corrupt party that sent them out.

The country will not listen with any patience to talk of civil service reform from Hayes and his set. The much from them on that topic. But the country will be glad to hear from the Democrats in Congress during the approaching session upon any proposed plan to reform the great and crying abuses of the civil service. It may be the opportunity of the Democrats to begin a movement in that direction that shall prove of immense benefit to the country, whilst signalizing their own The grave New York Journal of devotion to the best interests of all. The reply of General Garfield to the address made him by the association of Independent Republicans of New York encourages us to hope that he means more than

mere talk in the matter of reform. Nominating a Bishop for North Care If when he takes his seat he shall be true to what he said on the 26th he can be of service to the country in a ince of Baltimore was held Wednesday at way not to be disregarded by any the archiepiscopal residence, Archbishop Gibbons presiding, and there being also

party or section. Let only qualified men of unquestioned integrity be placed in office, and then let them be continued without being atithe mercy of partisan discrimination, and there will be much less corruption among the public servants, and much less temptation to serve party rather than country. We hope the Democrats in the present Congress will give their patient consideration to the subject of reform in the civil service that reflecting men of both parties know to be very important and imperative.

Edgar A. Poe is to have a monumental statue in Central Park, New York, if Mr. W. F. Gill, one of his many recent biographers, should be successful in a plan he has set on foot. He wishes the dramatic profession to aid in the matter, as Poe's father and mother both; belonged to that class. He wishes a series of performances to be given in January for the furtherance of the plan. Poe had more pure genius-not histrionic -than any man yet born of histrionic performers. The New York actors and actresses would honor themselves in an effort to honor the richly gifted Poe. We hope the project will prove

Ben Hill is getting a little sick of that letter. He is beginning to explain through a friend. It was private and was "in a time of depression and defeat." Bah! Ben got caught, and that is the long and the short of

Arrest and Heturn of Two of the Escaped Penitentiary Convicts.

Information having been lodged with Justice Gardner to the effect that the noorious Henry Crews and two other convicts, who were among the party who escaped from the guard in Jones county two or three weeks ago, were at a house about four miles from this city, warrants for their arrest were placed in the hands of Officers C. H. Strode, J. W. Whitney, Daniel Howard and J. A. Ashe, who started out on Tuesday afternoon last to endeavor to effect their capture: Arriving at the house in question, which was tenanted by colored people, they found a number of children and one man present, the latter being a stranger to them. The questioned the fellow and he indignantly denied ever having been in the Penitentiary or knowing anything about any escape. Notwith standing his asseverations, however, it was determined to fasten the "bracelets" upon him as a matter of experiment, which was done, and then one of the party while the others were looking around to see what else could be discovered, examined his clothing and found indisputable evidence of his identity as an escaped prisoner in the striped penitentiary garb which he wore beneath a plain suit of citizen's clothing. He was thereupon marched to the city and lodged in jail, and it was further ascertained that his name

was Jim Borden, and that he belongs in Franklin county. About 8 o'clock the same evening, at the house of Emeline Croom, mother of Henry Crews, in this city, another of the convicts, was arrested by the same officers, in the person of E. Walker alias E. Barker alias Charles Davis, sentenced for ten years from this county for breaking into the Cape Fear Tobacco Works building, in this city. He, too, was lodged in jail, and Thursday morning they started for Raleigh in charge of Officers Strode and Whitney. Crews kept out of the way of the officers and has probably left the neighborhood. We have refrained from mentioning the

above facts sooner from prudential rea-

natched from Rule.

For nearly two weeks past officers have been on the alert for a young white girl by the name of Annie Knox, an orphan, who had been raised in the family of Mr. J. G. Branch, of Polkton, Anson county, and who suddenly disappeared from her home and was known to be somewhere in this city. In order to stimulate the search for her a reward of \$100 was offered for her apprehension, and finally, on yesterday, she was found at the house of one Jim Lassiter, alias Doc. Barnes, colored, on McRae, between Red Cross and Campbell streets, and country has heard already far too is now held to await Mr. Branch's pleasure. | tained her name. Lassiter, it is said, came here from Charlotte. He was hailed on the street after the finding of the girl by a party who was with the officer, when he drew a pistol, but, without attempting to use it, suddenly took

> to his heels and escaped to the woods. The girl is apparently about eighteen years of age, and quite preposessing in appearance. Mr. Branch was telegraphed to and will probably come after her immediately.

Piney Woods Stock.

A note from Cerro Gordo, Columbus county, informs us that nine hogs were killed at Dr. J. M. McGoogan's place, on Tuesday last, the net weight of which aggregated 2,266 pounds, which is considered by Messre. J. J. Baldwin, H. W. Folk and J. stated, as pretty good for piney woods hoge.

We learn from the Baltimore papers that

convention of the bishops of the Prov-

present Bishops Becker, of Wilmington:

Keane, of Richmond; Kain, of Wheeling;

Lynch, of Charleston; Gross, of Savannah;

and Moore, of St. Augustine, Fin. The

object of the meeting of the prelates was to

determine upon the names of candidates to

be sent to the Holy See, for the vacant

Episcopal office of North Carolina, which

Father Gross, brother of Bishop Gross, de-

clined after being appointed to the office by

the Pope. A number of names for the

vacant office were proposed, and the bish-

ops proceeded to ballot. The three names

receiving the largest number of votes were

then placed in an envelope and ordered to

be sent to Bome, out of which the Bishop

of North Carolina will be selected. The

members of the Convention are not per-

mitted to reveal the names of those sent to

Rome. It is understood, however, that

of Baltimore, received quite a large vote,

and that his name is among those sent to

Charles Hawes, colored, was arrested by

Deputy Sheriff T. C. Miller, yesterday, on

a capias issued by Evander Singletary, Esq.,

Clerk of the Superior Court of Bladen

county, charged with larceny. He claimed

to be a resident of Topsail Sound, though

he had been working here for some time,

and persisted in the declaration that his

name was Charley Hall and that he was

not the man they were after. His declara-

tions were made in such a way, however,

as to convince an observant person that he

was playing a part, and finally a former

citizen of Bladen, who was conversant with

his history, and said he assisted in trying

him on one occasion, came in and identi-

fled him beyond question. It is said that

he was arrested for stealing a sheep and

broke out of the jail at Elizabethtown. He

is also accused of having at one time been

mixed up in a similar manner in a turpen

tine transaction, and he finally admitted

that there was some trouble about a little

tar, but he couldn't recall the affair about

never been in Bladen county. He was

committed to jail, where he will be held to

await the requisition of the Bladen county

The Sensations of a Morning-Rob-

the turpentine. He at first declared he had

trested on a Captas.

Rev. John Foley, of St. Martin's Church,

ling.

NO. 6

- The Kinston Journal rather goes for Gov. Jarvis in its last issue abuot his course concerning the lease of the A &

Spirits Turpentine

- Raleigh Visitor: A match at glass ball shooting was participated in at Sandford yesterday for a sixty dollar gun, and Mr. John T. Pullen, shooting for Mr. Hal. M. Worth, won the prize. — Died, at his residence, near Egypt, on the 25th inst., of paralysis, aged about 65 years, Mr. Orren Tyson, one of the most highly es-teemed citizens of Chathem county.

- The following are the officers of the State Sunday School Association, as chosen at the meeting held at Salisbury last week: President, Rev J. Rumple; Vice Presidents, Rev. J. J. Renn. R. R. Crawford, J. A. Ramsay, of Salisbury; C. G. Yestes, of Greensboro; Rev. C 11. Wiley, Winston; and H. A. Gudger, Raleigh; Treasurer, Prof. N. F. Aiderman, Greensboro; Statistical Secretary, E. A. Ebert, Salem; Corresponding Secretary, 11. M. Jones, Salisbury.

- Raleigh News-Observer: The Democratic vote for electors is 124,204; for Congressmen 120,402; for Judges 116,054 The Republican vote for electors is 115. 878; for Congressmen, including Greenbackers and Independents, is 108,768, and for Judges is 102,263. The contests announced by Canaday and Grandy will met amount to anything. We are informed that neither can show a reasonable ground of contest, and they can, in no event, hope to overcome the Democratic majornies in their districts.

- Monroe Express: We learn that few days ago, while on their way home from Monroe, a white boy named Hinson, from Chesterfield county, S. C., 13 years of age, was shot by a negro boy named Asgil Laney, the ball lodging in the shoul der, and producing a painful wound. It seems that the white boy was riding on one of the horses and the regro in the wager, when, without any prevention whatever, no words having passed between them, the negro drew a pistol and fired on the white boy, with the above result. As soon as the negro shot he jumped from the wagon and ran into the woods, and has not been seen

- Toisnot Home: Mrs. Dr. J. W. Earl, of Morilton, Ark., who has been visiting her relatives and many friends to this State for several months, and who is at present stopping with her brother, Dr. R. W. Joyner, of Wilson, received a telegram last Friday, telling her that her husband died very suddenly the night before, at his home in Morilton. Dr. E. was a former resident of Nash county, having moved to irkansas, about 8 years ago. - Mr. Henry Thornell, of Edgecombe county, was at Sharpsburg last Saturday with fish for sale, and after disposing of them started for home about dark, when he was overaken by two negroes who robbed him of about \$11 00.

- The meeting of the stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railadopted: Resolved. That it is the sense of the stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad, in special meeting assembled, that their road should be leased to the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, or other corporations or individuals, upon such terms as may seem best to the private stockholders and to the State. A resolution expressing preference for the proposigive it as we find it in the New Berne Nut Shell: The following was offered by Major John Hughes: Resolved, That with the lights now before us, we desire to express preference for the proposition for a ease of this road to R. R. Bridgers and J. F. Divine for the sum of thirty-three thousand dollars per annum, provided that the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad shall become security for the payment of the rental. A stock vote being called for, the vote resulted-ayes 1,024 votes, represent-

ing 3,340 shares; nays 389 votes, repre-

- Raleich News-Observer: Mr.

senting 789 shares.

C. S. Lumsuen, who was injured more than a week ago by a gun, is nearly well. We learn that the reason why Gen. Leach's vote is not so large as Mr. Busbee's is that the county of Tyrrell omitted the names of Messrs. Leach and Everett in making up their returns. - The colored Grand Lodge of Masons, which meets in this city December 14, will hold sessions in the hall on the fourth of the Bagley building. More than 150 delegates are looked for. -And we concur with the STAR. An editor of a daily paper ought to be conversant with a great many subjects before he begins his editorial life, because after he gets into harness his opportunities for acquiring general knowledge are restricted. ilton, Granville county, corresponticularly fatal to aged females in Brassfield's Township, to-wit: Mrs. Gideon Perry, aged 70 years, died on the 17th of Miss Nancy Insco, 78 years of age, fell and fractured her clavicle; death ensued in a few minutes. On the 18th, Mrs. Barbara Preddy died instantly from aneurism, aged 90 years. On the 19th, Mrs. Elva Friechie died in two hours from the bite of a bull dog; aged 87 years. On the same day, Thomas Melville, Esq., aged 64, was thrown from his buggy and transfixed by a stake near the roadside; death resulted before he was found; and at last accounts, G. Washington Rogers, Granville's lately elected misrepresentative, was lying in

- Charlotte Observer: It is perhaps not generally known that there is a law on the North Carolina statute books prohibiting the shipment of patridges, dead or alive, out of the State. - J. B. Gretter, Deputy U. S. Marshal, left Greensboro vesterday with five white men and one negro, who were sentenced by the Federal Courts at Asheville and Statesville, to terms in the Albany penitentiary, for violation of the revenue laws and other offences against the general government - Two colored men got into a difficulty at the Richmond & Danville depot yes!er day, when one struck the other in the back of the head with the sharp point of a cotton hook, tearing the skin loose and making an incision about an mach long. - At a social gathering at the residence of Mrs. Austin, in Sharon township, night before last, Mr. Willis Johnston, a young man about seventeen years old, took the floor for a dance. He had scarcely taken his position when he was stricken with paralysis and sank down upon the floor. Before the physician arrived he lost control of the muscles of the left side of his body, and at last accounts was in a very critical condition. - Mrs. Benfield, who was assaulted by her husband, Pinkey Benfield, in Caldwell county last week, and severely cut with an axe, has since died Benfield is acknowledged to be insane, and would have been in the asylum but for the fact that it is generally understood to be full. - About the bighest honor ever sought by the press of North Carolina is to be elected reading or engrossing clerk of the Legislature. -Headquarters of the Western North Carolina Railroad have been established at Salisbury, the superintendent's and secres tary and treasurer's offices having been moved from Morganton. -Mrs. Nat Gray died very suddenly of congestion at the residence of her husband. Sunday evening, between 7 and 8 o'clock. - Sunday morning the wife of Gen. W. H. Neal expired at his residence in Steel Creek Township. Mrs. Neal was far advanced in years, the couple probably being the oldest in the county, having been married nearly

sixty years.

bery and Suicide. The little town of Mt. Olive, on the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, was the scene of considerable excitement Thursday morning. First, the early risers discovered hat Mr. Robert Kornegay's store had been broken open during the night and plundered to some extent, the object of the thief, however, having evidently been money; but the cash drawer, which was found torn from its fastenings, contained but little of the "needful" and the safe was too much for the thief's capacity. The next scene on the programme, which was a very melancholy and tragical one, occurred about 9 o'clock. Willie Southall,

son of Mr. George Southall, of Magnolia, Duplin county, shot himself in the fore-head, dying instantly. He was a machine agent, had just driven into town in his wagon, and had not been there five minutes when he stepped off behind a building to himself and committed the rash a . Deceased was about 22 years of age and was well known in this city, having been in the employ of Mr. J. W. Zimmerman

about two or three years ag . Death of a Former Wilmingtonian.

The Staunton (Va.) Spectator announces the sudden death, on Monday last, at the Virginia Hotel in that place, of Mr. Elisha Shepperson, formerly of this city, where he was well known and much respected, being engaged in the insurance business. At the time of his death, which was caused by heart disease, he was employed as bookkeeper by Messrs. Burke & Bradley, of Staunton. The Spectator "He had been rather complaining for several days, but was much better Monday and wrote a letter to a lady in Eastern Virginia, to whom he was soon to have been married; but whilst the boy carried it to the postoffice he breathed his last. He was a quiet, unobtrusive gentleman, and greatly respected by all who knew Mr. Shepperson was about 66 years

Change of Schedule.

The fast train on the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad goes into effect at 3:40 P. M., to-morrow (Sunday), the 28th inst-There will then be three trains per day on this road, and the schedule will be as follows: Trains will leave Wilmington at 6:40 A. M., 4:15 P. M., and 8:03 P. M.; and will arrive at Wilmington at 8:20 A. M., 9:55 P. M., and 10:10 P. M.

The fast mail will stop only at such stations as per time in schedule, and will make the run from Wilmington to Weldon in 5:39 and from Weldon to Wilmington

On the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta road there will be only two trains, as heretofore, one of which will leave Wilmington at 8:40 A. M., and arrive at 7:43 P. M. and the other will leave at 10:25 P. M., and arrive at 6:20 A. M.

The Brunswick Horror.

In Tuesday's paper we mentioned the fact that the body of a colored infant had been reported as found in a swamp near Summerville, Brunswick county, with its head and one arm missing. We now hear that a colored woman has been arrested on the charge of being the mother of the infant and with having committed the crime, and that the evidence against her is very strong, though we have not as yet ascer-

Vegetable Curlosity.

We examined yesterday a curiosity in the shape of a potato which grew through the ring of a key which happened to be imbedded in the ground by it. In the middle it is shaped to the dimensions of the ring, while both ends are of the size of an ordinary potato. The key is old and rusty, as if it had been in the ground for a long time. The potato is from the patch of Mr. James H. Durham, Sr., of Rocky Point.

The Wood Famine.

The scarcity of firewood in this city continues to be a source of anxiety and is really becoming a very serious matter, as there will necessarily be much suffering among those unable to pay the exorbitant prices now demanded for fuel. Cannot our railroad and steamboat lines come to the rescue of our suffering citizens, and, by furnishing transportation at reasonable F. McMillan, who testify to the fact above rates, induce persons to bring wood to the city for sale ?