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GATHER THE REMONIAL OF THE FANT.

We are glad to learn from the Raleigh News-Observer that there is some prospect that after the lapse of fifteen years since the war closed steps to form an organization for North Carolina will be taken, the object of which is to gather up the historic material of the State, and to hand down to unborn generations the story of the brave deeds and sufferings of the 125,000 brave men who were called into the war.

Let the new association begin its work in earnest. Let a complete, accurate, history of North Carolina, from 1861 to 1865, be published. If it will secure this it will have done a very great, important and patriotic service. Let the work be written, not in the interest of this section or that; not to blow the trumpet of this General or that; not to praise the deeds of one command at the expense of another, but let it be written in the interests of truth, candor, and a broad patriotism that knows no enemies, no favorites, no party prejudices, and then send it forth to the world.

We copy from the Raleigh News-Observer some comments upon the two bills passed incorporating two narrow gauge railroad companies. We agree with our Raleigh contemporary that these roads are specially adapted to the needs of our State. We have thought for years that instead of building broad gauge roads in many sections it would have been better every way if the other kind had been preferred.

As a supplement to our leader of yesterday, we copy a paragraph from Gov. Vance's address delivered before the Southern Historical Society in 1875, which shows how strong North Carolinians were in the Army of Northern Virginia. Gov. Vance said: "Of the four Divisions, D. H. Hill's, A. P. Hill's, Longstreet's and Jackson's, which assailed and put to rout McClellan's right on the Chickahominy, there were 92 regiments of which 46 regiments were North Carolinians. This statement I make upon the authority of one of the Division Commanders."

THE WEEKLY STAR.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1881. VOL. XII. NO. 14.

Carolinians for his thoughtfulness. Maj. J. W. Moore is to have charge of the publication. This is one step - an important one. A copy of this Roster should be sent to every public library in the United States.

When it is known that within four years North Carolina sent 12,000 more soldiers to the war than the white vote of the State prior to 1861, it will give it a position abroad it has not now. When it is known that North Carolina lost more men than any other State in the South it will tell the world that her soldiers were close up where men bleed and die. In the battles around Richmond North Carolina lost more than 5,000 men killed and wounded. We have a list of the wounded in print, and they exceed 3,300, exclusive of those in the Brigade hospitals. At Spottsylvania, North Carolina lost again more than 5,000 men. These facts should be brought out. Said Gen. Hood in our hearing in his Yarrowborough House speech, "If I had to give the bouquet to that State which did best in the war - that furnished the most men and the best men - I should be compelled from a sense of justice and fairness to bestow it upon North Carolina. I do not say this because I am here tonight the recipient of your courtesies. I had large observation. I served in Virginia and in the other army that operated farther South, and I know that North Carolina deserves all I have said."

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This explains why it was North Carolina sustained a loss of more than 5,000 men in the Seven Days' fight, as we said yesterday. Suppose a man were to do you a grievous wrong? Suppose after some years he were to tell you that if circumstanced as he was at the time he injured you he would do again as he had done before? Suppose he were to ask a great personal favor of you after that, and refuse to make any acknowledgments whatever, what would you do? Would you turn the other cheek? Would you give him your coat and your ulster? There is a bit of politics in the above. Do you see it?

THE PROFITS OF COTTON MILLS. A Mr. D. M. Thompson has published a book that is devoted in part to cotton planting in the South and cotton manufacturing. We have not seen it, but we have seen extracts from it. We judge that he is unwilling to admit that the South has the advantage over the North in cotton manufacturing. He admits it has some advantages, but he insists also that the North has advantages over the South. We copy a paragraph or so to show in what spirit he writes. He says: "The advantages claimed for the Northern manufacturer are precisely what has been claimed for the people of Great Britain against the competition of New England, and which - until recently - were generally believed to be just. New England manufacturers have conclusively demonstrated that the claim of Great Britain was not altogether well founded, although England still possesses some points of advantage. In like manner the North possesses certain advantages over the South, which they will doubtless always continue to retain. "The chief advantage in favor of Southern mills is cheap cotton. Comparatively the mill at the North must use high-cost cotton. Now the measure of the advantage or disadvantage is determined by the character of the goods made; the amount of cotton consumed; its relation to the labor expended upon it; and the amount of capital invested."

After discussing the advantages and disadvantages as to the character of goods manufactured, he says the South has the advantage decidedly in the production of coarse goods, whilst the North has the advantage in the fine. The STAR during the last five years has had dozens of editorials upon the subject of cotton manufacturing in the South. It has often contested the opinions of Northern writers who sedulously strove to show that New England had real advantages over the South. Mr. Thompson evidently does not share in their sweeping opinions. Whilst he claims for New England certain advantages he thinks it will always hold, he concedes that in coarse goods the South has the advantage. We cannot now understand why in the future the South may not overcome those advantages claimed for New England at present and appropriate them as her own. When Northern capitalists who are experienced cotton manufacturers transfer their mills to the South, or at any rate their capital and experience, then, we apprehend, the advantages now claimed for New England will begin to disappear.

Already Northern cotton manufacturers are beginning to make investments in the South. The New York paper entitled Cotton says that New England manufacturers have been examining the subject of cotton manufacturing in the South with lively interest, and that "we are on the eve of an extensive transfer of this great industry from the North to the South." Mr. Thompson lives at Providence, Rhode Island, and is said to be good authority in mill engineering. He reaches the conclusion that "no investment so safe and few so profitable can be found as in the manufacture of coarse goods in the South, and the time is not far distant when all of this class of goods produced in this country will be made in the South."

As to whether cotton manufacturing is profitable or not in the South there can be no sort of mistake in arriving at a correct conclusion. Take the Augusta, Ga., mills for instance. The Augusta Factory has 24,200 spindles, 800 looms, capital stock \$600,000. The gross earnings amounted to 12 24-100 per cent. of capital stock. The Cotton says mills in the North producing the same class of goods show but little difference in the cost of labor. It says there is room for a further reduction in the cost of labor in the South. It thinks that whenever the Southern mills are operated at a higher rate of speed (as has been the case in New England during the last six years) that less help will be required, and consequently the labor cost will be less.

But there are other mills that show excellent results. We quote from Cotton: "The Langley Mill, at Langley, S. C., has 10,000 spindles, representing a capital of \$40 per spindle, or \$400,000. With this enormous amount they have never paid less than 8 per cent. dividend per annum during the past ten years, and in January of 1879 had accumulated a surplus of \$75,000. They report a profit last year of 22 per cent. The Van Cluse Mill, owned by the Granite Mill Manufacturing Company, has 10,000 spindles and 800 looms, and is one of the best mills of its class in the country. They report a profit of 21 per cent. last year. "The Piedmont Mill, near Greenville, S. C., is a mill of 10,624 spindles, 240 looms (part year), capital stock of \$336,000. They report a profit last year of 24 per cent. in a fine mill of its class, similar to the Van Cluse."

cently the profits of the mills in the Clement Attachment, so we ought them to-day in this discussion. The Attachment is destined to be used extensively, we suppose, and hence for other statistics will be acceptable. There is no reason yet offered why cotton manufacturing may not become a great industry in the South. By 1890 the returns will adjust New England it may be.

A PROPOSITION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION FOR THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE. Senator Wallace, who will give the Democratic Senators from Pennsylvania, has introduced a joint resolution that we hope will pass. This is to amend the Constitution so as to allow the people to vote directly for President and Vice President, without having recourse to the clumsy circuitous way of an Electoral College. A secret ballot is to be used, and each State is to be divided into as many districts as it has members of Congress, including both Houses. If a senator is not a member of Congress what is he a member of? Mr. Wallace's resolution needs rewording just here, for it speaks of Senators as if a Senator was a member of something else. Each district in each State is to have one vote. The whole machinery of counting is set forth. What we are now specially concerned about is to get rid of the present manner of voting. Garfield will be inaugurated if he lives, and yet Hancock has a clear majority over him of 6,332 votes. Let the people have the privilege of voting for the man of their choice. The Democrats lost certainly one vote for Hancock in the Electoral College through the unpopularity of a California elector. The vote for electors varies greatly, so under the present system it is possible for the electoral vote of a State to be divided whilst there may be a decided majority for one candidate among the people.

But the chief objection to the system lies in its failure to correctly reflect the will of the people. Hayes was counted in with a popular majority against him of over a quarter of a million. Garfield goes in as a minority candidate. Lincoln was the minority more than a million votes. In this country the theory is that majorities rule. That is the theory now, but when the Electoral College system was devised it was not intended that the people should have any hand in electing a President. To prevent this a thoroughly undemocratic plan was hit upon, the one now in use, that sends Garfield into the Presidential office with a majority of over six thousand against him. Time, trial, experience have demonstrated that the Electoral College is a failure, at once unequal, dangerous and cumbersome. It was the result of a compromise. It is known to all the students of the Constitution that among its framers there were many variant views, and that two parties from the first hour antagonized in the Convention. These two parties represented two sets of ideas and principles that were as opposite as the two poles. The one was surcharged with the old Monarchical ideas of England; the other were the friends of the people and the true Democrats in its best sense. One party did not mean to let the people select a President, having no confidence in the masses, but believed greatly in their own wisdom, intelligence, virtue and patriotism. They wanted to rule. They wanted to be aristocrats. The other party believed in a government of the people, and for the people and by the people. They were opposed to the theory that after getting rid of one tyranny there was wisdom and safety in setting up another tyranny. Hence, they were for the people ruling. The Electoral College was a compromise as we have said. It was to be a barrier between the people - the democracy, and the President. The struggle was long and many theories were broached. It must be remembered that the men of that era were making an experiment. They were forming a Government on a plan at once novel and without a precedent. On the final vote for each State to appoint electors North Carolina voted no. The fact is this State has always held that the people should rule. Whenever North Carolina has had to set she has stood by the people. Her whole history for more than two hundred years is a strong protest against tyranny, oppression and wrong. She has always con-

tended for the largest liberty. She was the first State but one to sign the Declaration and to become a part of the Union. She leaved always the encroachments of men of aristocratic and monarchical ideas. She would never have come into the Union if she should have foreseen that the aristocratic government ideas were to prevail in that Union.

The Electoral College was a poor compromise, after all, but it was possibly the best that could be framed at the time and under the circumstances. In this long ago letter it day brought to be sent to the throes of our laws and virtuous compromise. The Philadelphia Times, that is often very near the mark, according to our view, says of the blood of a change: "Down to 1824 the electors were chosen in many of the States by the Legislature. With the question of their selection the people had practically nothing whatever to do. Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, New York and Vermont followed this practice up to the year above mentioned, but at the present time the electors are chosen in every State in the Union by the people - that is, so far as the people can choose anybody. They are practically chosen by the gentlemen who control the machine, and all the latitude the people are allowed is to vote for one of the sets of electors the managers of the numerous machines may see fit to present to them. In the mutilations of our politics the theory of the Electoral College has been departed from and its practical operation, as we have it to-day, is vicious in the extreme. The Electoral College is a sort of constitutional dynamite mine, which, as we saw in 1876, may explode at any time. The part of patriotism is to get rid of it."

We do not now stop to consider the plan for counting the Presidential popular vote or for counting the Electoral vote if that inefficient and really dangerous system is to be continued. We fear Mr. Wallace's bill, like so many others that look to a change for the good of the country, will not only meet with violent opposition but will be defeated. Some one sent us a marked copy of the Washington World, containing a long article on Hon. Kenneth Rayner, well known to North Carolinians of a quarter of a century ago. The object of the article is to give the Judge, for such he is now, a boom for a Cabinet appointment. Mr. Rayner left North Carolina, of which he is a native, some twenty years ago. He is a man of decided ability, and was at one time one of the leading Whig members of the House of Representatives. He saw proper to identify himself with the Republican party and got a fat office. We cannot say that we are anxious for him to receive a Cabinet appointment. That he would not be the weakest man if selected we are sure, but he would not be credited to North Carolina and would not have great influence in a body made up mainly of stalwarts, however kindly disposed he might be to the South. If a North Carolinian is to be chosen we would prefer one who is more thoroughly identified with our people than Judge Rayner is. But our preferences will not avail anything.

Here is the way "Bildad" of the Richmond State puts the case of Martin vs. Yastes in his letter from Washington of 27th: "Martin, Republican, has represented the First district of North Carolina for nearly two years, during which Yastes, Democrat, has contested his seat. At last the Committee on Elections reports by a party vote that Yastes ought to have the seat. The Republicans want at least four hours, they say, to discuss the matter in the House. If Yastes should be seated he will draw \$10,000 for services during the next month, just as if he had served for the two years for which Martin has already been paid. Last week Hull, of Florida, Democrat, was turned out and Busbee, Republican, seated. Both drew pay for the year and eleven months that one held the seat."

How long must these things continue? Oh, for a few grains of good "horse sense" to distribute among the "National" Solons. Would not a little plain, old-fashioned honesty help also? The Democrats have been thwarted in the United States House in some of their measures for want of a quorum. Absenteeism is the curse of our party. Why will men run for an office that takes them to Washington when they have such a distaste for that place. We know lots of clever fellows who would most gladly take the \$5,000 salary and enter into bonds that they would not leave Washington for a day and never dodge a vote and take all the free drinks that were handed round. But it is time this Democratic absenteeism business was stopped. It is feared that the electoral count will fall from this cause. A regiment of volunteers from the North are to visit New Orleans during the Mardi Gras festivities.

A steamer struck at Star Harbor. The small stern-wheel steamer Clinton, plying between this city and Beaufort's Bridge, on the Northeast River, in Pender county, sank at the wharf of Mr. J. A. Springer's coal and wood yard between Princess and Chestnut streets, yesterday morning, about 4 o'clock. There was one white and seven or eight colored men on the boat at the time, the former occupying the captain's office, when they were startled by the clacking, jingling noises made by the steamer in striking. All had sought for their lives, the most of them in their night clothes, leaving their baggage and effects in the steamer. Andrew Black, a fisherman, was the first to discover that the steamer had gone down, and he rescued the colored men, and remained on the wreck until the morning. The crew, who were in the boat with the doors fastened, when the alarm was given, had the greatest difficulty in saving themselves, and all of the steamer being completely submerged before they reached the wharf. The greatest consternation ensued among the frightened men for awhile, and no wonder, for but for the fortunate awakening of Andrew Black it is probable that several of them would have gone down with the steamer and perished before assistance could have reached them.

Eight cords of wood, about twenty dozen eggs and the effects of the crew constituted the loss, in addition to the necessary damage to the boat. Capt. James Wallace, the owner and commander of the steamer, was at his residence in this city when the accident occurred. The steamer is still lying where she went down, with only a small portion of the bow above the water.

A Pleasant Affair. A number of the friends of Mr. J. Chas. M. Stedman tendered him a complimentary supper at the City Hall last evening, the occasion being his birthday, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all present. During the evening Mr. John J. Fowler presented Mr. Stedman with a beautiful gold-headed cane, the gift of some of his many friends, and in so doing made quite a graceful and appropriate speech. Numerous toasts were proposed, and speeches in response were made by gentlemen in a befitting and happy manner. The affair was a most pleasant one in every way and warmly attested the high regard and sincere affection felt for the gentleman by his friends.

It is probably needless to add that the supper was done full justice to and that the liquids brought forth were disposed of in proper style. The compliment was one that the recipient can but feel proud of, and we do not doubt heartily appreciate, as he assuredly should.

The Hog Question. Mr. R. McMillan, of Lumberton, after alluding to a statement that Richard Cotton, Esq., of Chatham county, killed a hog two years old, weighing 540 pounds, claiming it to be the largest hog in the county, writes that Mr. Irvin Jenkins, of Lumberton, killed one on Dec. 30th, 28 months and 15 days old, that weighed 554 pounds. We also learn from a private letter that Mr. G. W. Elkins, residing near Clarkton, Columbus county, killed nine hogs, which had been taken up from a swamp and fed three weeks, and they aggregated in weight 2,887 pounds.

The fact is, after recording the weight of the hog recently that turned the scales at 1,412 pounds, we feel like putting anything in that line under six or eight hundred pounds in the category of pigs. Some Good Farming in Onslow. A correspondent on the seacoast of old Onslow reports that Dr. E. W. Ward, at Cedar Point, New River, cultivated part of his farm with only four plows, made 400 barrels of corn, 44 stacks of fodder, averaging 800 pounds to the stack; 25 bales of cotton, averaging 500 pounds to the bale; 500 bushels of peanuts, 90 bushels of rice; and had four acres in sweet and one in Irish potatoes, to say nothing of melons, pumpkins, and garden vegetables sufficient to feed a regiment. This was all made with four plows and thirteen hands, five of them not half grown, and without the use of any commercial fertilizer whatever. He also laid by 9,500 pounds of pork. Our correspondent adds: "Score this for the sound lands of Onslow."

Foreign Shipments. The foreign shipments yesterday were as follows: The German Barque Constantin von Reinecke, to Cardiff, with 3,044 bbls. rosin, by Messrs. Paterson, Downing & Co.; the Swedish Barque Irsael, to Liverpool, with 843 bales of cotton and 1,000 barrels of rosin, by Messrs. Alex. Sprunt & Son; the Swedish Barque Thorpy, to Bristol, with 2,899 barrels of rosin, by Messrs. Alex. Sprunt & Son; and the German Barque Anna, to Hamburg, with 3,150 barrels of rosin, by Messrs. J. R. Blossom & Evans.

Reports from Raleigh. It is understood from parties from Raleigh that the Sub-Committee, appointed by the Senate and House Judiciary Committee, to take into consideration a proposition to establish Criminal Courts for the State, have decided to recommend a bill to that effect, the Judges to be paid by the State. There was no truth in the rumor on the streets yesterday, to the effect that a telegram had been received announcing that the Criminal Court had been abolished. The rumor no doubt, originated from the report given above. The Galveston News understands how to advertise itself. It gathers by special all the villanies perpetrated in Texas and then flashes them throughout the country.

Mr. J. J. Stewart has revived the Raleigh Observer, and is a good editor, his firm much experience, and we hope will be well sustained. Charlotte is moving to have \$100,000 spent in the construction of country roads with the free use of stone. They are tired of the mud torpids. Statesville items in the Charlotte Observer. The suit of Mrs. M. G. Groden, widow of the late Mr. G. Groden, who was killed by the falling of an Indian Creek tree, will be tried at 10 o'clock. Robb and Long, of this place, have been sentenced to the county jail for 30 days. Prohibition is exciting the people here more than any question that has been sprung up about for quite a while. Tobacco Southern. Mrs. L. B. Burton, the mother of Eliza J. W. Burton, of Tennessee, and mother of J. B. Burton, of this place, died at 10 o'clock, on the 24th inst. (As is shown, she was most honorably connected. [Mrs. Burton's husband was a slave; she was the daughter of the late Gov. Hutchings G. Burton, all of Greenville county.] -Stran.)

A school train is going on at Greenville, S. C., between North Carolina and South Carolina, the former represented by Six Hills, of Aikens, and the latter by J. E. Carter, of Wilkes. A girl named D. B. Hill and the first Mrs. Tuesday and a majority of the girls Wednesday. A large crowd is in attendance. The Charlotte Observer says that the school train will be held every day to-day. Hill was the first, the fourth and the seventh, and the main, the being the fifteenth and the deciding fight.

Wilson Advances. Tuesday evening, little Duncan son of Mr. David Gardner, fell from the platform of the second story of Griffin & Murray's carriage about to the ground, and was at first thought to be seriously injured, but it is thought to be out. -Friday, January 14th, 1881. Mrs. Jane B. Hamlet, one of Wilson's oldest and respected residents, died at the residence of her grandson, Mr. R. T. Stevens, at the address of 28 years. -Mr. A. W. Arrington of Rocky Mount has failed. He made an assignment to H. Bonn, Esq., who thought that the creditors will lose \$15,000.

Wadesboro Times: Last Sunday a bloody and fatal affray took place upon the plantation of Mrs. Jane Watkins, near Ansonville, in this county. The parties were all colored. It seems that Harb. Wall and his son Vest got into a quarrel with Charles Carpenter, which soon culminated in a fight. During the melee Harb. drew a knife and inflicted a mortal wound in Carpenter's neck, severing the left jugular vein. Before Carpenter fell, the young Vest Wall dealt him a blow on the head with a fence rail that fractured his skull. Of course death immediately ensued. Harb. Wall is now behind the iron bars of the jail, but Vest has made his escape.

Raleigh News-Observer: The large steam saw mill of Mr. Warden, in Beaufort county, about six or eight miles from Washington, N. C., on Blount Creek, was destroyed by fire a few days ago. It was put up on quite an extensive scale, and had just been completed. The proprietor had invested about \$20,000 in the enterprise. The fire was the work of an incendiary. A. H. Hicks, S. R. Hilliard and A. C. Thomas were yesterday arranged before United States Commissioner Parsell, on a charge of hindering and obstructing negroes from voting in Whitaker's township, Nash county. Four witnesses were examined. C. S. Beaman, a publican candidate for the Senate, made the affidavit on which the proceedings were based, but on cross-examination acquitted them of obstructing the polls.

Correspondence Raleigh News-Observer: On the 13th inst. Mr. Francis J. Byrd, of Stanley county, accompanied by his little son, about six years old, harnessed his mule and went to the top of the Falls Mountain after a load of pine. After loading the wagon he detached the mule, locked the wagon and attempted to draw down the steepest part of the mountain himself. But the chain broke, and in the effort to hold the wagon he was caught and thrown down between one of the wheels and a rock and killed. One of the horses ran two places and his breast crushed. The wagon-wheel remained on his breast about an hour. His little son carried the dreadful news home to his mother. The deceased was a very industrious, frugal young man. He leaves a wife and several little children to mourn their irreparable loss.

Charlotte Observer: A mass meeting of the colored congregations of the city took place last night at the African Methodist Episcopal church, in connection with the prohibition movement. About five hundred were present. The last mail from the south being about ten hours behind time Tuesday, left here in the afternoon just before the meeting. The prohibition record is rocked by some parties near the track, one rocking entering the passenger car and passing very close to a lady. The express train following a few minutes later was also rocked at the same spot. Dr. W. M. Campbell died Monday and was buried here Tuesday. Dr. Campbell will be remembered with affection and the news of his death will be heard with regret by many, if not all, the surviving members of the old Seventh North Carolina regiment, of which he was the surgeon.

The trustees of the University met at Raleigh on Wednesday, and passed an important resolution we will publish hereafter. The Alumni Association also met. Mr. Paul C. Cameron and President Battle delivered addresses. From the News-Observer we glean: "The Alumni Association announced that Messrs. Paul B. Mease, Feb. E. Busbee and Julian S. Carr, had been appointed a committee to issue an address to the Alumni. At 10 o'clock some 300 gentlemen, students and graduates of the Alumni Association or their guests, among them nearly every member of the Assembly, sat down to elegant supper in the spacious dining hall of the Fairbrough. Col. Duncan K. McBride was called on for a speech, and made some exceedingly witty and eloquent remarks, saying among other things that the banquet was a 'feast of reason and a flow of soul without any sprits.' Elizabeth City Economist: Portions of a wrecked vessel, together with a lot of railroad iron, has been thrown upon the beach between Oregon and New Inlet and we fear there has been King at sea. We understand that Mr. King, the contractor, says the E. C. & N. E. R. will be completed and at work by March, if they can have working weather half the time all the year. A man named J. H. H. of this town, died on Monday last, aged 61 years. Fowler's cotton factory will commence operations in about three weeks. The death of Bishop Atkinson came a gloom over his many friends in the town of Williamston. A faithful steward has gone to his reward, and his works will follow him. By direction of Rev. T. B. Houghton, the pastor of the parish, the church was draped in mourning, and on Sunday last he preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion, referring in touching terms to the character of the saintly Bishop, and also to his own personal loss. Some days ago a battle and needless fellow citizen road into Greenville at early dawn, at break-neck speed, crying aloud through the streets that judgments day had 'arrived'; said he had seen the heavenly band, and had given his soul to the 'Apostle Abraham.' Investigation proved that he had been in the country on a bander, and that 'snakes' had him.