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The Weekly Star.

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A GOOD SUGGESTION.

The Petersburg *Index-Appeal*, in considering the North Carolina school bill, makes a good suggestion. It is to do away with all grade certificates and leave it to the county superintendents to say whether a teacher is qualified or not. It says that the average school boy could answer correctly the questions asked of candidates for second and third grade certificates, and yet he is not a teacher. Teaching is a gift. Any one can set himself up as qualified to teach the young idea, but qualified teachers really do not abound. The *Index-Appeal* says, and correctly, as we think:

"Our people have yet to learn, it would seem, that a man may not teach all he knows. Teaching is a profession *per se*—as much so as law or medicine, and a teacher of the rudimentary branches should be as thoroughly informed and drilled as a teacher of the higher branches. Indeed, until the mind has reached the age of discrimination, more care is necessary in its training than when it is more fully developed. It requires more *teaching* for a child than for a student at the University—and as first impressions are the most lasting, care should be taken that they be correct. But in the average country school there are pupils of all grades, and the teacher must needs be an oracle to meet the demands of his position.

If superintendents are qualified, they can select teachers who are equal to the important duties involved, provided there be a supply equal to the requirements. But poor pay gets very indifferent teachers. But this is an unknown fact to the average legislator. They seem to think that small pay will command talents and experience among teachers, whilst only good fees will secure qualified lawyers. We can have no hope for a really efficient system in North Carolina as long as the legislators place so little value upon qualification for Superintendent of Public Instruction, County Superintendents and Teachers. What sort of State Superintendent will he be who is worth but $1,500 a year, and half that to be expended in discharging the duties of his office? What sort of County Superintendent can be got for $2 a day when on duty? What sort of teachers at $20 or $25 a month? We pity the children.

YORKTOWN.

The STAR does not care especially whether or not a sum is appropriated to have North Carolina represented at Yorktown. If the wisdom of the Legislature tends that way, the STAR will not make a great fuss about it. But it is a little singular that certain papers and individuals are so deeply sorrowful and chagrined at the failure to make the needed appropriation who were absolutely as dumb as oysters when other battles were to be celebrated, or ought to have been celebrated, in which the glory and renown of dear old North Carolina were far more intimately concerned than with Yorktown. The next thing, and some of our people will be clamoring for appropriations to have statues of Generals of other States erected in Washington while neglecting our Davy, Caswell, Moore, Harnett, Howe, Pender, Pettigrew, and other heroes. Let us celebrate home victories first, and then go abroad to participate in other festivities. State pride is excellent, and it ought to be equal to rewarding the merit of native sons and of celebrating the deeds of men who rendered North Carolina immortal.

This State participated in many battles during the Revolution, in the North as well as in the South, and we believe no sum was appropriated to allow North Carolina to be represented in their celebration. If we are not mistaken no sum was set apart to celebrate any of the more important events that occurred on our soil. How much was given to make the Mecklenburg Centennial a splendid success?

But now North Carolina must wake up and have a hand in Yorktown or she will display a mean spirit deserving of all censure. Just so. It is never too late to mend. "Awake, arise, or be forever fallen," or words to that effect. Now, if those clamoring for a Yorktown appropriation will move for statues of our foremost men, civic and military, something after the manner of Scott's monument in Edinboro, or Washington's monument in Richmond, we shall have more sympathy with their burst of State pride.

MR. SEYMOUR INTERVIEWED.

The veteran statesman of New York, Horatio Seymour, who has nearly recovered from his late protracted sickness, has been interviewed by the Syracuse *Courier*, and his views concerning the future of the Democratic party have been obtained. The wise and pure New Yorker thinks the Democratic party may achieve success both in that State and in the Union if it is managed wisely and discreetly. He is satisfied by the election returns that it is numerically stronger than the Republican party. He thinks, too, that the divisions in that party are much more serious than any that exist in his own. He says:

"Nothing more is needed to the success of the Democratic party than a firm and steady adhesion to its principles. It is true that these have been too frequently lost sight of; but many schemes will be developed by the Republicans under the teachings of Mr Garfield that power gravitates more and more in the hands of the General Government, for which Mr. Garfield rejoices. His speeches upon this subject are invitations to all manner of schemes to besiege the capital. This will arouse the public mind to the necessity of returning to a constitutional policy."

Mr. Seymour looks with hopefulness to the success of the Democrats by the addition of young men. He says they are unselfish and active, whilst the old men have their quarrels. We quote from the venerable sage:

"As I cut one of them, I have a right to speak freely. In the natural course of events, a large share of those who now disturb the Democratic party by their quarrels will have passed away, and most of the others will be rendered inactive by old age and physical infirmities. Age and experience have taught me to admire the unselfish and enthusiastic action of young men, and I believe that the Democratic party must be restored to power through their efforts."

COTTON AND TOBACCO.

In most sections of Virginia and North Carolina cotton will be found more profitable than tobacco. Wherever the fine yellow tobacco can be grown, it will fetch more to the hand than cotton will fetch, unless the land be extraordinarily rich. There are some counties in this State where a farmer can make three or four times more in planting tobacco than in planting cotton. We apprehend that in Virginia, if a half dozen counties are excepted, it would be more profitable to raise cotton, and such is the opinion of some of the Virginia agriculturists. Cotton is certainly very much more profitable than heavy shipping tobacco grown on stiff red land. A farmer with light gray soil can make more tobacco than he can make cotton, but if he is forced to raise the shipping leaf and he has land adapted to cotton, he would do well to stick to the latter.

We find some interesting figures in a communication in the Richmond *Dispatch*, that are worth knowing. We quote:

"The value of the cotton crop of the United States for 1879 was $242,140,967, and of the tobacco crop $22,727,524. The cotton crop of Alabama and the tobacco crop of Virginia shows the former valued at $35,393,490, and the latter at $4,826,210. This immense difference in the staple-crop valuation of these two States is entirely out of proportion to their relative area and population."

But very little tobacco comparatively is grown in North Carolina. The total crop of 1879 in the United States was 391,278,350. Of this Virginia produced 86,524,200; Kentucky 126,880,000; Tennessee 44,160,000; Missouri 15,050,100; North Carolina 11,898,400 pounds. Total for Southern States 284,512,700. It will be seen that the tobacco is mainly made, even in the South, in territory north and west of us. Some of the Northern States surpass our own State in the amount of tobacco raised. For instance, Pennsylvania raises 29,617,700 pounds. Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Connecticut, all produce tobacco and in considerable quantities. The *Dispatch's* article says:

"During the recent war between the States, the North and West, being practically excluded from the supply of tobacco from the States largely growing that commodity, enlarged the area of its cultivation within their own limits, and became accustomed to the management and consumption of their own production. Since the war they have continued it with undiminished energy and success, and their tobaccos are now sought for and fashionable, while ours are neglected and unpopular."

Tobacco is now grown nearly the world over. It flourishes anywhere, it seems. Every continent can boast of its successful production. For some sections it is *the* crop. We repeat what we have often said, that whilst other States raise *more* tobacco than North Carolina does, she leads them all in the quality and value of the staple. The fine tobaccos of Person, Granville, Warren, Orange, Caswell and Rockingham beat the world. The most successful planters of those counties make more money to the acre, the mule or the hand, than is made elsewhere on the American continent. But, still, there are hundreds of farmers in those very counties who do not thrive, and there are sections in those counties where the fine tobacco cannot be grown. The men who raise the golden tobacco would not exchange it for any crop in the world. The men who raise the heavy leaf would do well to exchange it for cotton if they have the land that will grow the latter. We have seen many fields in Granville that will grow the finest wheat, bright tobacco and excellent cotton. Such land ought to be valuable. Farming is advancing in North Carolina, and intelligent farmers should seek to diversify their crops and to grow those things that bring the most cler profit.

THE APPORTIONMENT.

The House passed finally the Reapportionment bill upon the basis of 319. This was to some extent a victory for the Republicans, and a not very creditable one at that. We showed recently that the basis proposed by the Democrats, making the House to consist of 307 members, would have been almost perfect, such able papers as the New York *Herald*, Independent, and the New York *Times*, Republican, being authority for the statement. But it was not the purpose or wish of the Republicans to have a fair and almost ideally perfect apportionment of representation. If possible they meant to deprive the South of the gain of strength in the House to which the census of 1880 entitled it clearly. By increasing the representation of the North to more than a fair apportionment would have given they thus diminish the strength of the South relatively.

But we are glad the present House yielded rather than allow the work to go over. The next House, being Radical, would be willing to be less fair even, and it would not do to leave the re apportionment to the tender mercies and small sense of justice that will control the Republicans of that body. By the bill as adopted by the House, North Carolina gains one member. The Senate will probably pass the bill, as the Democrats of that body will hardly be willing to trust the work to the new Congress.

THE CAPE FEAR AND YADKIN VALLEY RAILROAD.

Our only fear in regard to the sale of the State's interest in the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad is the possibility that it may fall into the hands of those who will direct the trade of the rich country through which it passes from its natural outlets. At a fair price we would be glad to see the road sold to some one who would complete it to Wilmington. But if there is any doubt whatever as to the purposes of those who propose to purchase, then let the work go on, as at present, under the ownership and control of the State.

We are told that a new bill providing for a sale has been introduced by Mr. Manning. We do not know what are its provisions further than that it appoints a commission to consider the question of sale, at a price not less than that offered by Gen. Imboden, to any parties who may apply.

The Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad is of too much importance to Wilmington to justify any doubts or risks. Let us make assurance doubly sure before we consent to part with the State's interest in this great work.

P. S.—Since the above was written we learn that the new bill provides that no action of the commission shall be binding until ratified by the Governor and his Council *and by the Stockholders of the road*. There are to be nine commissioners, and among the names mentioned are Dr. A. J. DeRosset, of Wilmington, Geo. M. Rose and A. A. McKethan, Jr., of Fayetteville, Mr. Hanna, of Chatham, Judge Graves and Tyre York.

This is a very different bill from that known as the Imboden bill; and if we are not mistaken as to its provisions we are prepared to give it our endorsement.

Gen. Imboden, we hear, is satisfied with the new bill. If so, it shows the advantage of not being too quick to accept a buyer's first offer.

We trust the bill contains all the safeguards mentioned—especially that giving the private stockholders a voice in the negotiations—and if it does, we believe it will encounter no serious opposition from the friends of the road.

The wonderful summersault of the State Senate on the Durham county bill is creating much and deserved criticism. It is one of the most remarkable performances known in our legislative annals. It was postponed indefinitely by a vote of 25 to 13. But, like the "little Joker," now you see it and now you don't see it, it flopped over and created the county by a vote of 25 to 13. Such a change is positively staggering. A tremendous electric light of intelligence must have flashed upon the inmost souls of that 25. The Reidsville *Times*, whose editor is an officer in the Legislature, says:

"We trust for the credit of a new order of legislation for which the people are praying and groaning to be blessed, that there was no trading or logrolling in producing so many different results in such a short space of time, and that the new county really went through because of its real merits which the Senate seems so amazingly slow to have recognized. * * * As a compliment and award to the enterprise and great business success of Blackwell and Carr we are pleased that they have the county. But in principle we are opposed to new counties and regard the precedent as useless and entirely gratuitous on the part of the Legislature."

But their next performance outdoes the other. "Vance" county is created, as far as the Senate can do so, by slicing up Granville, Warren and Franklin. It is a most absurd procedure without any justification. No man who consults the map can believe for a moment that any such county is needed. Every unbiased mind must condemn such legislation. It is a monstrosity.

According to the Providence *Journal* Venus is preeminently the evening star now. On March 23rd it will reach its greatest brilliancy. Jupiter is also an evening star, "but only a subordinate actor." So is Saturn. Mercury is an evening star until the 11th of March. So also Uranus. Mars is the only morning star during the month. The *Journal* says:

"Observers of the March skies will have delightful studies presented to their notice. The trio of planets, Venus, Jupiter and Mars, with their companion for the time, the crescent moon, will be the actors in a celestial scene that will long be remembered for its rare and lovely combinations. Venus will say goodbye to Saturn and go on her way rejoicing in increasing beauty till she reaches her greatest brilliancy, when her waning glory commences. Jupiter and Saturn will draw near each other and tread the western path with hastening steps as they speed towards the sun, and the planetary panorama will form a gorgeous pageant."

The New York *Sun*, of the 3rd inst., has a likeness of Hayes with *Fraud* stamped on the forehead. It gives also a list of the sixty-odd scoundrels who counted him in, together with the money they got. As long as the country lasts, the memory of that fraud will remain. Here is what the late Senator Matthew H. Carpenter said:

"I do not appear for Mr. Tilden, but for ten thousand legal voters of the State of Louisiana, who, without accusation or proof, indictment or trial, notice or hearing, have been disfranchised by four villains incorporated in perpetual succession, whose official title is the Returning Board of Louisiana.

"MATTHEW H. CARPENTER."

Mr. Frank J. Wright, of Carroll county, Maryland, was hanged by some lynchers in Colorado. The painful story is thus:

"Last May he went to Colorado on business for one of his clients, and bought an interest in a gold mine. He purchased several mules, and, hiring a servant, went to visit the mine. It turned out that the mules had been stolen by the persons from whom Mr. Wright had purchased them, and the unfortunate man was found with them in his possession by a vigilance committee, who at once executed him and his servant, notwithstanding their protestations of innocence."

— Some of the peach and plum trees are out in full bloom.

The Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad—Return of the Wilmington Committee—A New Bill Pending.

Messrs. VanBokkelen, Calder and Worth, the Committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to look after the interest of Wilmington in connection with the proposed sale of the State's interest in the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad, returned from Raleigh Friday night. They report that the bill, based on the proposition of Gen. Imboden and his associates had been laid on the table before their arrival. There is, however, now pending before the General Assembly a new bill looking to the sale of the State's interest in the road in question, introduced by Mr. Manning, of Chatham, which is considered a great improvement on the other. It provides for the appointment of a commission of nine persons to effect a sale of the road on the most advantageous terms possible, at a sum not less than $50,000; that any covenant or agreement that may be entered into by said commission touching the sale of the road shall not be binding until it has been submitted to a vote of the private stockholders of the Company and to the Governor and his Council for their sanction; and that in case a sale of the road is made the same shall be completed to Wilmington and to its proposed western terminus within three years from the date of the sale.

Gen. Imboden, the committee say, is satisfied with the provisions of the new bill, and is willing to take his chances with others in the effort to secure the State's interest in the road.

The "Poor Man's Bill."

The following is the text of the bill to regulate the sale of fresh meats, etc., in this city, which passed the General Assembly yesterday, and is now a law:

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for the Board of Aldermen, or the proper authorities of the city of Wilmington, Washington and Tarboro, to impose or collect *any tax* on or for the sale of fresh meats, beef, pork, mutton, game, fish, oysters, clams, garden truck and all farm products, on any of the streets or alleys thereof, from wagons, carts, shops or stores, or to in any manner interfere with the sale of the above named articles.

Sec. 2. Any person or persons violating the provisions of the above section of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction before any Justice of the Peace, be fined not less than fifty dollars and imprisoned not less than thirty days for each and every offence.

Sec. 3. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This act shall be in force from the date of its ratification.

Mayor Fishblate announces his determination to test the constitutionality of the above law.

Cotton and Rice.

We learn from a prominent citizen of the Point Caswell section of Pender county that the culture of cotton and rice will be on a much larger scale in that part of the county this year than formerly. As an indication of the increased production of rice, he says that one thousand bushels were sold at Point Caswell last season, while the year previous the sales only footed up about three hundred bushels. This year, he says, the quantity will be double that of 1880.

Good for Sampson.

From a gentleman from Sampson we learn that a lady, living near the Cohaire section of the county, recently gave birth to three children—all females—at one time. The children were two weeks old at last accounts and alive and well.

— Of the $30,000 appropriated in the river and harbor bill for the upper Cape Fear, $10,000 we learn is for buying out and extinguishing the title of the Cape Fear Navigation Company.

— At a recent meeting of the Directors of the Carolina Central Railroad Company, held in New York, Maj. C. M. Stedman, of this city, was elected a Director in place of James S. McCall, Esq., of South Carolina, resigned.

WASHINGTON.

SENATE EXECUTIVE SESSION—PRESIDENT GARFIELD'S CABINET — THE NOMINATIONS CONFIRMED, &C., &C.

[By Telegraph to the Morning Star.]

WASHINGTON, March 6.—President Garfield this afternoon sent to the Senate the following nominations:

Secretary of State—James G. Blaine, of Maine.

Secretary of the Treasury—Wm. Windom, of Minnesota.

Attorney General—Wayne McVeagh, of Pennsylvania.

Postmaster General—Thomas L. James, of New York.

Secretary of the Interior—Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa.

Secretary of War—Robert T. Lincoln, of Illinois.

Secretary of the Navy—Wm. H. Hunt, of Louisiana.

The Senate received these nominations at 3:05, and immediately, on motion of Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, went into Executive session, when the nominations were confirmed.

A special Cabinet session convened at 1 o'clock, where were present Secretaries Evarts, Goff, Ramsey, Schurz, Postmaster General Maynard, Attorney General Devens and Acting Secretary of the Treasury French. President Garfield informed the Cabinet that he would very probably forward to the Senate about 3 o'clock P. M. a list of nominations comprising those of his Cabinet. In making the announcement the President spoke very feelingly, assuring the gentlemen present that it caused him sincere regret to part with their valuable services, referring to their respective resignations which have all been tendered. The President hoped that each one would do him the service of remaining in his position until his successor should qualify, which would probably be several days. After some further remarks on this subject, the President inquired after the business of the several departments in a general way. The only matter of importance which was brought to the attention of the meeting was presented by Acting Secretary French, being a request of National Banks recently received at the Treasury Department, that they may be allowed to redeposit bonds withdrawn, and take out of the Treasury legal tenders deposited for the retirement of circulation. The subject was discussed to some extent without conclusion.

A Warm Episode—How Some of the Boys Thawed a Hornet's Nest.

Kansas City Times.

There is an old woman living on Catherine street who delights to find a case that all the doctors have failed to cure and then go to work with roots and herbs and strange things and try to effect at least an improvement. A few days ago she got hold of a girl with a stiff neck, and she offered an old negro, named Uncle Tom Kelly, fifty cents to go to the woods and bring her a hornets' nest. This was to be steeped in vinegar and applied to the neck. The old man spent several days along the Holden road, and finally he secured his prize and brought it home in a basket. When he reached the Central Market he had a few little purchases to make, and after getting some tea at a grocery he placed the basket on a barrel near the stove and went out to look up a beef bone.

It was a dull day for a trade. The grocer sat by the stove rubbing his bald head. His clerk stood at his desk balancing his accounts, and three or four men lounging around talking of a new party to be founded on the ruins of the Democracy. It was a serene hour. One hundred and fifty hornets had gone to roost in that nest for the winter. The genial atmosphere began to limber them up. One old veteran opened his eyes, rubbed his legs and said that it was the shortest winter he had known in all his hornet days. A second seconded the motion and shook off his lethargy, and in five minutes the whole nest was alive and its owners were ready to sail out and investigate. You don't have to hit a hornet with the broadside of an axe to make him mad. He's mad all over all the time, and he doesn't care a picayune whether he tackles a humming bird or an elephant.

The grocer was telling one of the men that he and Gen. Grant were boys together, when he gave a sudden start of surprise. This was followed by several other starts. Then he jumped over a barrel of sugar and yelled like a Pawnee. Some smiled, thinking he was after a happy climax, but it was only a minute before a solemn old farmer jumped three feet high and came down to roll over a job lot of wash boards. Then the clerk ducked his head and made a rush for the door. He didn't get there. One of the other men, who had been looking up and down to see what could be the matter, felt suddenly called upon to go home. He was going at the rate of forty miles an hour when he collided with the clerk and they rolled on the floor. There was no use to tell the people in that store to move on. They couldn't tarry to save them. They all felt that the rent was too high, and that they must vacate the premises. A yell over the cheese box was answered by a war-whoop from the show case. A howl from the kerosene barrel near the back door was answered by wild gestures from the window.

The crowd went out together. Uncle Tom was just coming in with his beef-bone. When a large body meets a smaller body the larger body knocks it into the middle of next week. The old man laid around in the slush till everybody had stepped on him all they wanted to, and then he sat up and asked:

"Hev dey got de fiah all put out?"

Some of the hornets sailed out of doors to fall by the wayside, and others waited around on the top of barrels and baskets and jars to be slaughtered. It was half an hour before the last was disposed of, and then Uncle Tom walked in, picked up the nest and said:

"Mebbe dis will cure de stiffness in dat gal's neck, jist the same, but I tell you I'ze got banged and bumped and sot down on till it'll take a hull medical college ter put me squar."

The No-Fence Law.

Editor Star:—Please allow me a few words in reply to your article of Saturday last, on the subject of "No-fence Law." While I agree with you that it would be "unwise in our Legislature to pass a general no-fence law," I think New Hanover county should by all means be numbered among those that would be materially benefited thereby. I beg leave, however, to differ with you as regards the interests of farmers on the sounds. Owing to the fact that most of the timber was consumed during the late civil war, it will be impossible to keep up fences a few years hence, consequently the abandonment of many farms must necessarily follow, and though the measure may be opposed by some intelligent farmers, yet I believe the majority of them are in its favor, and it should be the aim of our legislative power to afford the greatest good to the greatest number. I think the matter should be decided by a vote of the people—at least by those who would be affected by such a law—and I would like information as to the constitutionality of submitting a measure materially affecting free-holders only, to be decided by such.

As to the business of stock raising, twenty years' experience has convinced me that the present system is not profitable; and so far from such a law being an injury to farmers in that particular, it has been proven beyond controversy that a few stock kept up and well cared for are far more profitable than four times the number running at large on a poor range.

February 28th, 1881. SOUNDER.

— Weldon *News:* Drs. D. B. Zollicoffer and S. T. Nicholson, both of this county, graduated and took degrees of M. D., at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., at the term just ended. —— We are sorry to learn that Miss Annie Dunn, daughter of Mr. J. L. Dunn, living near Dawson's, had the misfortune to have her arm broken last Thursday.

Spirits Turpentine

— Charlotte *Observer:* The lives and deaths of Dr. James Abernathy and Mr. John P. Abernathy, who lived within five miles of each other in Gaston, and both died about two months ago, after reaching their threescore and ten, present a series of striking coincidences. They were born on the same day, married twin sisters on the same day, married within a few hours of each other. Although their surnames were the same they were not related by blood.

— Loge Harris is the Raleigh Radical correspondent of the New York *Times*. Here is an extract from one of his specials: "It is not probable that the prohibition liquor bill will pass if the stringent bill that passed the House becomes a law. There is great excitement in the western counties over the liquor bills, and it is thought that the enforcement of the law will make great inroads into the Democratic vote in that part of the State. The Republicans are biding their time."

— Wilson *Advance:* Mr. V. B. Batchelor's steam mill, at Nashville, N. C., was considerably damaged by the explosion of the boiler. R. L. Barnes, the engineer, Henry Hamilton, and his two colored attendants, Peter Cooper and Archie Joyner, were seriously wounded. —— Calvin Barnes called at the house of Turner Eatman, and as soon as the door was opened, fired into the house, the shot striking Eatman and his wife, inflicting slight injuries. The parties are all colored.

— Elizabeth City *Economist:* We hear of hogs dying in the county of hog cholera or some similar disease. —— Thos. Pettigrew, of Scuppernong township, Washington county, will plant four hundred acres in rice this season. —— A very sad accident occurred in Williamston on Monday afternoon. Miss Sallie Swain, while standing before the fire, was seized with a convulsion and fell in the fire, burning her arm and shoulder so badly that she is not expected to live.

— Raleigh *News-Observer:* Dr. Bryan is the largest fisherman on Pamlico river. He shipped year before last over $10,000 worth of fish, including shad, rock and perch, to Northern markets. —— Hail stones fell in Edenton on Monday last as large as hickory nuts. Window panes were broken out in many houses. —— A correspondent—a lawyer: I learn that the bill to erect Durham county has passed, on condition that the people within the bounds of the proposed county vote to ratify the act. If this, as a condition precedent, is attached to the bill, if Mr. Cooley, in his work on constitutional limitations is correct, all such legislation is unconstitutional and void.

— Oxford *Torchlight:* Warren county is already Radical. Vance county will be hopelessly Radical—the pet pocket borough of Ike Young & Co., and Granville will be as Radical then as she ever was. If the new county of Vance be established because Henderson is a railroad town, there are men who, though they vote the Democratic ticket and are at heart Democrats, will never again give their votes to representatives to go to Raleigh to endorse such a short-sighted Democratic measure as the forming of the county of Vance.

— Greensboro *Patriot:* District Attorney Boyd has brought forty-one civil suits to the April term of the Federal Court at Greensboro, and ten to the April term at Statesville. These are all actions in which the United States is plaintiff against parties for taxes and penalties under the Internal Revenue laws. —— Nothing that we could say now would influence the Legislature in regard to its action upon the proposed sale of the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad. It is to be hoped that no sale will be made; and if one should be made the friends of this great enterprise entertain the hope that responsible parties will become the purchasers.

— Fayetteville *Examiner:* We trust that in any contract of sale which may be made between the State and the company represented by Gen. Imboden, the interest of the stockholders other than the State, will be cared for and protected. —— In the contested election case about fifty witnesses have been examined at Fayetteville in behalf of W. P. Canaday, contestant, and a few more remain to be examined. The examination of Mr. Canaday's witnesses will be closed this week, after which Mr. Shuckelford, the defendant, will be allowed forty days within which to produce testimony in his own behalf.

— Charlotte *Democrat:* 22,000 rabbit skins have been sold in Hickory this season, and the *Press* thinks there were at least 22,000 more which were not put on the market—making a total of 44,000 rabbits killed in that section the past season. —— Mrs. Sarah Elms, living near Pineville, this county, has propagated the seed of a certain kind of pea for the past fifty-seven years. From year to year, for that length of time, she has saved the seeds of the same pea and planted them yearly, and they continue to grow finely. How will that agree with the theory that the *same seed* will degenerate after long use? Mrs. Elms is now 80 years old. —— We agree with the STAR that the making of new counties is an outrage and a nuisance.

— Charlotte *Observer:* A deposit of 38 ounces of bullion was received at the mint yesterday from the King's Mountain mine. It was the result of a three days' run, and is estimated to be worth $660 80. —— The Alumni Association of Davidson College has selected for its orator at the next annual meeting, to be held on Wednesday of commencement week, Mr. W. H. Stewart, of Lancaster county, S. C. Mr. Stewart is a member of the Legislature of South Carolina. —— Several trustees of Davidson College were in the city yesterday, returning from a business meeting of the executive committee of the board. They are very well satisfied with the arrangement by which the troubles between the denominational colleges and the University were adjusted. —— Senator Ransom doesn't make a great deal of fuss, but when it comes to looking after the river and harbor appropriations for North Carolina he manages to get in some good work, in spite of the opposition of Northern Senators, Democratic as well as Republican. —— A copy of an advance sheet of State Geologist Kerr's report upon the minerals of North Carolina has been seen in the city. Besides many new and interesting items of general information, it gives some facts about our own section which are interesting. It is gathered that the number of mineral species now known to have been discovered in the State is 178, an increase of 38, or more than 25 per cent. since 1875, when only 140 could be enumerated. This is stated to be a greater number than has been discovered in any other State. —— A letter has been received from Mr. A. L. Butt announcing his intention of returning to Charlotte the latter part of this week to remain permanently. His father, Rev. J. F. Butt, will continue to travel with the panorama, its value as a source of revenue being still unabated. Mr. Butt will occupy his time in executing another series of paintings upon the same subject, in which he proposes to improve upon the first. —— The grand jury has had under consideration the accident on the Atlanta & Charlotte Air-Line railroad, in which Phillip S. Whisenant, of this city, and two negro men were killed, and as a result of the investigation returned a true bill against Conductor David Lockman, the conductor who was taken from jail under a writ of habeas corpus and is now out on a bond of $5,000. They did not find a true bill against Engineer Wiesenbery, who was on the engine of the second train. The charge against Lockman is manslaughter.