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

IMPROVEMENTS FOR WILMINGTON.

It will be remembered doubtless by some of our readers that as far back as 1877 we began the discussion of how Wilmington could be developed and made more prosperous.

We learn from one of our old and eminent citizens that it was the opinion of a distinguished practitioner of medicine here years ago that people made a mistake; that they remained here in the winter and left in the summer.

1. We ought to have a public park - some place for the women and children to wander in and for business men to gather at after the toils of the day are over.

2. We need a large and imposing U. S. Custom House. Our commerce is growing and will continue to grow if the Government will do its duty in regard to our river and give us the depth of water we need.

3. We ought to have a fine, massive Post Office to cost at least \$200,000. Surely, Wilmington with its 20,000 inhabitants is more entitled to such a building than Raleigh with its six or seven thousand, for it had no more when the new building there was begun.

4. We ought to have a fine, massive building about Third or Fourth would be the place it strikes us, for in erecting such a fine structure the Wilmington of A. D. 1900 must be had in mind with its 40,000 inhabitants. It may be a little too far out at first, but Wilmington will soon extend and grow around it.

THE WEEKLY STAR. VOL. XIV. WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1883. NO. 31

OUR GRADED SCHOOLS.

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6. We need a new and elegant and commodious hotel - one built in the latest, most convenient and attractive style, and with every appointment that belongs to the best hotels in the North.

7. We need a large and imposing U. S. Custom House. Our commerce is growing and will continue to grow if the Government will do its duty in regard to our river and give us the depth of water we need.

8. We ought to have a fine, massive building about Third or Fourth would be the place it strikes us, for in erecting such a fine structure the Wilmington of A. D. 1900 must be had in mind with its 40,000 inhabitants.

THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION - THE TEACHERS AND THE NORMAL SCHOOLS - PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEXT SESSION, &c.

On last Monday the graded schools of our city closed for the summer vacation. We learn that the school committees of the two districts into which Wilmington is divided have already begun preparing for the next session, which commences on the first Monday in October.

The corps of teachers for the coming year is as follows: M. C. S. Noble, General Principal. Hemmenway Graded School, white - M. G. Wallace, assistant principal; Mary E. Duguid, M. L. McLeod, Alice J. Yarbrough.

Williston Graded School, colored - John A. Holt, assistant principal; James B. Dudley, Susie B. Dudley, Annie H. Mallette, A. Therese Willis.

Union Graded School, white - M. E. Cook, assistant principal; Adelaide S. Meares, Maggie Jones. Williston Graded School, colored - Mary W. Howe, assistant principal; Isabella L. Howe, Louisa G. Nixon, Emma F. Hooper, Maggie Whitman.

These appointments are made thus early in order that the teachers, sure of employment, may have the opportunity of attending the State Normal School, with reference to special preparation for the next year's work.

During the session just closed the Principal has not only taught in the classrooms, but he has also devoted much time to bringing the teachers up to a high standard in the theory and practice of teaching.

Never before have our citizens taken so great an interest in our public schools, as is shown by a record of more than 2,000 visits. The average daily attendance of pupils has been about 800. The outlook for next year is very encouraging, and quite a rush for seats is expected.

METHODIST DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

WHITEVILLE, May 24, 1883. - Quite a crowd of ladies and gentlemen left Wilmington yesterday afternoon on the 3.10 o'clock freight train, under the conductorship of Capt. Evans, for Whiteville and gentlemen manners made everything as pleasant as possible under the circumstances.

Arriving at Whiteville at twenty-five minutes past six we were met by a committee who soon assigned us our homes, buggies and carriages being in readiness we were soon winding our way from the depot towards the village.

The conference opened this morning at 9 o'clock with Rev. R. O. Burton, Presiding Elder, in the chair, who conducted the services, reading the 30th chapter of Isaiah.

The Chairman then called for nominations for secretaries, and Bro. J. B. North was elected secretary, and Brother James W. King, assistant.

A communication from Rev. Dr. Jones, President of Greensboro Female College, was received, and a committee was appointed to present, but desiring the College interests to be presented to the Conference, and stating that the College is in a prosperous condition and as thoroughly Methodist as ever.

Brothers F. H. Wood and J. W. Pruitt, clerical, and Brothers Moffitt and Culbreth, laymen, were appointed a committee on Public Worship.

In a motion of W. M. Parker that the Chairman be authorized to call on the Cause of Missions, the chairman announced the following: W. M. Parker, F. H. Wood, K. K. Council, T. Page Ricard and Dr. S. S. Satchwell, with request that the chairman report to-morrow morning to the conference.

The following lay delegates were reported as having arrived since yesterday: McClammy, J. W. Cameron, G. H. Cannon, W. J. Scroggs, S. B. King, W. H. Ward.

Brother Shunkelord, from the Duplin Circuit, was invited to a seat in this resolution in the interests of Trinity College.

Speeches were made by Brother Burton, Rev. Dr. Burkhead and Rev. F. H. Wood. The report on missions was received and adopted.

Rev. W. S. Black, one of the editors of the Raleigh Christian Advocate, was introduced to the Conference, and spoke feelingly of the pleasure of meeting his old friends, and stated that he would at a future time present the claims of his paper.

The committee on Temperance made their report, which was laid on the table for the present. Dr. Satchwell, the author of the report, made an elaborate statement in regard to the curse of liquor and its deleterious influence upon the system.

Brother K. K. Council reported on finances at his church assessment system used and works well in most cases - some delinquents.

A resolution was offered granting the Presiding Elder, Rev. R. O. Burton, owing to his feeble state of health, rest during the week ending June 10th, the churches; that climate which shall restore him to health and greater usefulness.

THE PRESBYTERIANS.

Southern General Assembly - The Question of Fraternal Relations with the Northern Assembly - A Telegram from Saratoga.

LEXINGTON, Ky., May 25. - In the Presbyterian General Assembly South, to-day, the committee on Bills and Overtures made the following report in reference to Overture No. 34, from the Presbytery of Upper Missouri, in regard to the appointment of a committee by the Southern Assembly, to confer with a similar committee from the Northern Assembly, touching organic union.

The amendment was adopted - yeas 102, nays 32. Dr. Smoot, of Austin, Texas, late Moderator of the amendment, on the principle of opposing organic union, and on the ground that the Assembly should give a reason for it.

The following telegram was received from Saratoga at 12 o'clock, and was loudly applauded: Bro. Pryor, Moderator, General Assembly. - The following paper, offered by Dr. Crosby, completely covering the point, has been passed unanimously.

NEW YORK AND BROOKLYN. Formal Opening of the Big Bridge - A Day in Boat Races, Regattas and Speeches - The Streets Thronged with People - Great Display of Bunting - Illuminations at Night, &c.

SARATOGA, May 26. - The Presbyterian General Assembly spent its first hour this morning in thanksgiving and prayer, led by Rev. Dr. W. C. Young, of Louisville, for the establishment of fraternal relations between the Northern and Southern Churches.

By unanimous consent Capt. R. H. Pratt, U. S. Army, introduced six Indian soldiers from Carlisle, Pa., school. Robert Stewart, a Greek, made a brief address, asking why they could not live here and work at trades they had learned - he being a printer - instead of being forced back to reservations and their Indian Park to the white, colored men and European emigrants could live where they pleased?

Spirits Turbentine.

Waldon News: On Tuesday of last week Col. J. W. Johnson had the misfortune to lose two horses and three hogs. During the storm lightning struck his stable in which were two horses and the field ran through the building, killing the horses and hogs.

Mill Chronicle: We have seldom listened to a matter or more thorough charge than Judge Gilmer's to the Caswell grand jury. One matter he struck that should be rung through the ears of all in the State. He said that a filthy, dirty jail was an offense, a shame. It should be examined and every jail made decent. He said that the poor houses should be neat and comfortable, and no hard unfeeling man put at the head of them.

Tarboro Southern: The Edgecombe Guards elected new officers last Thursday. Capt. Owen Williams was elected Captain; Lieut. W. C. Jeffreys, 1st Lieut.; Junior 2nd Lieut. J. Y. Paris, 2nd Lieut.; and Sergt. P. H. Edge, Junior 2nd Lieut.

Charlotte Journal Observer: Bill Meeks, colored, a noted desperado of Cabarrus county, made his escape from the jail in Concord last Tuesday night, and is now at large. - A colored man named David Caldwell, impelled by the greedy monster, yesterday morning cut his wife's throat, and very nearly succeeded.

Pittsboro Record: Two young men of this county, named Thomas and Burns, caught one hundred and twenty-five pounds of fish a few days ago in Deep river, near Lockville. - We are pleased to learn from different parts of the county that the fruit crop will be very abundant this year as at first thought, although of course it will not be equal to that of last year.

Fayetteville Observer: Col. Livingston, of Bennettsville, S. C., Chairman of the Committee of Citizens, has received from a prominent citizen of Fayetteville, a letter from which he kindly permits us to make the following extracts: "Our Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad is now a fact. At the meeting at Greensboro on the 9th, of the directors, contracts were made for steel rails which will lay one hundred miles of track, and one hundred tons are to be delivered to Wilmington in thirty days from date of contract."

Tennessee. The Prizes Awarded in the Competitive Drill at Nashville. Nashville, May 28. - In the great competitive drill to-day the following prizes were awarded by Maj. John E. Tierman, U. S. A., viz: Infantry drill - Mobile Rifles, first, \$4,000; Crescent Rifles, New Orleans, second, \$1,000; Infantry drill, St. Louis, third, \$500.

Large Entries of State and Government Lands. (By Telegraph to the Morning Star.) NEW ORLEANS, May 28. - A Baton Rouge special says that entries of Sea Marsh, made by J. B. Watkins, cover 1,139,116 acres. The total amount of land amounting to \$146,606, embracing all the vacant State lands in the parishes of Vermilion, Cameron, and Calcasieu. Watkins also entered 2,700 acres at 75 cents per acre, of State lands, and 60,000 acres of U. S. Government lands, between Jennings and Lake Charles, north of the Morgan R. R., at \$1.25 per acre.