

THE WEEKLY STAR.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 1885.

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RAILROAD DINING ROOM.

Arrangements at the Front Street Depot for the Entertainment and Comfort of the Traveling Public.

The Railroad Dining Room at the Front Street depot of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad is now in full blast.

The room has been fitted up in the style, being handsomely papered and wainscoted.

Around the room, with short spaces and valuable pictures from the gallery of Mr. W. V. Walters, of Baltimore, a stockholder in the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, Company.

Among these, the most noticeable are the celebrated "Forum," of Rome; the "Coliseum," of Rome; the "Castle of St. Angelo," of Rome; the "Basilica di St. Marco," of Venice; the "Grand Canal," of Venice, etc.

The tables are all of good size and four in number, each of which is elaborately furnished with elegant silverware and all the necessary conveniences of a first-class hotel.

There is a lunch counter extending the length of the room at one side, from which articles are furnished with anything in the way of a lunch they may call for.

The culinary department is looked after by Messrs. Maritz, Decheres, a French cook of celebrity, who has served in Geneva, Paris, New York and other large cities.

Capt. Henry W. Fisher, of Richmond, a gentleman of fourteen years' experience in the business of hotel keeping, is in charge of the establishment, and will doubtless prove an accommodating and popular caterer to the traveling public who pass through Wilmington.

He assures us that his arrangements contemplate the accommodation of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty persons. His supplies come from Lindsay, of Richmond, celebrated for the fineness of his meats, etc.

THE CRIMINAL COURT.

The Bill Fattig, New Hanover and Mecklenburg Counties in the same Circuit a Law-Provisions of the Bill, etc.

Messrs. Thos. W. Strange and John D. Bellamy, Jr., who went to Raleigh with Messrs. Vail and Brown, of Charlotte, to look after the Criminal Courts for New Hanover and Mecklenburg counties, have returned home and report that the measure has passed the two Houses of the General Assembly and is now a law.

It went through the House with a flourish, but in the Senate some discussions arose on propositions to amend in some particulars.

We learn from Mr. Bellamy that the bill, as finally passed, provides for a Circuit to be composed of the counties of New Hanover and Mecklenburg; that the Judge and others shall be appointed by the Governor, and with the sanction of the Senate; that the salary of the Judge shall be \$4,500 (same as now); that the Solicitor, who is no longer to be the County Adviser, is to be paid the same fees as Superior Court Solicitors, and such other sum in addition as the Board of Magistrates and County Commissioners together shall see fit to allow for examining the dockets of Justices, Clerks, Registers of Deeds, and other officers, and seeing that everything is kept constantly in order; that there shall be a separate Solicitor and separate Clerk for each county; that the terms of the Court shall be as follows: Mecklenburg, Monday after the first Monday in January, March, May, July, September and November; and in Mecklenburg on the Second Monday in February, April, June, August, October and December; that the number of Grand Jurors shall be reduced from 18 to 12; and that all removals from other counties shall be tried by the Criminal Courts of these counties.

In the matter of the salary of the Judge there will be a saving of \$1,250 to New Hanover county; and in the reduction of the number of Grand Jurors, there will be another saving from \$400 to \$900, according to the session, whether one week or two weeks.

The committee deserve much credit for what they have accomplished in securing this court; and the community also feel under obligations to Messrs. Vail and Brown, the Charlotte committee, for the liberal and accommodating spirit displayed by them. Mr. Strange informs us that after the bill had passed these gentlemen called on Governor Seales to urge upon him the appointment of Hon. O. P. Fisher as the Judge of the new Court, and in accordance with the wishes of Mecklenburg as well as New Hanover county, and that Gov. Seales replied in substance that it would be a difficult matter to prevent him from appointing Judge Meares.

The Wilson-Florence Cut-off.

The Columbia (S. C.) Register of Thursday had the following: "The long talked of Wilson and Florence Railroad is likely to be commenced soon. Col. R. R. Bridges, President of the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroad, is personally attending the survey and it is now positively stated that work will be begun within thirty days." To which the resident correspondent of the Charleston News and Courier replies: "I am sorry to hear the hope that the Wilson-Florence Cut-off is soon to be built, but a gentleman familiar with the intentions of the management assures me officially that the purpose is only to build a branch of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad from Wilson to Fayetteville, and that the line will not be extended to Florence until the arbitrary powers of our railroad commission are abolished or competition forces the construction of the cut-off."

Church at Warsaw.

Our Presbyterian friends at and near Warsaw, Duplin county, are taking the necessary steps for the erection of a church building at that thriving little village. They have met with encouraging success in securing subscriptions, and have already ordered the lumber for the building. They are still in need of more money, however, and will be glad to receive contributions from any of their friends in Wilmington who may feel interested in their praiseworthy object.

We know the good people of the Warsaw section so well that it will be a real pleasure to us to be instrumental in aiding them in their efforts to supply themselves with another church. If, therefore, any of our friends in Wilmington wish to assist in this good work, the money may be forwarded to Mrs. T. B. Piarce, Warsaw, N. C., or left at the Star's office, we will see that it is properly applied.

BRANCH EXAMINATIONS.

We had the pleasure of a call yesterday from Mr. T. H. Massey, of Oak Grove, Westmoreland county, Virginia, but formerly of Maryland, who is here on a prospecting tour with the view of purchasing land and going into the truck farm business on an extensive scale.

Mr. Massey was led to visit our immediate section on an errand from reading an article in the Star from Mr. W. L. Young on the "Semi-Tropical Area," which he considered the country round about this city. He had the paper in his pocket yesterday, and was much struck by the views there advanced.

Mr. M. says that if he becomes sufficiently satisfied by what he sees to decide upon embarking in the business here, others of his friends will follow him, and we hope that he will be afforded every facility in his investigations that he may require.

Knights of Pythias.

The Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias, in session at Raleigh this week, elected the following officers:

F. G. W. H. Howell, G. W. J. C. Brewer, G. Y. C. W. H. Overman, G. P. W. L. Jewett, G. M. A. W. H. McLaurin, G. K. R. S. J. L. Dudley, G. M. E. R. T. Scanlin, G. I. G. E. M. Parviz, G. O. G. W. A. Johnson, Supreme Representative—E. G. Harrell, Raleigh.

The newly elected officers were installed, and the Grand Lodge adjourned on the second Tuesday in February, 1885, at Raleigh.

In its Face.

In discussing the Judicial Bill in the House of Representatives, last Tuesday, Mr. Womack stated that he held in his hand a petition signed by 1,000 tax payers of New Hanover county asking that the Criminal Court be abolished. Surely, there must be some mistake about this matter.

We knew there was opposition to the Court, but we had never heard that it had reached the formidable proportions of "1,000 tax-payers." The friends of the Court should give that petition a careful examination.

Change in Time of Holding Courts.

Mr. W. T. Bannerman, Clerk of the Superior Court of Pender county, requests us to call attention to an act of the Legislature to change the time of holding Superior Courts in the counties of Carteret and Pender, by which, Mr. Bannerman states, the Court in Pender is brought on the eighth Monday after the first Monday in March and September, and in Carteret on the fifth Monday. The next term of Pender Superior Court will meet, therefore, on the 27th day of April under the present law.

Personal.