

Table with subscription rates and advertising information.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

The subscription price of the Weekly Star is as follows: One year, postage paid, \$1.00 in advance.

A SIDE ISSUE.

In his opening speech in the campaign in Ohio, Mr. McKinley spread himself on the free coinage question, his purpose being to put the Democrats on the defensive and make that the issue in the contest.

As it is simply a State election, the discussion of the silver question or the tariff question or any other national question seems to be somewhat out of place, but the custom has been prevalent for some time to discuss national questions in State and even county campaigns, and the Ohio campaigners are simply following the custom.

Mr. McKinley is shrewd in playing the silver game, or any other game that might divert the attention of the people from the tariff, which is one of the subjects that he doesn't care to discuss more than he is absolutely compelled to.

In view of the fact that there is such a difference of opinion among the Democrats of that State on the coinage question, and such strong opposition in the convention to incorporating the coinage plank in the platform, it is unfortunate, perhaps, that it was incorporated for that.

Mr. McKinley and those who agree with him believe in the smaller amount, to keep the volume of currency down, prices down and interest up, while the free coinage men believe in the larger amount, to increase the volume of currency, put prices up and interest down.

They contended then that silver was a base metal, a mere commodity, to be bought and sold like iron, wheat or corn, and that to coin it and restore it to the full dignity of money would be ruinous.

THE WEEKLY STAR.

amount, so that their per capita amounts to perhaps twice as much as that of any other class of our people. Put a \$100 head tax on the family of every farmer in Ohio and how much would they have out of their present wheat crop? Put at the lowest estimate a tax of \$130,000,000 on the farmers of the United States, and how much would they have left out of their present wheat crop? The citizen, but especially the farmer citizen, who permits himself to be diverted from the tariff by the silver coinage dodge or any other dodge, is a gull of the first magnitude, who will show himself sadly in need of a guardian.

MINOR MENTION.

It is claimed that Gen. Dyrenforth's experiments begun in Texas to produce rain by means of explosives in the air and on the ground have proved a success so far as they have gone. The last were made last week in what is called the "Staked Plains" section of Texas, where it seldom rains, and where it is said there has been no real good rain for three years.

Mr. Nelson Morris, of Chicago, owns a 300,000 acre ranch there and this was, at his request, selected as the place for the last experiments. The explosives used are dynamite and rackerock, compared to which dynamite is as a pop-gun to a musket! The explosions in the air were effected by means of balloons and kites sent up at intervals and discharged by means of electric wires connecting with the earth, or with time fuses. The balloons were filled with oxygen and nitrogen gases, in due proportion, to be liberated in the air.

After considerable difficulty the necessary arrangements were made, the gas manufactured, the balloons inflated and sent up, followed by the kites. The time chosen was after sunset, when the winds had subsided. The sky was perfectly clear, studded with stars and no indications of rain. When the balloons, of which there were several, had ascended to a sufficient height varying from 1,000 feet to five miles, they were exploded by means of electric wires connecting with dynamo on the earth, or by time fuses on those which ascended to the higher altitudes.

These explosions were followed by the explosion of dynamite and rackerock on the ground. The experimenters then awaited results. By three o'clock in the morning heavy banks of clouds were noticed ascending in the Western horizon, the direction in which the smoke and sound had travelled and by four o'clock it was raining lively, accompanied by thunder and lightning, and continued to rain until eight o'clock. The explosions on the earth were continued and after each there were showers until the heat of the sun became strong enough to dispel the moisture that remained. Gen. Dyrenforth is confident that this is all the result of his work. The next experiments will be made at El Paso, and after that in Kansas.

These experiments are watched with a great deal of interest, although it is doubtful even if successful whether they will ever amount to much practically, because they are not only very expensive but must be conducted by scientists.

The latest cable dispatches from Chili announcing the surrender of Valparaiso to the insurgent army came as a surprise right on the heels of dispatches announcing the triumph of Balmaceda's forces, and the practical bagging of the insurgent army. The last dispatches seem to be reliable and at least in this country where popular sympathy has been with the Congressional party. But whether Chili will be any better off under them than under the Balmaceda crowd remains to be seen. It is a republic in name but not in fact, being dominated by a number of landlords who own nearly all the best lands, pretty much as Ireland is dominated by her landlords. The people have little say in the government beyond the mere formality of voting, the landlords controlling the Congress, President, the army and navy, and running things pretty much to suit themselves.

CLEVER HOUSEHOLD PETS.

A Dog that Oathes Soft-shell Crabs and a Cat that Gets Away with English Sparrows. Johnny Cameron, a boy who lives on Wrightsville Sound, is the happy possessor of a dog that may yet make his master's fortune.

Johnny Cameron, a boy who lives on Wrightsville Sound, is the happy possessor of a dog that may yet make his master's fortune. The dog is a pointer and is named "Bull". "Bull" is intelligent enough to know a soft-shell from a hard-shell crab, and never ventures to meddle with the latter. "Bull" appears to be a cross between a "black and tan" and a Scotch terrier.

His owner, Johnny, told Mr. Horner that a thousand dollars couldn't buy the dog; he was equally as good for possums, coons and squirrels in the winter. He was for soft-shell crabs in the summer, and besides was in training for diamond-back terrapins, several of which he had "treed."

A SMART CAT.

The New York Sun tells about a smart cat that almost equals Johnny Cameron's dog, and whose ingenuity in getting away with English sparrows gives a hint that may lead to the final extinction of these little pests. The Sun says: "Mrs. Willis has a cat which she calls 'Jamey', which is about the cleverest animal in the Naugatuck Valley.

Mrs. Willis brought home several sheets of fly paper. She spread them on the kitchen floor and 'Jamey' came along and planted both feet on them. There was a yowl and trouble began at once. With much difficulty 'Jamey' was released. His ears were boxed, and the paper was put back again on the floor. Jamey licked his paws clean and lay down watching the paper for a few minutes. Then he smelled it on all four sides and finally, finding one corner to which the gum had not spread, he picked it up in his mouth and swallowed it.

The next morning Mrs. Willis found Jamey feasting on an English sparrow, which he had never been able to catch before. She watched him and found that he had spread the fly paper near some current bushes. Several flies and bugs had been caught by it. These attracted the sparrow, and one of them, jumping upon the paper, could not get away before Jamey nabbed him. Jamey was seen to repeat this operation three times in one morning.

His mistress gives him a new sheet of paper every two days now, and he has already made quite a hole in the flock of sparrows.

POISONOUS PLANTS.

The Odor of the Oleander Said to be Injurious to Health. In a recent issue of the New York Ledger it is stated in an interview that the atmosphere laden with the odor of the oleander is unhealthy. The writer says: "I am certain that continuous breathing of the atmosphere laden with the odor of the oleander is capable of producing the most serious consequences.

I have not the slightest doubt that the deaths of at least two friends of mine are traceable to this cause, and I know of several cases where throat affections have been caused and aggravated by living in the same room with large plants of this sort. In one instance there was at first a slight swelling in the throat, then a long period of gradually increasing pain and inflammation, then malignant symptoms and death, with very marked disturbance of the heart's action towards the last. "The dispensaries and other authorities tell us that the oleander contains a principle which is an active heart poison. It seems remarkable that no industry should have been made in some countries in general use as the principal ingredient of a compound for destroying rats and mice. It is a deadly poison, and a lady of some experience and considerable medical knowledge gives it as her opinion that enlargement of the glands of the throat, and various forms of heart disease, are either produced or aggravated by inhaling air charged with the odors of this plant. Especially is this likely to occur in winter, when plants are kept in living rooms in a high temperature, or where the air is charged with moisture. Certain it is that with my observation and the experience of its effects, I should be glad to see the plant removed without delay, beautiful as it is."

The Statesville Disaster. The STAR's press dispatches, published to-day, confirm previous advices that the total of dead by the railroad disaster at Statesville, number twenty-two and the wounded about twenty-six. As to the cause of the accident there are different statements, but the Coroner's inquest which was in session at Statesville yesterday will settle this point. A telegram published in the Richmond Dispatch says: "It is supposed that the engine, which was making from twenty-five to thirty miles an hour on a down grade, struck the bridge track spread. Why it should have done so is accounted for by the fact that the ends of the ties at the approach to the bridge were found to be rotten."

Rev. J. M. Sykes, one of the killed, was a graduate of the Southwestern Presbyterian University, Clarksville, Tenn. Dr. Sykes had just been assigned to missionary work in China, and was to have left for that country September 26th next. He was married. A big freight is reported in the Black River as well as the Cape Fear. Yesterday advices from Fayetteville, where the water in the Cape Fear was still rising, but slow. Crops in Bladen will be seriously damaged. Growing corn on some of the lowlands is completely submerged. Free Tuition at the State University. We are authorized by President Winston to state that the benefits of an education at the University of North Carolina shall be placed, as far as possible, within reach of every deserving young man in the State. The following help is offered: 1. Free tuition to the sons of Ministers of all denominations. 2. Free tuition to any young man preparing to be a Minister. 3. Free tuition to bona fide teachers of public schools. 4. Long time indulgence on tuition to all really poor boys, to be repaid when able. 5. Scholarships to the needy, upright and talented. 6. Loans of money to the very needy and very talented and upright.

THE STATESVILLE DISASTER.

Investigation as to the Cause of the Accident. A dispatch from Statesville, Friday, says: Coroner George Clegg yesterday morning summoned P. C. Carlton, John Stephany, A. Lamprecht, George Shephard, M. Williams, J. S. Ramsey to a jury of inquest and proceeded to investigate the cause of the accident. The jury viewed the bodies and took charge of the witnesses yesterday afternoon. Up to this hour, 6 p. m., no verdict has been reached. J. C. Irvine was before the jury this morning and testified that Wednesday a strange accident happened: "Are you going to cross the bridge to-night? Mr. Irvine answered in the negative, and the question was again asked and answered negatively. "The cause of the disaster is said to be owing to the fact that the pins which held the two rails together at the east end of the bridge were unfast, lying in the center of the track, and the threads of the nuts were unscratched. The theory advanced by some is that these pins had been drawn with the intention of locking the train.

Such a suspicion is too horrible to be entertained in the absence of positive proof on the subject. A. A. Eason, an expert civil engineer, and former employe of the road, says: "It is impossible to pull spikes without bending them. This was not the case with those found on the track. The cross ties were rotten and utterly unsafe." The section master says that he had done no work on the bridge for some time, and cannot say if it was safe. The prominent lawyers representing the railroad are attending the investigation and object to any employe of the company testifying in the case.

Newborn Journal: Yesterday the tug Albenarle, Capt. Toler, discovered the steamer Minnie B. Capt. R. W. Rountree, bound from New York to Central America, off Diamond Shoals in a disabled condition, a slight accident having happened to her boiler. The Albenarle towed her up to the city, and Messrs. J. H. Crabtree & Co. are making the necessary repairs.

The steamer D. Marchion on her trip down the river from Fayetteville Thursday night had part of her guards carried away by running into the river bank on the high freshet.

NOTICE.

This is intended only for subscribers whose subscriptions have expired. It is not a dun, but a simple request that all who are in arrears for the STAR will favor us with a prompt remittance.

We are sending out bills now (a few each week), and if you receive one please give it your attention.

Best at His Own Game.

As the steamer Passport was on its way to Southport Wednesday last there were three gentlemen passengers in the pilot house. The whistle was sounded for the mate to come to the wheel, whereupon one of the gentlemen asked the captain what that meant. Captain Sellers remarked, "It means that I am going to collect fare." One of the gentlemen asked him if he was going to make them pay, when Capt. Sellers replied, "yes, and in hard money, too."

"Well, then," the gentleman replied, "go to the other passengers on the boat first, so as to give us a chance to have our money ready for you by the time you return to the pilot house." When Capt. Sellers returned to the pilot house and called for the money—and hard money at that—one of the passengers reached down in his pocket and threw seventy-five coppers down on the seat, remarking, "there is your hard money."

Another Professor at the University.

Mr. Howard Burton Shaw, A. B., B. C. E., has been appointed assistant in the Department of Civil Engineers and Mathematics, in the University, Mr. Shaw is a native North Carolinian, born in Edgecombe county, a graduate of the University with highest honors, a post graduate in mathematics and engineering last year, and a remarkably talented engineer of national reputation, at the head of the department. Both Professors are full blooded North Carolinians, and the department is en vif.

Big Freshet in the Cape Fear.

There is a big freshet in the Cape Fear river, and the lowlands below Fayetteville are all under water. The damage to the magnificent corn crops in Bladen it is feared will be immense. The water was within 18 inches of the top of the stalks, and the corn was at a stand still when the steamer Marchion left there at 9 o'clock yesterday morning. She arrived here last night at 10.45 o'clock.

The Statesville Disaster.

Intelligence of the heart-rendering disaster early yesterday morning on the Western N. C. railroad, near Statesville, N. C., was received in Wilmington with the utmost concern. As soon as it came over the wires it was bulletined at the STAR office, where crowds congregated to read the dispatches. Happily, the first accounts—which stated that forty persons were killed outright and twenty-five were injured—were exaggerated. Later, and therefore more trustworthy, gave the number of dead as twenty-three and the wounded as twenty-nine. The list of killed and wounded is given in the STAR's dispatches this morning, with other particulars.

Fit-Bits at Masonboro.

The "Masonboro" and "Cedar Grove" Baptist Sunday School united in what proved to be a most enjoyable picnic at Masonboro Sound yesterday. Between the various games, refreshments, generous dainties and the "Sound" privileges of bathing and sailing, together with a fair day and genial companions, the union of these schools was a success. It is estimated that two hundred were in attendance.

TERRIBLE DISASTER.

WRECK ON THE WESTERN N. C. RAILROAD.

A Passenger Train Thrown Down an Embankment—Twenty-Three Persons Killed and a Larger Number Wounded. RALEIGH, N. C., August 27.—A frightful railroad accident is reported to have occurred last night at a bridge eighty feet high, two miles east of Statesville, N. C. The train is supposed to have been the west-bound train on the Western N. C. railroad. Many persons were killed. Among the saved are Bennehan Cameron.

Rains have been heavy in that region. New York, August 27.—A Statesville, N. C., special, says the western-bound passenger train on the Western North Carolina railroad jumped a trestle near here this morning, about 2 o'clock. The train plunged in the darkness into a ravine two hundred feet in depth, dashing the cars into splinters. At least forty of the passengers were killed outright. The wounded number twenty-five, of whom many will die. Few, if any, of the passengers or crew escaped uninjured. Relief was promptly sent. The report to the hour and locality of the accident, only the most meagre details have been received.

State Auditor Sanderlin was badly hurt.

But few of the people on the train were saved. The Asheville fire company, returning from the convention at Durham, was aboard, and it is supposed many of them were killed. A Later Account. CHARLOTTE, Aug. 27.—One of the most disastrous railroad wrecks known in the annals of this State occurred this morning about 2 o'clock at Boston's Bridge, two miles west of Statesville, on the Western North Carolina Railroad. Passenger train No. 9, known as the fast mail, which is made up at Salisbury, pulled out on time (3 a. m.) loaded with passengers. It was composed of engine, mail and mail cars, first and second class coaches, a Pullman sleeper and Superintendent Bridger's private car, "Daisy." The sleeper, which comes from Goldsboro, usually contains a good number of passengers, from Northern points, and last night was no exception. At Statesville, the train was made up, a distance of twenty-five miles, but just after leaving Statesville there is a high stone bridge spanning Third Creek, and the train struck the bridge, the entire train, a distance of at least 65 feet, wrecking the whole train and carrying death and destruction with it. Twenty passengers were killed outright, and the rest were injured, about twenty badly bruised and shaken up. The scene at the wreck beggars description. The night was dismal and dark, and the moon was hidden by the water in the creek was up. It was through the most heroic efforts of those who had hurried to the scene of the wreck that the injured were not drowned. Twenty dead bodies are now lying in the creek, and the rest are being taken to private residences and hotels. The following is a list of the killed: Wm. West, engineer, Salisbury, N. C.; Warren Fry, fireman, Hillsboro, N. C.; H. K. Linner, baggage master, Statesville, N. C.; Wm. Houston, Greensboro, N. C.; P. Barnett, Asheville, N. C.; Samuel Goran, Asheville, N. C.; C. W. E. Winslow, Asheville, N. C.; Charles Bennett, Hendersonville, N. C.; W. J. Fisher, Campbell, S. C.; B. Austin, Newberry, S. C.; T. Brodie, drummer, New York; J. M. Sikes, Clarksville, Tenn.; Mrs. Pool, Wilmington, N. C.; Doc Weller, traveling salesman; Jno. Davis, Statesville, N. C.; Mr. McCormick, Alexandria, Va.; Dr. Geo. W. Sanderlin, State Auditor, who was struck by the train. He was painfully injured. Among those who escaped—with injuries more or less serious, are: Col. E. C. Bonham, Statesville, N. C.; Otto Ransom, of Norfolk, Va.; Walter Elliot, Hickory, N. C.; Geo. Bowden, Atlanta; Col. O. W. Lawson, Louisville, Ky.; Miss Lewellen, Pool, of Williams; Mrs. R. C. and Miss M. Ophelia Moore, Helena, Ark.; A. Slink and wife, Lexington, Ky.; B. N. Estes, Jr., Memphis, Tenn.; John Goge, Asheville, N. C.; R. E. Johnson, Newberry, S. C.; Conductor Spang; Sleeping Car Conductor H. C. Clepper, and Flagman Shoof. The Pool was drowned before aid could reach her. Three bodies have not been identified. One of these is an old lady. Another is a lady with a baby in her pocket, and mother, Elmwood, N. C., to Alexander, N. C. The third is also a lady. Upon her finger is a ring engraved "T. H. W. M. R."

It is thought that all the bodies have not been taken out of the debris, which is piled up so high that it is impossible to make a thorough examination. Crowds have flocked to the scene all day, and the accident has cast a gloom over the entire community. Not a soul came out of the sleeper alive. Miss Ophelia Moore, of Helena, Ark., died after being taken out of the wreck. Special to the Star. STATESVILLE, N. C., August 27.—The train going west on the Western North Carolina railroad at 2 o'clock this morning, jumped the track on Third Creek bridge, two miles west of Statesville, and went sixty-five feet to the bottom. Twenty-three were killed or drowned, and twenty-five wounded. Among the killed are—

(Here follows the list of names given in the telegram from Charlotte.) Col. Bennehan Cameron, of the Governor's Staff, Otto Ransom, of Norfolk, Va., and Worth Elliott, of Hickory, escaped without injuries. The accident was due to the spreading of the rails on the bridge. The wreck did not catch fire, and the track was relaid and a train passed over the bridge this afternoon. The people of Statesville have taken care of the dead and wounded.

STATESVILLE, N. C., Aug. 28.—

This picturesque little town, situated at the foot of the mountains, with its gay summer boarders and tourists, is still in great excitement over the awful calamity at Third Creek. The friends and relatives of the dead and injured are flocking here, and nothing is thought of but to talk about except the ill-fated train No. 9, of yesterday morning. All gaze at the fearful wreck, and can only wonder that a single life was saved. Country people for miles around with all conceivable vehicles have been pouring in, but with all their excitement and eagerness to gloom over each countenance that corresponds with the dark clouds which are hanging over this mass of wood and iron lying at the bottom of Third Creek. The dead are being buried, as far as possible, and expressed to their former homes, and the injured are receiving warm-hearted Southern hospitality. The following is a list of the dead not mentioned last night: Charles Webber, Pittsburg, Pa.; Mrs. White, Memphis, Tenn.; Henry Patterson, colored. Unknown man with a ticket from Reidsville, N. C., to Corinth, Miss., and a Testament containing the name of A. L. Bigham. The total of the dead now foots up 33 and the number of injured about 26. A. L. Slink and bride, of Lexington, N. C., just married, are seriously hurt. Mrs. R. C. Moore, of Helena, Ark.; J. F. Holler, of Catawba county, B. M. Estes, of Memphis, and R. Johnson, a newboy, are also hurt, and their injuries are thought to be serious. A coroner's investigation is now in progress.

STATESVILLE, N. C., August 29.—

This is the third day after the Boston Bridge horror, and notwithstanding a cold drizzling rain is falling and overcasts are in demand, the excitement has in no way abated. Up to a late hour last night, crowds of citizens from this place, tourists and country people, jostled each other, anxious to see every little detail of removing the debris. Relatives of the injured were there wondering at the miraculous escapes. Friends of supposed passengers on the wrecked train were being eagerly watching every move, fearing that some beloved one would be next unearthed. The entire train will prove a total loss. The report that A. Slink was decapitated last night is not true. He and his young bride are still alive, although Mr. Slink's injuries are more serious than those of his wife. Her body was contained this morning of the recovery of both. State Auditor Sanderlin has so far recovered that he will probably be out to-day. Charles G. Webber, of 1284 Carson street, Pittsburg, Pa., will probably be interred in the quiet little Oakwood cemetery, lying at the foot of the hill at this place. His remains below the head of this badly mutilated unless a metallic case is sent from some other place (being none here) they cannot be shipped. Business, which has been almost entirely suspended here for the past two days has been somewhat resumed, although in a very hazy way. The wrecked train is being removed from the ill-fated bridge this morning. One hundred railroad hands, twenty-five convicts, a number of officials are at work removing the smashed-up cars and engine. W. M. West, engineer, who was bruised and mashed almost out of recognition, was buried in Salisbury, N. C., yesterday. Third Creek disaster on whose person a Testament was found with Bigham written in it. His body was shipped to Corinth, Miss., to-day for burial. The coroner's jury has come to no decision as to the cause of the wreck.

CLEVELAND COUNTY.

Semi-Centennial Celebration—Grand Parade—Address by Senator Ransom. (Special Star Telegram.) SHELBY, N. C., Aug. 27.—Five thousand people attended the semi-centennial celebration of Cleveland county to-day. The town was gay with flags and bunting. There was a large parade by the Farmer's Alliance; the Southern Stars, a military company of Lincoln-ton; Masons, Knights of Pythias and citizens. Addresses were delivered at Hopper's Park by Senator Matt Ransom and Hon. M. P. Justice, of Rutherfordson, after which a bountiful dinner was served by the ladies. A grand ball comes off to-night in the college building. To-morrow there will be an old soldiers' reunion. Senator Ransom will deliver an address in the absence of State Auditor Sanderlin, who was injured on the railroad accident last night. PORT ROYAL, S. C. Scheme to Develop a Foreign Export Business in Connection with the Richmond Terminal. BALTIMORE, Aug. 27.—The Manufacturers' Record this week announces that the controlling interest in Port Royal, S. C., which has the deepest harbor South of Chesapeake Bay, has been purchased by English capitalists represented in this country by the Jarvis Conklin Mortgage and Trust Co., of Kansas City. Pat Calhoun and others connected with the shipping business from Port Royal, and the system will be associated with the purchase. The intention is to develop foreign export business through this port and to divert heavy western shipments to the shipping lines from Port Royal to Europe. The American Association (limited) English Company, which has built up a business in this country, and owns nearly 100,000 acres of coal lands, is preparing to develop a new business for that part of the South by building up a coal shipping business from Port Royal, as the Norfolk & Western and Chesapeake & Ohio Railroads have done at Norfolk and Newport News. NEGRO INCENDIARIES. Three Attempts Made to Burn Georgetown, Ky. By Telegraph to the Morning Star. LEXINGTON, Ky., August 29.—A Transier special says: Georgetown had three incendiary fires last night, attributable to the ill-feeling of negroes over the lynching of Dudley. Patrols were placed and every negro halted on the streets and further trouble averted. Negroes are reported arming themselves, and still making threats. SENATOR BLACKBURN. Stricken With Apoplexy But Thought to Have Recovered. By Telegraph to the Morning Star. LOUISVILLE, Ky., Aug. 29.—It is reported that Senator Blackburn was yesterday stricken with apoplexy at New-castle, about sixty miles from Lexington. His friends have kept the matter secret to save him annoyance. He rallied rapidly and is thought now to have quite recovered.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

—Raleigh News and Observer: Gov. Holt yesterday issued the following commissions: Captain and Quartermaster General, Third Regiment, Geo. M. Newell, 1st Lieutenant; Co. K, 4th Regiment, L. L. Jenkins; 2nd Lieutenant, W. H. Kincaid. —Charlotte Chronicle: Laura Rhyne, colored, dropped dead yesterday in Dr. Houser's office, on West Fourth street. She was taken to the doctor in regard to her health. No one was in, and while standing in the door for a few minutes she was seen to fall backward in the office. Parties who saw her fall run to her assistance, but she was dead before they reached her. Heart disease was the cause of her death.

—Asheville Home Journal: E. Brown, a colored man hailing from Cooper's, attended a large social at the court house this morning. The center of attraction was a rattlesnake about four feet long with eleven rattles. The man had the snake under perfect control and handled it with perfect freedom, putting it around his neck, etc. He caught it and two others at Cooper's week ago, and makes a business of taming and selling tame snakes. —Chatham Record: The red hills of Chatham have seldom, if ever, before had such a crop of corn. The frequent showers of rain have been better than any fertilizers. On last Friday Mr. Robert Fugitt of Hickory, a prominent township had his left hand crushed and torn off in a threshing machine. He had been with the threshing all during the threshing season, and his hand was cut off by accident happened to him just as they were nearly done threshing their last crop.

—Dallas Eagle: It seems that the Baptist Church don't want any of Uncle Sam's help. The members of the church have pledged themselves not to preach in a church where such members belong. As a consequence, a couple of revenue officers were turned out of the church at Long Creek and Rev. Mr. Hickson has served notice that he will no longer preach at this place because the church has refused to turn out its revenue officers. —Oxford Ledger: From the information we can gather the tobacco crop in Granville will be 80 per cent. less than last year. The tobacco is small, thin and chaffy but it is not so bad as the crop of last year. It was attacked in the fall at Roxboro a few days ago by two burley negro prisoners. They sprang on him, fastened on his outside door and opened the cell door. It was a desperate struggle, and the sheriff not only conquered both men, but put them in their cells.

—Greensboro Record: We regret to learn that our distinguished townsman, Geo. W. West, was accused by a member of the State, is critically ill at his home on West Market street. Gen. Scates has been in feeble health for some time, but he has been in the most of the time—not taking his bed until Saturday last. The gravest fears are entertained by his family and friends. Late yesterday afternoon word was brought to Coroner W. M. Donnell that Thomas Conor, an Irishman by birth, was found dead near his home in the neighborhood of Hillsboro, a few miles to the north of McLeansville. He had been missing since last Friday, and when found was under a very large dead tree in the field. He was lying across a large log, and his body was a few feet from the ground. The appearance of the corpse was as if he had been struck by lightning, though no signs of lightning were seen. —Lincoln Courier: Julius Coleman, whose distillery was burned down some time ago, was seen yesterday setting fire to himself. He had a preliminary hearing before Mr. Sherrill last Saturday, and failing to give bond was placed in jail. William Dilinger, who lives at Cherryville, was burnt to death Monday of last week. He was in the act of pouring oil on some wood to make a fire, and the oil can exploded, throwing a cord and fire over his clothes. Several weeks ago a beautiful and unknown young woman went to Mr. Henry Summit, at Cherryville, and asked him to marry her to take and keep her for a year. She had a few weeks old, paying him, and were told, liberally to do so. They consented to accept the proposition, and she lived but a short time, having died last Monday night. Mr. Summit came to Lincolnton Tuesday and bought a coffin for the corpse. There is a mystery about the case, but she is not known, nor is it known where she is from. —Carthage Blade: On last Sunday, when the keeper of the jail in this county, went into the jail to see that all was in order, he found that an effort was being made to break out. Three colored prisoners were confined in the cell from which the escape was proposed. One of them, John Bostick, the condemned murderer of Jerome Currie, Lumb Black, convicted of burglary in the second degree, and Gilbert Dunlap, charged with the murder of Bob Hoover. Bostick, being a desperate character, was confined to the floor of his cell by a chain. Upon the information of the jailer, an examination of the cell and found that Bostick had the shackles filed off his legs, and had them secured by a string to prevent detection. A file, wrench and chisel were found in the cell, and it is reported that a knot was made in the end of the chain with which Bostick was bound. The volume of the water here young Wilson who, is imprisoned for 90 days on an assault with a deadly weapon, a petition has been circulated and universally signed, praying for his release. The petition is in Wilson's case. Bostick and Dunlap are both chained to the floor now and there is little danger of an escape. Two negro women are charged with furnishing the means by which the escape was to be accomplished, one of whom is in jail, and the other out on bail. —Morganton Herald: Citizens living along Buck creek, in McDowell county, are being troubled by a new kind of flooding in that stream is not more than half as great now as it was a few years ago, and that there is a noticeable decrease every year. The stream rises in the Blue Ridge and flows in the Catawba a few miles above Marion. The theory that a part of the stream has been diverted into subterranean channels is given credence by the fact that there are extensive limestone caves in McDowell county, and that the recent heavy rains have added very little to the volume of water in the stream. We were a little surprised the other day to hear that a good citizen of Burke, who lives ten miles from Morganton, had been two in the great gorge, and that his experience had cost him considerably over fifty dollars. A demented woman who was put off the 2.30 a. m. train at the Morganton depot last Sunday morning, created a desperate stir in town between four and five o'clock, singing and screaming along the streets. She was finally caught and locked up. We learn that the Golden Valley Lumber and Mining Company contemplate building a railroad from Burke county, a distance of about sixteen miles. A car of registered Jersey cattle passed here Monday evening for women's charge. Vanderbilt's place near Asheville. They were beautiful.