

Subscription price table with columns for copy, postage, and total cost.

Subscription price table continuation.

CUBA'S PROBATION.

Over to the people of the island. A period of about five years has been vaguely alluded to as the term of probation or tutelage, and in the meantime while these five years are passing, the annexation sentiment will be industriously cultivated...

Another electric power plant. North Carolina is making more progress in the establishment of electric power plants than any other State in the South...

PUTTING IT INTO A WEDGE.

One of the biggest steals ever launched upon Congress is the Hanna-Payne ship subsidy grab. It is a somewhat remarkable thing that if this scheme be a good and honest one some of its sturdiest opponents among the press are found in our great seaport cities...

COMPLETION OF THE DELGADO COTTON MILLS.

The Event Should be Celebrated in Some Way, Shape or Form—Progress of Work at the New Factory. A STAR representative in his peregrinations yesterday straggled into the big Delgado Cotton Mills which are now receiving the finishing touches...

NEW COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS.

Superintendent Mabine Writes Treasurer Green of Supreme Court Ruling. In reply to a letter to State Superintendent of Public Instruction C. H. Mabine, County Treasurer H. McL. Green has received the following concise interpretation of the recent decision of the Supreme Court touching the matter of the new school boards provided for by the Legislature...

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN SPECIAL SESSION.

Unfinished Business Left Over From First Monday Meeting Considered—Bonds of County Officers. Probably the most interesting action by the County Commissioners at their special meeting yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock was the renewal of the contract with Mr. M. G. Chadwick to care for the county convicts and the stipulation in the agreement as to the amount he shall receive for prisoners when employed under the direction of Capt. Jao. Barry, the road superintendent on the thoroughfares of the county...

MR. BELLAMY'S BILL.

Full Text of the Measure to Repeal Duty on Paper Material. The full text of Hon. John D. Bellamy's bill introduced in Congress last Monday to repeal the duty on wood pulp and all other material used in the manufacture of printing and writing papers, and to reduce the duty on manufactured printing papers, which has met with such hearty endorsement by the press everywhere, is as follows:

REPUBLICAN EXTRAVAGANCE. Excessive Fees Paid Lawyers and Others. Suits Brought Against the Sheriffs of Harrett and Ashe Counties. [Special Star Telegram.] RALEIGH, N. C., December 15.—The Legislative committee, which has been examining the books of the State treasurer and auditor, completed the work to day. In its report the committee stated that accounts had been found correct, but called attention to certain warrants that it thought had been drawn on misconstruction of law and paid, viz:

1. That Assistant Adjutant General J. C. L. Harris, who performed the duty of Adjutant General Royler in his absence, is paid \$1,350, while Royler is paid only \$500.

2. That solicitors of Criminal Courts should not be paid \$30 fees out of the State treasury.

3. That attorneys' fees and other legal expenses paid by the State during the year are excessive.

4. Examination of the Auditor's books show that during the fiscal year, from November 30, 1898, to November 30, 1899, there has been paid out by the State for "legal services and expenses," \$9,977.73. Since November 30, 1899, or during the last two weeks, the fees thus paid out amount to \$1,197.23. In other words, since December 1, 1898 the State, in addition to the Attorney General's salary of \$30,000 per year, has paid to lawyers \$11,194.96.

Auditor Ayer gave notice to-day that he would no longer pay the solicitors' fees. He has come to no decision as to the other matters.

State Treasurer Worth to-day instructed suit against ex-Sheriff J. H. Pope of Harrett county, and ex-Sheriff Byron Sturdivant, of Ashe county, and their bondsmen to recover State taxes for 1898. The taxes of Pope originally amounted to \$3,864. He has paid \$1,397. Sturdivant's tax was \$3,691. He has paid \$1,691.16. Suit is brought not only for the whole amount of taxes collected by each sheriff and due the State, but likewise for the \$1,000 penalty prescribed in such cases for failure of a sheriff to settle his taxes within the time prescribed. Also, for the ten per cent. of the total amount of taxes, as allowed in such cases by law.

Gov. Russell is invited to be present at the presentation of a medal to Lieut. Victor Blue, on board the Massachusetts, in New York harbor on December 21. The invitation comes from the Association of Patriotic Award in South Carolina.

N. C. SUPREME COURT.

Will Adjourn Saturday for the Holidays. Cases On the Docket—Other News From Raleigh. [Special Star Correspondence.] RALEIGH, N. C., December 16.

The Supreme Court to-day completed its docket for the present session. Next Saturday the court will adjourn for the holidays. It will not convene again until the first Monday in February, opening of the Spring term.

There are no end of the docket cases at the Fall term, except State cases. The court will only try five State cases left over from the present session. One of these is a case that has been advanced on the docket. This case is Theophilus White vs. State Auditor and Treasurer for salary as Sheriff Fish Commission. It will be called Tuesday. The State cases are:

State vs. Battle, (second district). State vs. Denton, (Third district). State vs. J. J. Ford, (Third district). State vs. Ford, (Seventh district). State vs. Brown, (Eighth district).

There are now some forty or fifty cases now on the docket that have been argued at this session and have not yet been decided. This unusually large number is due to the fact that there have been more political cases argued in the court, than ever before known, and they have consumed much of the opinion-writing time of the judges. Big batches of opinions are, however, expected to be handed down this week.

At this term, also, there were quite a number of cases—notably from the Third and Fifth districts—that could not, for lack of time, be argued.

Printers' Organization. The book and job printers here are organizing to fight the new freight rate on book paper, and are organized or framed for shipment. On this paper the freight rate has been advanced about 150 per cent., or from 25 to 67 cents from Baltimore here. A complaint in regard to the matter has already been filed with the Corporation Commission.

New Cotton Mill. The site for what will be one of the largest cotton mills in the State is now being surveyed at what is known as Smiley's Falls, a magnificent water power on the Cape Fear river about 4 miles from Dunn, in Harrett county. The mill will cost between one-half a million and a million dollars and will be operated entirely by water power. The men behind the enterprise are Mr. John F. Smiley and the Duke of Durham. The engineers find that at Smiley's Falls there is a fall of 29 feet in three miles.

CONVICT ESCAPED.

From the Penitentiary at Raleigh—One of a Gang of Safe Burglars. By Telegram to the morning Star. RALEIGH, N. C., December 16.—Another noted convict has escaped from the penitentiary here. His name is Wright, and he belonged to a notorious band of safe-burglars and post-office robbers, who were bagged in the Southern States about two years ago.

All of the gang, some dozen or fifteen in number, were sent to the penitentiary, and all of them, with one exception, have escaped.

Wright made his escape Thursday night. Exactly how he got out is not known. He was in the hospital, however, and it is supposed he went in the way he tried to go once before—by hiding under the shirt factory and scaling the wall during the night.

An investigation of the rights of former Senator Quay, of Pennsylvania, to a seat in the Senate by appointment of the Governor of Pennsylvania, was begun yesterday by the Senate committee on privileges and elections.

It is expected that the Fifteenth U. S. infantry will leave Cuba about the 30th inst. That regiment will go to New York and be distributed between Governor's Island and Flatbush.

INTERESTING RELIC.

Capt. Camming the Possessor of a Pitcher Made to Commemorate the Death and Burial of Washington. In view of the memorial celebration on Thursday of the death of George Washington, Capt. Preston Camming yesterday came into possession of a souvenir memorial pitcher made to commemorate the death of that eminent American and great soldier—the "Father of his country."

It is a gallon pitcher made of delftware and has been owned in Wilmington for nearly a hundred years. One of its last owners was a colored man named James Galley, who died here 20 years ago. Capt. Camming yesterday bought the old relic from Galley's daughter. Galley was a slave and got the pitcher from the family which owned him.

On one side of the pitcher is a scene representing a monument underneath two weeping willows. On the monument is a profile of Washington and the inscription "Born February 11th, 1732. Died December 14th, 1799." At the bottom of the monument are a sword and pen crossed. At the top are the words, "Washington In Glory." "America In Tears." At the base is an eagle with head bowed and uplifted wings, and the Goddess of Liberty in tears leaning her head against the shaft.

On the opposite side of the pitcher is another scene mounted by an eagle clutching a cannon and flag in his talons. Underneath is a circle in which is engraved, "Peace, Plenty and Independence." Standing to one side is a woman with a cornucopia in one hand and a sheaf of wheat in the other. At the opposite side is another woman, evidently the goddess of wisdom.

The front of the pitcher contains a shield embracing thirteen stars, and the American eagle, emblematic of freedom and liberty.

A VIRGINIAN KNOWS HIM.

A Very High Compliment to Hon. John D. Bellamy. [Richmond Dispatch.] Congressman Bellamy, of North Carolina, starts out well. He is the first man to propose a measure for the protection of newspapers and job printers from the power of the paper combine. We have more than political reason to hope that he will not be defeated by the ruthless Republicans fully by the ruthless Republicans majority of the House. We happen to know, moreover, that he is a man of genuine ability, true patriotism, and absolute integrity.

FIRE AT SAVANNAH.

Chatham Academy Burned—An Incendiary Blaze—Loss \$75,000. By Telegram to the morning Star. SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 16.—The Chatham Academy, the central building of the public school system, and the largest school house in the city, covering half a block, was destroyed by fire before daylight this morning. The loss will approximate \$75,000, with insurance of about \$40,000. There is no doubt that the fire was incendiary. During the past week attempts at incendiarism have been made on several of the city school buildings.

The member of the citizens' committee whose efforts resulted in the selection of Philadelphia for the National Republican Convention have strated a movement to have the Republican national committee make that city its headquarters.

Dr. R. J. Price, as coroner, in the sum of \$2,000.

The board, after considering a few other routine matters, adjourned at 5:30 o'clock, subject to call of the chairman.

HELLO! LELAND.

The Inter-State Telephone Line Completed to That Place—A Phone at Navassa Guano Factory. Mr. J. W. Gay, of Leland, was in the city yesterday and was feeling good over the fact the Inter-State Telephone and Telegraph Company has completed its line to that place and put in a telephone, enabling the people of Leland to talk with the city. Leland is seven miles out on the Atlantic Coast Line of South Carolina.

The Inter-State Company has also put in telephone at the Navassa Guano Company.

Mr. T. F. Simmons, manager of the Inter-State, says good progress is being made in putting up poles on the Seaboard Air Line, but there is some delay on account of getting wire fast enough to put the phones as the work progresses.

Messrs. A. S. Heide & Co. yesterday afternoon cleared the Italian barque Antonio for Cardiff with a cargo of 9,973 bales of cotton, valued at \$967,800. This is the second cargo for the Ormesby from this port this season.

Dr. R. E. Zachary yesterday received a telegram conveying to him the sad intelligence of the death of his father, Mr. J. Zachary, of Brevard, N. C., which occurred Wednesday night at the advanced age of 84 years. The immediate cause of his death was nervous prostration and general disability resulting from old age. He had been ill for several months for the first time in his life, and Dr. Zachary only a few weeks ago returned from his bedside. Deceased leaves to sons and four daughters to mourn their loss. The funeral will be conducted this afternoon from the Brevard Methodist Church. Friends of Dr. Zachary in Wilmington will deeply sympathize with him in his sad bereavement.

White Man Dropped Dead. John H. Merckin, an aged white mechanic well known about the city, dropped dead yesterday afternoon about 1:30 o'clock at his boarding place, on Fanning street, back of the City Hospital. He had been complaining of a pain near the heart, and just after dinner yesterday as he started to the street, he toppled and fell, dying almost instantly. Dr. A. H. Harris was summoned, but could do nothing for him. Dr. Price, the coroner, afterwards viewed the body and gave a permit for its burial without an inquest, as death was evidently from heart trouble.

Mormon Activity. Several of the best citizens of different denomination, noting the activity of Mormon missionaries near the city, have requested Dr. C. S. Blackwell to go out next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and speak on "Mormonism—the Romance of Superstition" at Greenville Baptist Church. Dr. Blackwell's life in the West has brought him in close contact with Mormonism in its very home. He will speak on the subject in his own pulpit Sunday night.

Sudden Death. Miss Maria C. Letta, daughter of the late John C. and Mrs. Priscilla E. Letta, died suddenly from heart trouble yesterday morning at her home in this city. She had not been feeling well for the past three days. The deceased was a sister of the late Mr. John R. Letta and of Miss Helen M. Letta with whom she resided at 311 South Seventh street. She also leaves one brother, Mr. Adam Letta, who resides in New York. He was telegraphed the sad intelligence and is expected here this morning. The arrangements for the funeral will be announced to-morrow.

—Mr. E. P. Bailey, of the Wilmington Iron Works, Capt. John Barry, county road superintendent, and County Commissioner W. F. Alexander yesterday went down and inspected the county line fence between New Hanover and Pender counties, preparatory to its being accepted by the county.