

Table with subscription rates: One year, \$2 10; Six months, 1 05; Three months, 55.

The Cross (X) Mark is to remind you that your subscription is about expiring. Let all renew promptly.

Death of Plato Durham, Esq.

It is with extreme regret that we are called upon to announce the death of this gentleman, which took place at his residence in the town of Shelby, Cleveland county, on Tuesday morning, 9th inst.

Although his demise was not unexpected, still the event has cast a deep gloom over the community in which he lived, and will cause unfeigned regret throughout the State.

Mr. Durham has figured considerably in public life. We first recollect him as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1868. In 1868-9 he represented his county in the General Assembly. In 1870, he was a candidate for Congress in his district but was defeated by Mr. Jones, of Buncombe. In 1874 he was an independent candidate for Congress, but failed of an election, having been beaten by Gen. Robt. Vance. His last appearance in public life was as a member of the late Constitutional Convention, of which he was a prominent member.

Mr. Durham was a gentleman of great personal popularity. Sociable, kind hearted and genial, he won friends among all with whom he came in contact. As a neighbor and friend he will be greatly missed, while the State loses a valuable and high toned citizen. Peace to his ashes.

Democratic Extravagance.

It was a favorite cry among Democratic politicians all over the State during the late campaign that the expenses of the Convention would be merely nominal and would not exceed at the farthest the sum of twenty five thousand dollars. The Republicans, through their press and on the stump, warned the people of the danger of trusting to Democratic assertions and pretensions. Not only has the sum incident to the assembling of the body come up to, but has exceeded even the huge expense we predicted. In the matter of printing alone, the people have been shamefully imposed upon. Joe Turner, by authority of the Convention and in virtue of his office as Public Printer, has his hand at this time up to the armpits in the State Treasury.

This man who prates so much about honesty and talks so favorably about retrenchment, bullied the fraudulent and iniquitous majority into voting him the privilege of printing one hundred thousand copies of the proposed amendments to the Constitution, prominent among which is one proposing to rob the masses of our citizens of their rights to control their public servants and vest it in an aristocratic and tyrannical Legislature selected under the present shameful germynder of the State.

For this nicely fixed up job, Joe Turner is to receive the snug little sum of about eight thousand dollars. Scarcely does Joe Turner feel pecuniarily in anticipation of this licensed raid upon the public purse, that he has retired temporarily from the laborious life of an editor, hired a carpet bag horn blower to do his dirty work and betaken himself to the pleasant task of riding over the State as a gentleman of leisure. After the issue is complete it will require an additional sum of two or three thousand dollars to distribute the infamous proposed amendments, amounting altogether to over ten thousand dollars. Added to this will be the cost of the journals of the Convention and their distribution, which will make the fearful aggregate for printing nearly four thousand dollars. And, people of North Carolina, this outrage is perpetrated upon you against your expressed wish. By eight thousand majority, or more, you protested against it. You declared in substance that you desired no Convention, - You voted for and fairly elected a majority of Republicans to represent you in the Convention. By an act of infamy, such as was never before perpetrated upon a free people, your voice was stifled and your wishes ignominiously sneered at and disregarded. The Public Treasury was rob-

led to bolster up a broken down newspaper editor and stuff the empty pockets of Democratic beggars. And now to add insult to injury you are asked to seal your own shame by endorsing the action of such a body. It is an insult to ask it, and tricksters, traitors and scoundrels will find to their dismay that the people know and will at the proper time maintain their privileges and rights. For our part, we are anxious for the fight. We are anxious to witness the indignation which we are certain will pervade all classes of the thinking people in North Carolina when the acts of the late so-called Constitutional Convention shall be thoroughly and strictly ventilated.

"The evil that men do, lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones." The portrait of Dick Turpin is to this day found in many a house in England. We frequently find the crooked nose of Benedict Arnold and the insidious face of Aaron Burr in American households. Men and women like to see them. They bring up vividly the events that caused their names to figure in history, and, to this extent, they may warn the young.

To pander to the desire for seeing heroes, even of a disgraceful cause, we learn that Edward Ransom's hardened features are being hawked about for sale. We know nothing of the objects which prompt the offer of this man's villainous visage to the public. If, however, to look upon it will deter any of the coming generation from such acts of infamy as attach to his name, we hope the picture will be freely and widely distributed.

The Wilmington Post throws out a hint that the people of his section were somewhat disappointed because Governor Brogden did not visit the late Wilmington Fair.

Now, we know it to be the fact that Governor Brogden is not only willing but anxious to mix as much as possible with his fellow-citizens in all parts of the State, and omits no opportunity when he can do so without detriment to the public interests. There are times, however, when matters of State claim his attention to such an extent as to prevent him from accepting the invitations of his many friends. We hardly suppose that the Governor need make much of an excuse to the people of the Cape Fear region, because they know him too well to believe he would intentionally slight them. You must take it back, Cannady; you must, really.

We notice in Democratic papers advertisements given out by officers appointed by a Republican administration, while the central organ of the Republican party is overlooked. Democrats are given paying positions by Republican Boards, while Republicans who are competent to fill these places are compelled to ask indulgence of grocers and boarding-house keepers, as they toil on; and now "vital error" Democratic editors are receiving Republican patronage, while Republican printers are not thought of by certain officials! We have special reference to the fact that the management of the Western Insane Asylum which, to say the least, ought to be free from party bias, gives its advertising patronage to Democratic newspapers in Raleigh, entirely ignoring the existence of a Republican paper at the Centre.

Vice President Wilson.

This distinguished gentleman was taken suddenly ill at his room in the Capitol at Washington a few days since, and his condition caused serious alarm to his friends throughout the country. The best medical aid was summoned and we are rejoiced to state that at last accounts he was much improved and thought to be out of danger. It will be remembered that the Vice President has been for some time in delicate health, brought about, it is said, by great mental labor. His loss would indeed be a sad one to the nation, and we sincerely trust that many years of usefulness are yet before him.

Mr. Secretary Fish has another Spanish outrage on his hands, a naturalized American citizen named Montes having been arrested in Cuba, and banished to the Isle of Pines without a trial, and it is claimed, without cause. Whatever may be the merits of this particular case, outrages of this kind are no longer tolerable, and prompt measures should be taken by the State Department to secure better treatment of American citizens in Cuba. -N. Y. Herald.

Letter from Prof. J. P. Sampson.

[Special Correspondence of the Era.] Active work of Hon. John A. Hyman (at Washington) in behalf of the people of North Carolina. Departmental news—Getting ready for the coming of Congress—Political outlook from the Capital since the full elections in Ohio and the Northwest.

WASHINGTON CITY, Oct. 23, 1875. Returning fresh from the canvass in Ohio, where I've been actively engaged for four weeks under the auspices of the Central Committee, discussing the currency question and the Roman Catholic school measure, as a native of the Old North State, proud of her massive pines towering amid the deep blue, proud of her material resources, the moral worth and intelligence of her citizens, I wish to address myself briefly to your columns upon the noble work of her Representative, Hon. John A. Hyman, and other matters of a general interest at the seat of government. When I speak of Mr. Hyman and his work here for the last six months, I wish to have it understood, that I do not wish to patronize him because I look to him for some favor, as a friend; no, sir, far from it; I speak of his work in the highest praise simply because he merits it. There has been no delegate in Congress from that District for the last twenty-five years that has done more for the people of North Carolina than Hon. John A. Hyman, and I mean no reflection upon his predecessors, but as a faithful correspondent I write the truth. It is a remarkable fact that from the very day that he came to Washington and was officially recognized by the Clerk of the House, upon his credentials and the record of his majority, before he had taken seat on the floor of Congress, he has been hard at work, and has already secured more appointments for all parts of the State than any other member from the South. He has succeeded in getting closer to each Cabinet minister in this short time than some have done during the whole of their two terms. He has the personal friendship and confidence of all the secretaries, approaching them with the greatest freedom and respect. They seem pleased to serve him, and what is unusual, before he has taken his seat, he has been fully recognized, and all of his appointments have been respected. He has an indomitable determination of character, and yet he has always been unassuming and polite in his demands. He lives in a style becoming his position, with office and reception rooms to receive the people from his State when they come to see him upon official business. Retiring in his manner, he knows nothing but his duty and attends to business all the time. He may not be early to make a speech, but he is a worker and understands his business about as well as some who have been in Congress for several years; he knows the rights of his people in the departments, and has the courage to demand them. Leaving the subject of this notice, which is strong, but by no means overdrawn, other things being equal, let me say to the people of his District, that his record here will compare well with any member from the South, white or colored, and are to may feel proud of Hon. John A. Hyman as a member of Congress from North Carolina.

DEPARTMENTAL. The Kellogg Bill, reorganizing the Treasury, and which passed both houses about the closing hours of last Congress, regulating the appointments with regard to States as well as fitness, is already being considered, and with a view to it being enacted a law after the first of January, the names, birth, age and legal residences are being taken. Those accredited to States having more than their quota are becoming quite interested, as are also those from the District of Columbia. The Secretary has already inaugurated several reforms in the civil service, and there is no doubt that we are to have a more equal distribution of merit in all the Departments, with regard to the States.

POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

Since the elections in the West, the Republican associations here from every State are quite jubilant and are falling into line, filling up the ranks and stepping to the music of the grand old party. The announcement inspires new hope; weak-kneed Republicans, who but a short time ago were almost afraid to say that they were Republicans, and who, with a seeming pride, were telling it that their grandfathers were Democrats, are now once more rallying around the standard of our starry old flag, calling up the names of "dear ones who died for the Union."

GETTING READY FOR THE COMING OF CONGRESS.

The Halls of both houses are being renovated, refurnished and painted, while all the rooms and corridors are being arranged with a view to the taste and demands of the new members, as is the case generally. Boarding-houses and public places of resort everywhere are getting ready for winter and the society that comes every session with Congress to the seat of government. Business is looking up and everybody looks to a gay time in Washington during the coming winter.

Yours for the right, J. P. —

Bismarck has a pistol with \$5,000 worth of diamonds in the handle, and yet he can't hit a cat ten feet away. It takes one of these old shot guns to tear things.

Perils of the Deep.

A story of great suffering at sea was brought by the West India mail steamer which has arrived at Plymouth with some of the crew of the bark Aurelie, from Liverpool for La Plata, on board. On the 2d of August smoke was seen rising from the coal forming the cargo of the Aurelie, and on an iron test rod being put down it came up red hot. The hatches were battened down and water poured in, but without effect, and the fire burned for seven days, during which the crew, fourteen in number, and the captain's wife, were on deck, with scanty provisions, amid stifling smoke. At length they took to their two boats, in which they passed five days and nights in sleeplessness and starvation. The burning sun by day and rain and cold by night added to their sufferings, in the midst of which the captain's wife gave birth to a child. The two boats which had kept together were, when at the last extremity, seen and picked up by the ship Moonlight and taken to Barbadoes.—Standard.

The children are the hope of the world. Whatever ideas are instilled in their minds now are the ideas that will govern the world in the next generation. How important then that the Teachers of the country should be qualified for their great duty; that they not only lay the foundation for broad and liberal culture but that they engraft upon the young and vigorous minds of their pupils correct ideas of human life and duty.

OFFICIAL.

UNITED STATES MAIL.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, Washington, October 1, 1875.

PROPOSALS will be received at the Contract Office of this Department until 3 p. m. of February 2, 1876, for conveying the mails of the United States on the routes and by the schedules of departures and arrivals herein specified, in the State of NORTH CAROLINA, from July 1, 1876, to June 30, 1880. Decisions announced on or before March 8, 1876.

[Bidders should examine carefully the laws, forms, and instructions annexed. See law requiring certified check or draft with bid exceeding \$5,000, and bond with all bids.]

13096 From Norfolk (Va.), by Great Bridge, Blossom Hill, Currituck C. H. (N. C.), Knott's Island, and Coinjock, to Poplar Branch, 75 miles and back, twice a week, by steamboat. Leave Norfolk Monday and Thursday at 6 a m; Arrive at Poplar Branch by 5 p m; Leave Poplar Branch Tuesday and Friday at 5 a m; Arrive at Norfolk by 5.30 p m. Bond required with bid, \$1,500.

13097 From Plymouth, by Avoca, Edenton, Colerain, Harrell'sville, Gate's Ferry, Pettys's shore, Winton, Riddick'sville, Gatling's, South Quay, (Va.), and Cobbsville, to Franklin Depot (Va.), 106 miles and back, three times a week, by steamboat. Leave Plymouth Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 p m; Arrive at Franklin Depot Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday by 8 a m; Leave Franklin Depot Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a m, or after arrival of mail from Norfolk; Arrive at Plymouth same days by 6 p m.

13098 Bond required with bid, \$5,000. From Plymouth, by Sanson's, to Windsor, 30 miles and back, three times a week, by steamboat. Leave Plymouth Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 p m; Arrive at Windsor next days by 12 m; Leave Windsor, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12 m; Arrive at Plymouth by 6 p m.

13099 Bond required with bid, \$1,200. From Wilmington to Smithville, 30 miles and back, three times a week, by steamboat. Leave Wilmington Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 3 p m; Arrive at Smithville by 8 p m; Leave Smithville Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 6 a m; Arrive at Wilmington by 12 m.

Proposals for six-times-a-week service invited. Schedule for six-times-a-week service: Leave Wilmington daily, except Sunday, at 3 p m; Arrive at Smithville by 8 p m; Leave Smithville daily, except Sunday, at 6 a m; Arrive at Wilmington by 12 m.

13100 From Wilmington, by Nat. Moore, Brinkland, French Creek Church, Westbrook, White Hall, Little Sugar Loaf, Elizabethtown, Dawson's Landing, Tarheel, Prospect Hall, Loveland, Cottonville, Gray's Creek and Cedar Creek, to Fayetteville, 112 miles and back, twice a week, by steamboat. Leave Wilmington Tuesday and Friday at 2 p m; Arrive at Fayetteville next days by 4 p m; Leave Fayetteville Monday and Thursday at 7 a m; Arrive at Wilmington next days by 8 a m.

13101 From Wilmington, by Topsail Sound, Stump Sound, Sneed's Ferry, and Aman's Store, to Jacksonville, 64 miles and back, once a week. Leave Wilmington Friday at 6 a m; Arrive at Jacksonville Saturday by 12 m; Leave Jacksonville Saturday at 2 p m; Arrive at Wilmington Tuesday by 12 m.

13102 From Wilmington to Town Creek, 14 miles and back, once a week. Leave Wilmington Saturday at 7 a m; Arrive at Town Creek by 12 m; Leave Town Creek Saturday at 1 p m; Arrive at Wilmington by 6 p m.

13103 Bond required with bid, \$200. From Wilmington, by Easy Hill and Bell Swamp, to Charlotte, 39 miles and back, once a week. Leave Wilmington Wednesday at 6 a m; Arrive at Charlotte by 7 p m; Leave Charlotte Thursday at 6 a m; Arrive at Wilmington by 7 p m.

13104 Bond required with bid, \$400. From Smithville, by Supply and Shallotte, to Little River (S. C.), 41 miles and back, once a week. Leave Smithville Tuesday at 7 p m; Arrive at Little River next day by 7 p m; Leave Little River Thursday at 6 a m; Arrive at Smithville by 7 p m.

13105 Bond required with bid, \$400. From Whitesville, by Lebanon, Sidney, Iron Hill, and Hickman, to Conwayborough (S. C.), 46 miles and back, once a week. Leave Whitesville Tuesday at 6 a m; Arrive at Conwayborough by 7 p m; Leave Conwayborough Wednesday at 6 a m; Arrive at Whitesville by 7 p m.

13106 From Whitesville, by Pireway Ferry, to Little River (S. C.), 41 miles and back, once a week. Leave Whitesville Friday at 6 a m; Arrive at Little River by 8 p m; Leave Little River Saturday at 6 a m; Arrive at Whitesville by 8 p m.

13107 From Abbottsburgh to Elizabethtown, 12 miles and back, three times a week. Leave Abbottsburgh Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10 a m; Arrive at Elizabethtown by 2 p m; Leave Elizabethtown Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 2.30 p m; Arrive at Abbottsburgh by 6.30 p m.

13108 Bond required with bid, \$300. From Elizabethtown, by Downingville, Ammon, Arran, and Warrensville, to Clinton, 38 miles and back, once a week. Leave Elizabethtown Friday at 6 a m; Arrive at Clinton by 6 p m; Leave Clinton Saturday at 6 a m; Arrive at Elizabethtown by 6 p m.

13109 From Fair Bluff, by Green Sea (S. C.), Grantsville, Conwayborough, and Bucksville, to Port Harrelson, 52 miles and back, three times a week. Leave Fair Bluff Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 4 p m; Arrive at Port Harrelson by 8 p m; Leave Port Harrelson Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 7 a m; Arrive at Fair Bluff by 8 p m.

13110 From Burgaw Depot to Angola, 21 miles and back, once a week. Leave Burgaw Depot Friday at 9 a m; Arrive at Angola by 4 p m; Leave Angola Friday at 4.30 p m; Arrive at Burgaw Depot next day by 5 p m.

13111 From Magnolia, by Rockfish, Harrell's Store, Herringsville, Taylor's Bridge, and Six Runs, to Magnolia, 52 miles, equal to 26 miles and back, once a week. Leave Magnolia Friday at 10.15 a m; Arrive at Magnolia Saturday by 7.15 p m.

13112 From Magnolia to Kenansville, 7 miles and back, six times a week. Leave Magnolia daily, except Sunday, at 10.15 a m; Arrive at Kenansville by 1 p m; Leave Kenansville daily, except Sunday, at 7.30 a m; Arrive at Magnolia by 9.30 a m.

13113 Bond required with bid, \$300. From Kenansville, by Hallsville, Beulaville, Haw Branch, Richlands, Gum Branch, Catharine Lake, and Tar Landing, to Jacksonville, 44 miles and back, twice a week. Leave Kenansville Monday and Thursday at 8 a m; Arrive at Jacksonville next days by 10 a m; Leave Jacksonville Tuesday and Friday at 1 p m; Arrive at Kenansville next days by 7 p m.

13114 Bond required with bid, \$700. From Kenansville, by Branch's Store, Outlaw's Bridge, Albertson, Resaca, Pink Hill, Buena Vista, and Sarcata, to Kenansville, 46 miles, equal to 23 miles and back, once a week. Leave Kenansville Saturday at 9 a m; Arrive at Kenansville Sunday by 1 p m; Bond required with bid, \$300.

13115 From Albertson to Kinston, 22 miles and back, once a week. Leave Albertson Friday at 6 a m; Arrive at Kinston by 12 m; Leave Kinston Friday at 1 p m; Arrive at Albertson by 7 p m.

13116 From Rocky Point, by Long Creek, Point Caswell, and Moore's Creek, to Black River Chapel, 52 miles and back, once a week. Leave Rocky Point Friday at 7 a m; Arrive at Black River Chapel by 6 p m; Leave Black River Chapel Thursday at 7 a m; Arrive at Rocky Point by 6 p m.

13117 Bond required with bid, \$400. From Dudley, by Jericho, to Strabane, 18 miles and back, once a week. Leave Dudley Friday at 7 a m; Arrive at Strabane by 1 p m; Leave Strabane Friday at 2 p m; Arrive at Dudley by 8 p m.

13118 Bond required with bid, \$200. From Dudley, by Falling Creek (N. C.), to Fentonville, 20 miles and back, once a week. Leave Dudley Saturday at 7 a m; Arrive at Fentonville by 1 p m; Leave Fentonville Saturday at 2 p m; Arrive at Dudley by 8 p m.

13119 Bond required with bid, \$300. From Kinston, by Snow Hill, to Hookerton, 22 miles and back, twice a week. Leave Kinston Tuesday and Friday at 9.30 a m; Arrive at Hookerton by 2 p m; Leave Hookerton Tuesday and Friday at 3 p m; Arrive at Kinston by 8 p m.

13120 From Kinston, by Snow Hill, to Hookerton, 22 miles and back, once a week. Leave Kinston Friday at 6 a m; Arrive at Swift Creek Bridge by 6 p m; Leave Swift Creek Bridge Saturday at 6 a m; Arrive at Kinston by 6 p m.

13121 From Kinston, by Comfort, to Richlands, 35 miles and back, once a week. Leave Kinston Saturday at 6 a m; Arrive at Richlands by 8 p m; Leave Richlands Friday at 6 a m; Arrive at Kinston by 8 p m.

13122 From Kinston, by Fields and Fountain Hill, to Ridge Spring, 19 miles and back, once a week. Leave Kinston Thursday at 2 p m; Arrive at Ridge Spring by 8 p m; Leave Ridge Spring Thursday at 6 a m; Arrive at Kinston by 12 m.

Job WORK executed at short notice and in a style unsurpassed by any similar establishment in the State.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Table with advertising rates: One square, one time, \$ 1 00; " " two times, 1 50; " " three times, 2 00.

*Contract advertisements taken at proportionately low rates.

Bond required with bid, \$900. 13125 From New Berne, by Pollockville, to Trenton, 25 miles and back, twice a week. Leave New Berne Wednesday and Saturday at 7 a m; Arrive at Trenton by 3 p m; Leave Trenton Tuesday and Friday at 8.30 a m; Arrive at New Berne by 4.30 p m.

Bond required with bid, \$400. 13126 From Beaufort, by Mill Point and Portsmouth, to Ocracoke, 55 miles and back, once a week. Leave Beaufort Tuesday at 10 p m; Arrive at Ocracoke Thursday by 4 p m; Leave Ocracoke Monday at 8 a m; Arrive at Beaufort next day by 4 p m.

Bond required with bid, \$500. 13127 From Ocracoke to Hatteras, 15 miles and back, once a week. Leave Ocracoke Friday at 8 p m; Arrive at Hatteras next day by 10 a m; Leave Hatteras Saturday at 10.30 a m; Arrive at Ocracoke next day by 4 p m.

Bond required with bid, \$200. 13128 From Newport, by Sander's Store, to Peletier's Mills, 17 miles and back, once a week. Leave Newport Saturday at 1 p m; Arrive at Peletier's Mills by 7 m; Leave Peletier's Mills Saturday at 6 a m; Arrive at Newport by 12 m.

Bond required with bid, \$300. 13129 From Newport to Harlowe, 10 miles and back, twice a week. Leave Newport Wednesday and Saturday at 7 a m; Arrive at Harlowe by 10 a m; Leave Harlowe Wednesday and Saturday at 11 a m; Arrive at Newport by 2 p m.

Bond required with bid, \$200. 13130 From Jacksonville, by Ward's Mill, Dutch Creek and Green Creek, to Swansborough, 36 miles and back, once a week. Leave Jacksonville Tuesday at 1 p m; Arrive at Swansborough next day by 11 a m; Leave Swansborough Wednesday at 2 p m; Arrive at Jacksonville next day by 12 m.

Bond required with bid, \$600. 13131 From Pollockville, by Maysville and Alto, to Swansborough, 27 miles and back, twice a week. Leave Pollockville Wednesday and Saturday at 11.30 a m; Arrive at Swansborough by 8 p m; Leave Swansborough Thursday and Sunday at 8 a m; Arrive at Pollockville by 4 p m.

Bond required with bid, \$400. 13132 From Wilson, by Farmville, to Marlborough, 22 miles and back, once a week. Leave Wilson Friday at 2 p m; Arrive at Marlborough by 9 p m; Leave Marlborough Friday at 6 a m; Arrive at Wilson by 1 p m.

Bond required with bid, \$300. 13133 From Wilson, by Farmville, to Marlborough, 22 miles and back, once a week. Leave Wilson Monday at 1 p m; Arrive at Speight's Bridge by 7 p m; Leave Speight's Bridge Monday at 6 a m; Arrive at Wilson by 12 m.

Bond required with bid, \$100. 13134 From Speight's Bridge to Snow Hill, 10 miles and back, once a week. Leave Speight's Bridge Friday at 9 a m; Arrive at Snow Hill by 12 m; Leave Snow Hill Friday at 1 p m; Arrive at Speight's Bridge by 4 p m.

Bond required with bid, \$100. 13135 From Marlborough, by Marlborough and Willow Green, to Greenville, 28 miles and back, once a week. Leave Snow Hill Wednesday at 8 a m; Arrive at Greenville by 5 p m; Leave Greenville Thursday at 8 a m; Arrive at Snow Hill by 5 p m.

Concluded on inside.