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Poetry.

The Careless Word.

'Twas but a word, a careless word, As thistle down it seemed as light; It passed a moment in the air, Then onward winged its flight.

Another lip caught up the word, And breathed it with a heavy sneer; It gathered weight as on it sped— That careless word in its career.

Then rumor caught the flying word, And busy gossip gave it weight, Until that little word became A vehicle of angry hate.

And then another page of life (blurred) With burning, stinging tears was A load of care was heavier made, Its added weight—that careless word.

That careless word, oh! how it scorched A fainting, quivering heart! 'Twas like a hungry fire, that searched Through every tender, vital part.

How wildly throbbled that aching heart! And busy gossip stirred; It calmed, but bitter asthma mark The pathway of that careless work.

Miscellaneous.

Stammering.

A gentleman who stammered from childhood almost up to manhood gives a very simple remedy for the misfortune. "Go into a room where you will be quiet and alone, get some book that will interest but not excite you, and sit down and read two hours aloud to yourself, keeping your teeth together. Do the same thing every two or three days, or once a week if very troublesome, always taking care to read slowly and distinctly, moving the lips but not the teeth. Then, when conversing with others, try to speak as slowly and distinctly as possible, and make up your mind that you will not stammer. Well, I tried this remedy, not having much faith in it, I must confess, but willing to do almost anything to cure myself of such an annoying difficulty. I read for two hours aloud with my teeth together. The first result was to make my tongue and jaws ache, that is, while I was reading, and the next to make me feel as if something had loosened my taking apparatus, for I could speak with less difficulty immediately. The change was so great that every one who knew me remarked it. I repeated the remedy every five or six days for a month, and then at longer intervals until cured."

HOW THE OLD THING WORKS.—We clip the following from the Burke Blade, which shows that Mr. Avery, in the little town of Morganton, experiences the same troubles which city editors do, though probably on a much smaller scale. It will undoubtedly be appreciated by at least every editor who reads it.

"Now, we venture to say, all our farmer readers in the country are thinking that while they are plowing in the hot sun, the editor of the Blade is having an easy time reclining in the shade. Not a bit of it, my friends. Every profession of occupation has its annoyances, and to give you a sample of what we have to put up with, we will quote a few fragments of conversations with us, or about us. So here goes: A friend of the railroad management: See here, why in the thunder don't the Blade give the Asylum Board the n—l about the way they are managing things?

A friend of the Asylum Board: Look here, Avery, folks are grumbling powerfully about your crossing out their Radical Commissioners. Why in the thunder don't you give Canady a rake about riding in special trains, and pitch into the whole concern about high freights.

Candidate for Commissioner next election: Why don't the Blade go for those Shyllocks that are dealing in county scrip and sucking the blood of the county?

Sold out man: Ain't you never going to "cuss out" those land sharks that are buying up all the property in the county at sheriff's sale? Why, sir, a poor man at a sheriff's sale is like a bound boy at a frolic. There ain't no chance for him.

"Blockader": I thought our county paper would a "buster" the revenues and driv the soldiers away afore now.

Soldier of the U.S.: Mine Grot, what a wreple is dot Blue Ritch Blade. It fights mit de government all de time.

Revenue officer: D—n Avery and his paper. What does he want to investigate us about? Dick ought to arrest him for contempt.

Friend of the old Dry Board: Why don't Avery pitch into this new wet board? Wonder if he is running the blockade?

Friend of the new Wet Board: This is no wet board. We hold two offices in the Templars, but we are a saint Sherman to a man. Why didn't the Blade rake Sherman when he was in?

Colored German: Why don't de Blade git after dem white gemmen what sings 'round de street of a night? It 'twas a darkey he'd be in de paper, if he warn't in jail.

Of all these and similar complaints, during our editorial career, we have realized the pitiful sum of \$1.50, sent us by an anonymous cor-

The Era.



respondent, who wished us to skin cat-fish John Martin for entering spring houses during the war and "nozing around" still houses since. We made this sum only because our correspondent did not come forward to claim his money."

Mail Catchers.

The patent mail catchers are being put up on the Air-Line Railroad at different points, and on the mail cars. These are to catch the mails at stations where the trains do not stop. A post is set on the ground close by the track, and to this the mail pouch is fastened. There is an arm on the mail car, operated from the inside by a crank and before reaching the station, the route agent lowers this arm, which is in the shape of the letter U, so wide at the mouth as that, no matter how the car shakes, it cannot fail to catch the mail pouch on the post. Catching it, it closes upon it, and the route agent draws it up by means of the crank. The mail for delivery at the station is thrown out as the train reaches the post. Mail bags are made especially for these stations, and it is a violation of law to use them elsewhere. These mail catchers are being put up in view of preparations which are making to put a faster schedule in operation on the Air-Line, after which some unimportant stations where trains now stop, will be passed except when waved down. The invention is that of a man named Ward, who has secured the patent to the government. These mail catchers are now in use on only one road in North Carolina—the Seaboard & Roanoke.

Sinking of a Hotel into the Earth.

(St. Louis Journal, May 13.) Considerable excitement was created in East St. Louis lately morning on the discovery that the Belleville House, a two story frame just south of the Pittsburg R. R. and Coal Co.'s dike, near the southern limits of the city, had disappeared in the quicksand. The circumstances connected with the unusual occurrence are as follows: The house, which is used as a hotel, was built on piles, but, a few days before, showed evidences of an inclination to sink into the earth. On Thursday night it sunk about two feet, but the proprietor, Mr. E. W. Decker, not apprehending anything serious, paid very little attention to the matter. On Friday night the guests went to bed as usual, but at a late hour the clerk, Mr. Geo. Heubner, discovered that the premises were getting rather unsettled, and gave the alarm. Before the inmates could realize what was going on the building had sunk forty-eight feet, carrying with it ten persons. After considerable difficulty they were all rescued, badly frightened, but not hurt. The backwater from the river soon surrounded the place where the house stood and would very probably have carried it away if the gable end, all that is visible, had not been securely fastened with ropes to terra firma. Mr. Decker's loss on the building is about \$6,000, and on the furniture about \$1,000. The house was recently purchased by its present proprietor. It is probable it entirely disappeared last night, as very little of it was visible at a late hour.

Accident to a Mail Agent.

(Wilmington Star.) We learn that Jacob Thompson, the colored route agent on the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroad, who fell off the train on Saturday morning just north of Marion, is in a critical condition and his recovery is a matter of doubt. It seems that at the time of the accident the train was passing over a high trestle, and Thompson, having got the notion in his head that he was nearing a station, stepped out on the platform with a mail bag in his hand. As he did so, the train gave a lurch and he fell. His hands being full, he failed to grasp anything to stop him in his course, and the consequence was that he was precipitated down an embankment a distance of at least thirty feet, falling in the midst of a quantity of rock. That he escaped instant death is a mystery, which can only be accounted for on the supposition that the mail bag fell between himself and the rocks, and thus broke the violence of the concussion somewhat. As it was, his left wrist was badly fractured and he is believed to have received severe internal injuries besides, as it was twenty-four hours after the accident before he spoke a word, and at last accounts he was still spitting blood.

The body of a colored woman was found in the river at Wilmington on Tuesday. In consequence of bad health, and a two free use of quinine, it is supposed she committed suicide.

Correspondence.

It must be understood that this paper does not endorse the sentiments of its correspondents in every instance. Its columns are open to the friends of the party, and their communications will be given to the public as containing the views and sentiments of the writers.

To the Voters of Wake.

To the Editor of The Constitution: Will you allow us of the center to suggest a ticket for Wake county?

For the Senate: B. H. WOODSELL.

For the House of Representatives: JAMES ENNISS, Dr. T. L. BANKS, JAMES H. HARRIS, A. L. DAVIS.

For County Commissioners: D. H. GARDNER, JOHN MASSEY, J. P. H. ADAMS, OSBORNE HUNTER, Jr., J. W. COLE.

For Sheriff: J. J. NOWELL.

Register of Deeds: M. V. B. GILBERT.

For County Surveyor: THOMAS C. SMITH.

For County Coroner: J. M. FORREST.

With this ticket representing all portions of the county, and men who are clean-handed, we need not fear the result.

Yours truly, VOTERS OF WAKE COUNTY.

To the Editor of The Constitution:

Please announce the following as our choice as candidates for Wake county at the ensuing county convention, viz:

For the Senate: ROBERT W. WYNNE.

For Sheriff: J. J. NOWELL.

For the House of Representatives: B. A. PERRY, DAVID GARDNER, Dr. T. L. BANKS, EATON BLEDSOE, JAMES H. JONES.

For County Commissioners: THOMAS C. SMITH, GEORGE A. KEITH, STEWART ELLISON, JAMES ENNIS, F. H. PERRY.

For Register of Deeds: M. V. B. GILBERT.

For County Treasurer: WILLIE D. JONES.

For Surveyor: J. P. H. ADAMS.

For Coroner: MOSES A. PATTERSON. NEUSE.

To the Editor of The Constitution:

Please allow me, as a good Republican, to suggest the following as our county ticket:—

For Sheriff: J. J. NOWELL.

For the Senate: ROBERT W. WYNNE.

For House of Representatives: Dr. T. L. BANKS, B. A. PERRY, JAMES H. JONES, DAVID GARDNER.

For County Commissioners: JOHN G. ANDREWS, WILLIAM JINKS, STEWART ELLISON, THOMAS C. SMITH, JAMES H. HARRIS.

For Register of Deeds: Capt. W. W. WHITE.

For County Treasurer: THOMAS B. BRIDGERS.

For County Surveyor: J. P. H. ADAMS.

For County Coroner: MOSES A. PATTERSON.

If this ticket should be put in the field we have nothing to fear.

State Ticket.

To the Editor of The Constitution: The time will soon be here, when the delegates from the several counties of the State will assemble in your city to nominate candidates to fill the State offices. We all trust wisdom and prudent counsel may prevail in that Convention, and, if so, may we not hope to have the following ticket:

For Governor: Hon. RALPH P. BUXTON, of Cumberland county.

For Lieutenant Governor: Gen. RUFUS BARRINGER, of Mecklenburg county.

For Attorney General: Hon. J. W. ALBERSON, of Perquimans county.

For Secretary of State: Col. GEORGE W. STANTON, of Wilson county.

For Treasurer: DAVID A. JENKINS, of Gaston county.

For Auditor: THOMAS B. KEOGH, of Guilford county.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction: SQUIRE TRIVETT, of McDowell county.

Let the Convention when it meets on the 12th of July, nominate this ticket and we can beat anything the opposition can bring out against us. They are all gentlemen who are well known to the people of North Carolina, and men of true honesty and integrity. They are all good speakers and if nominated will be elected by 20,000 majority. By all means give us this ticket.

GOLIAH.

To the Editor of The Constitution:

In this day of suggesting the best men for positions on our ticket, please allow me to name the following, viz:—

For Governor: THOMAS SETTLE, of Guilford county.

For Lieutenant Governor: WILLIAM A. SMITH, of Johnston county.

For Secretary of State: WILLIE D. JONES, of Wake county.

For Treasurer: WILLIAM A. BAILEY, of Rowan county.

For Auditor: STOKES D. FRANKLIN, of Forsyth county.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction: JUNIUS B. WHITAKER, of Wayne county.

For Attorney General: T. L. HARGROVE, of Granville county.

This is a good ticket and cannot be beaten. "TAR HEEL."

To the Editor of The Constitution:

Much is being said about who shall be the candidates on the State ticket, and but little interest is manifested concerning the ticket in the county of Wake, which all must admit is a matter of the greatest importance and consideration, not only to the voters of the county, but to the voters all over the State.

I trust you will permit me to say a few words in behalf of one of the truest and best Republicans in the county of Wake—one who has borne the burdens in the heat of the day—who has never faltered or fallen by the wayside, but whose every pulse has been full and strong with the principles of genuine Republicanism, who has, under all circumstances, advocated the true principles of justice and equality before the law to all men, and without any recognition of the color lines, has maintained that fitness and intelligence with faithfulness and unswerving integrity which are the only requisites or qualifications for office.

The distinguished man to whom I allude is in General WILLIE D. JONES. He commands the respect and confidence of all good and just men, and by the true men of his own party, his name is cherished and appreciated.

Mr. Editor, Gen. Willie D. Jones is the man for the Republicans of Wake county to nominate for their sheriff, and if he is nominated he will most assuredly be elected by a large majority, and his nomination on the county ticket of Wake for the office of sheriff will do much to secure the entire ticket in the county; it will also give strength to the Congressional ticket and be of great advantage to the State ticket.

Gen. Jones is a man of modest worth and will not enter a contest where there is a scramble for office, when he feels so much the importance of harmony and concentration of effort for the success of his party, of which he is to day, and always has been, a strong support and pillar. The Republicans of Wake county should recognize his great services to them individually and to the party, and when they shall have nominated and elected him sheriff, they will have done but little to show their gratitude to him, and in placing him in that responsible office, they will have the satisfaction of knowing that the responsibilities incident thereto, will be discharged honestly, with faithfulness to the people and to himself and with

credit and honor to the party and the people which elect him. When the Republicans of Wake honor Gen. Jones, they honor themselves and he has always honored those who have honored him. The genuine and liberty-loving Union Republicans will give him a warm and hearty support, and the touch of elbows will be manifest and thrilling all along the line, and the veterans of many hard fought battles will rally to his standard and will not be content until they shall have won the victory. Let him be the nominee, and he will, without doubt, be the next sheriff of the county of Wake.

I am, very truly, A WAKE COUNTY VOTER.

R. C. Badger for Congress.

To the Editor of The Constitution: While others are busying themselves regarding the State ticket, allow me space in your columns to mention a man as a candidate of the Republican ticket, from this district, for Congress. I nominate R. C. BADGER, and ask that he be placed before the nominating Convention, soon to assemble. Mr. Badger is very generally known throughout the district, and it is therefore useless to allude to his distinguished abilities as a speaker, as a lawyer, and a rising young statesman. He would make a vigorous canvass; is more than a match for any aspiring Democrat in the District; and would add strength to, instead of detracting from, the State ticket. His record is unimpeachable. His official conduct is without reproach. He has no official sins of omission or commission to answer for, and there is no fear of a Congressional Committee being appointed, after his nomination, to examine into official affairs, and thereby weaken the ticket, and place him and his friends on the defensive. He can beat Joe Davis. The Republicans can consistently rally to his support to a man, and will do it. I make this suggestion without any consultation with him, and without his knowledge; but the time and circumstances demands that no personal feelings or individual preferences should guide us in our selection. We must have Badger to win.

NEW LIGHT.

Gen. W. D. Jones.

To the Editor of The Constitution: In calmly surveying the field I can see none yet mentioned more worthy than the gentleman whose name heads this article. I believe that there has not, as yet, been any particular one mentioned on the Republican side as a suitable man to represent this, the Raleigh district, in Congress. Nor do I believe there is one more worthy in the entire district than the gentleman in question. Thus believing, and after consulting many of my fellow-citizens, I take this liberty with his name, without having one word from him on the subject. Then let the district rally around him—"who has been tried and found true, weighed in the balance and found not wanting"—the old war-horse of Wake, and we will carry the district by a handsome majority. To the front, yeomenary, to the front.

VIGILANT.

June 1, 1876.

Exhibition at Johnson High School.

To the Editor of The Constitution: The annual and closing exercises of Johnson High School took place on last Friday evening at St. Paul's A. M. E. Church. A very large audience, composed of both colored and white, greeted the teachers and pupils of this school on that occasion. A large platform was erected around the pulpit, upon which sat the neatly attired boys and girls, whose faces beamed with intelligence. At the appointed hour, the entertainment was opened with prayer and song, after which each in his or her turn came to the front and did credit alike to themselves and teachers. But we must say though not in disparagement to either teacher or pupil—that this exhibition was not so good as some that have been given by this school on other and perhaps more favorable occasions. A person acquainted with the impediments attending upon the preparation of a school exhibition, can readily appreciate the many disadvantages under which teacher labors, especially in a large school, and even a critic can sometimes pass little "imperfections by," when it is known that each and every pupil must have a say, of

somebody's feelings will be sorely and surely wounded. The faithful teacher has to contend with the ambition and rivalry of the scholars and the jealousy of the parents, and if they fail to nurse either, it is almost impossible to have a good school. For instance, if Johnnie is allowed to speak a piece and Willie is not, he thinks that his teacher is partial towards Johnnie, and can always divine the cause of such partiality. He goes home and tells ather and mother and they, too, regardless of the mental worth or fitness of their child to appear in public to advantage, become offended, and in some instances, we have known them to send their child to another school for no other purpose. Hence we are inclined to believe, that it was the deep interest felt in each individual pupil, by those worthy and competent teachers, which contributed, doubtless in a slight degree, to the burden of the programme and the little faults, if they might be termed, that could be found in some of the recitations and singing. We do think that if these closing exhibitions were converted into thorough examinations, the result would be more beneficial to both the schools and the public. And if children are now like they were in our school days, they would not be so very anxious to participate in the exercises on such occasions, and patience would not cease to be a virtue on account of an irksome programme. This room would be made for the more advanced, and an impetus would be given to the less advanced pupils.

However, the exhibition of Friday night was very good, taking all things into consideration. But we do not think that it was a fair test of the sufficiency of the teachers or progress of the scholars.

O. H., Jr.

Washington Correspondence.

Current Capital Topics—Decorated day at Arlington—Taylor's poem, and Woodford's address—Celebrities Present—Notables absent—Reflections of the hour—Chandler for President and Woodford for his Lieutenant—The occasion surprising the thought—Speaker Kerr's position.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 1, '76. Decoration day has come and gone. Each sleeping hero at Arlington has had flowers, beautiful flowers laid upon his last resting place, in the words of the poet Taylor

"Upon a grave whose grassy roof grows lower As troubled waves subside when storm is over A simple in the soil, as if earth smiled To think she holds her merry soldier child!"

The occasion was a grand one, and worthy of the year, 1876. The people were there in crowds, not exclusively from the populous cities nearby, but from the country for miles around, and fully one half were from the recently emancipated race, arrayed in holiday attire, respectful and orderly in their deportment, as is uniformly the case.

The decorations of the stand were fine, the music good, and the programme well carried out. The bust of Lincoln, in the area opposite the place for the speakers was wreathed with garlands and when the services were over, hundreds dropped their testimonials of bouquets sometimes of only a single flower, on the pedestal supporting the likeness of liberty's great martyr.

B. F. Taylor's poem was grand and fitted for the august occasion, but Gen. Stewart Woodford's oration was capital; in excellent taste as regards matter and brevity, and all of striking, well condensed and instructive points which the American people should lay well to heart. Among other things good and noble and delightful to listen to as well, all of us should thank Governor Woodford for saying this: "Courage and honor alike require that we who by God's providence were victors in the strife, should be freely and absolutely generous in peace. Courage and honor equally require that they who were beaten, should yield manly submission to the decision of that final tribunal of the sword, to which they appealed. These are plain words plainly spoken among our dead."

CELEBRITIES PRESENT. The platform was filled with people of distinction. President Grant was the central object. To his right was Gen. Sherman, and further on the orator of the day, General Woodford. To the left of the President was the stalwart form of the Secre-

tary of the Interior, the Hon. Z. Chandler. Mr. B. F. Taylor, the post of the occasion, Postmaster General Jewell; Representatives McClary, Kasson and many others of note were present. One could not help observing that of those who conspicuously figured in the great conflict those who stood shoulder to shoulder with the immortal Lincoln, enjoyed his personal confidence and regard and influenced his actions, only three appeared to be present, Grant, Chandler and Sherman; Stanton, Sumner, Chase, Wilson and Stevens have passed on and joined the throng of heroes in the spirit land. The gallant Woodford was at his post in the Department of the South, and young and chivalric winning his spurs.

REFLECTIONS OF THE HOUR. No wonder then the thought would enter the minds of those present, that perhaps of all the men in our country to invest with control, when President Grant shall resign the baton of power, Zachariah Chandler is not only the fittest but will best satisfy the somewhat anxious loyal mind. Let that honest and patriotic citizen, upon whose character there is no stain, and who knows so well what war is by stern experience and what the issues settled by our great victory over rebellion are, be nominated for the Chief Magistracy, then let the ticket be completed by the election of New York's brave and eloquent son, General Woodford for the Vice Presidency. This done, the people will say amen! and all the powers of evil however audaciously and malignantly directed cannot prevail against such a loyal and meritorious combination. Would that our connection at Cincinnati could be impressed with the idea that forcibly struck many thoughtful persons, as they recognized in the fixed lineaments of Michigan's favorite son, that his soul was full of glowing memories, and of profound thankfulness for mercies vouchsafed, the idea that if he could be made the ruler of this great people, and the eloquent New Yorker pouring out sublime thoughts to the eagerly listening multitude, his right hand man in the government of our beloved country, how completely would be sustained and perpetuated the cause in which those heroes died, who now lie so thickly reposing on Arlington Hill.

SPEAKER KERR'S POSITION. The friends of Speaker Kerr are terribly annoyed at his position before the public. There seems to be apparent truthfulness in the accusation that he received money for procuring a position for an Attorney some years ago, yet this may be a piece of audacity on the part of malignant persons, equal only to a dozen other instances which have lately occurred. The course of the speaker has been such, that in case of his fall, sincere regret will be felt by his political opponents as well as friends. The example of such a distinguished person in the ranks of the Democracy presenting a record so appalling, will teach the fellows who are disposed to investigate for party purposes merely, a lesson they will not forget soon. With such men as Pendleton and Kerr going down, and their would-be victims coming out right, how long can the Democratic party live?

Killed by the Train. [Reidsville Times.] When the Northern bound train on the R. & D. R. R. was about a mile from town, coming around a curve the engineer saw a man lying on the track not far ahead, and as the train could not be stopped before reaching the man, sounded the whistle. But as the man did not get out of the way the train in a few seconds passed over the body, cutting off one leg and arm. When the train was stopped the hands found the unfortunate man to be one who lived in this town. He was brought immediately to town, seeming to suffer the most intense pain, and in a few hours breathed his last. We have been told he had said a few days before that he intended to put himself on the railroad track so that he might be killed, as he was tired of living.

It is a remarkable fact that every day in the week is observed by some nation for the public celebration of religious services. Sunday is devoted by the Christians, Monday by the Greeks, Tuesday by the Persians, Wednesday by the Assyrians, Thursday by the Egyptians, Friday by the Turks, Saturday by the Jews.