

BY H. H. CROWSON.

THE BLUE RIDGE BLADE is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum, or ONE DOLLAR for six months.

Advertisements will be inserted at one dollar per square (one inch space), or the first insertion, and fifty cents for each subsequent insertion.

We are prepared to execute all job work in a neat and expeditious manner.

Under the administration of Jefferson Congress had a "Committee on the memorial concerning Perpetual Motion," so says Dr. Samuel Latham Mitchill, at that time a Representative from New York, in a letter to his wife, which is published in the April number of Harper's Magazine.

Natural History Notes IN BURKE AND CATAWBA COOS, N. C., BY PROF. JOHN T. HUMPHREYS, COR. MEM. BUFFALO (N. Y.) ACAD. NAT. SCI. Paper No. 2.

The Saurian Order. The terrible dynasty of reptiles arose and flourished and passed away many thousands of years before the advent of man.

As successors to these ancient tyrants, or the country now the most formidable rank. The power of these monsters is confined to their jaws, and succumbs very readily to the ingenuity of man.

As successors to these ancient tyrants, or the country now the most formidable rank. The power of these monsters is confined to their jaws, and succumbs very readily to the ingenuity of man.

The most beautiful and graceful of all the Saurians are the lizards; not as they glide like arrows of light across the road side, but as they bask quietly under a flood of sunshine with their scaly quadrangular-pyramidal heads flashing like plates of burnished silver, their extensible tongues, with apex always lifted, bathing in the light and gazing gracefully along tails waving about them like the fabled whips of fairies.

This far I have found in these counties Am. sex lineata—six striped lizard. An. carolinensis—green lizard. T. undulatus—brown lizard. T. erythrocephalus—red headed skink. Sc. quinquelineatus—five striped lizard. Sc. fasciatus—blue tailed lizard. L. lateralis—ground lizard.

Report of the Committee. Thomas Murphy—Aged 27; reside in Salisbury; an conductor; appointed by Direct. on March 29th, 1877; salary \$50 per month; an over 4 months in arrears of pay; not regularly as conductor; know of no mismanagement or irregularities of officers of this road; have never had charge of any free train and know of none; run my train up one day and back the next every day except Sunday; had charge of the down train in September last, which collided near Clatsville Station; damage trifling; was running under orders; telegraph operator at Hickory was to blame, as he did not hand me dispatch that train was on track; handle very few free passes except exchange passes from other roads; know of no free pass given by reason of

favoritism; I know of no dead-head freight shipped over this line. J. A. Tate.—Have supervision of the entire road and generally go over the whole length of it once in two weeks; I know of no mismanagement or irregularities on the part of the officers of this road; I purchase and inspect and take up all railroad ties for the road; I hauled some 300 logs of cross-tie timber, cut from land belonging to Maj. Wilson, near Learl, and gotten by McCoughlin and hauled to the road by parties other than railroad hands; I hauled these tie-timbers by order of Maj. Wilson; this lot was all pine, generally of good size and good heart, being an average bridge tie—some 15 per cent were deficient in heart, and such were used for tunnel timber; all were hauled on merrill train to Merrill's; I hauled near head of road and saved by convict labor; this lot was shipped free; don't know what Maj. Wilson was to be paid for them, or whether to be paid for them in the rough or after they had been sawed; don't know of any stacking of lumber by mismanagement or irregularities on the part of the officers of this road; I don't know of any ice gotten for Maj. Wilson by railroad hands, but heard him say he intended to have some gotten this winter for his nitro-glycerine manufactory for use next summer; last year I had a contract with Connelly & Co., at Learl, by which they furnished ties to the road on time at 20 cents a piece for first-class ties; this arrangement was made at the suggestion of those who got the ties, they not being able to wait on the road for the money, but Connelly & Co., being men of means, were able to wait, but their account was furnished upon this agreement; same kind of contract was made by me with Messrs. Epps & Simpson and T. A. Seals & Co., at Bridgewater; I don't know whether Maj. Wilson hires any mules, horses and wagons to the railroad company; he has never in any way, as far as I know, influenced any of the railroad employees to vote; no one has been rewarded or discharged on account of his vote; Jesse Brindle was discharged as section-master on account of drunkenness, that is to say, I heard Major Wilson say that I must look out for another section-master as he should have to discharge Brindle on account of drunkenness; Maj. Wilson has never ordered me to take up one man's notes in preference to another's, nor do I believe he ever knows of whom I purchase or nor gives me any order about them, except to buy more than are absolutely necessary; from Conover to Salisbury, 50 miles, the cross-ties are generally rotten; above Conover they are generally good, with enough taken up to supply the rotten ones; below Conover I have not the ties, but would have them to be sent to Learl.

Wm. D. Sprague.—I am proprietor of hotel at this place; the property belongs to Mr. John H. Pearson and myself. Q. Is any officer of the Western N. C. Railroad in any way directly or indirectly interested in the profits of the hotel or in the property? A. No; I pay freight at regular full rates on everything I receive over the road; I receive no favors from them, and extend none to any, except the employees, who are charged half transient rates, a custom in general use.

Q. Do you know of any of the officers of this road who have had an opportunity of observing the financial management of J. G. Hall, one of the Commissioners, and I think that he has displayed unusual caution and skill in his management of the road? A. I do not.

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or Creek, was concerned. Q. Were radicals admitted as delegates to that convention in the interest of B. A. Berry, and to defeat the choice of the democrats of the county? A. E. Fletcher Walker, J. T. Patterson, and probably others, who were prominent Republicans up to that time, were admitted as delegates to that convention, took a leading part in the same and supported B. A. Berry.

Q. Do you know of any mismanagement on the part of the officers of the Western N. C. Railroad? A. I do not.

Q. Do you know that any such officer used his official influence to control the election in Burke county last August? A. I do not.

Q. Do you know that this investigation of the management of said road was prompted by malice? A. I do not know it, but believe that it was to some extent.

Q. Is or is not B. A. Berry, a man of strong prejudices? A. He is.

Q. Do you know of any strong prejudices? A. He has that reputation.

Q. Has W. R. Aiken always been a friend of B. A. Berry's? A. I know that he has not. He did not support him either in the convention or vote for him at the polls.

Q. Do you know the general character of W. R. Aiken; if yes, what is it for truth and honesty? A. I do, and it is not very good for either.

L. F. Warlick.—Q. Do you know of any mismanagement on the part of the officers of Western N. C. Railroad? A. I do not.

Q. Do you know of any such officer interfering or using official influence to control political elections last August? A. I do not.

Q. Do you know W. R. Aiken, of Burke, and if yes, for what length of time? A. Yes; I have known him for thirty years.

Q. Do you know his general character? A. I think I do.

Q. What is it? A. He is bad for truth; and where he is interested he would not be believed on oath.

Q. What are your politics and those of W. R. Aiken? A. We are both democrats.

Q. Do you know of any irregularity or mismanagement on the part of the officers of the Western N. C. Railroad? A. I do not.

Q. Do you know of any of the officers of this road using their official position to influence elections last August? A. I do not.

Q. Do you know the general character of W. R. Aiken, and if yes, what is it? A. I do, and do not think it very good for truth.

Q. Do you know of any irregularity or mismanagement on the part of the officers of the Western N. C. Railroad? A. I do not.

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Major Wilson has drawn \$1,628.83 of his salary. There was due him on last January, 1878, the sum of \$3,500. At the present time the Company is in arrears with employees for four months' wages.

How do you account for this? By the expenditure of money in building the road from Henry's west.

Have any of the Agents during the present administration been found to be in arrears with the Company, discharged, and if yes, what was the amount and has the same been collected? The Agents at Morganton and at Old Fort were found to be in arrears about \$2,700, and are not now in the employ of the Company; the same has not been paid; I report such matters to the President; and it then becomes his duty to collect; the former Agent at Statesville was in arrears about \$400, which has not been collected.

Are all the Agents of the Company required to give bond before entering upon the discharge of their duties; and if yes, who approves the sufficiency of such bonds? Such is the regulation of the Company, and the duty of approval is placed on the President.

During the present administration has any Agent of the Company, who is now in the employ of the Company, failed to give bond? No.

Then do I understand you to say that all the present Agents have no bonds on file in your office; and if yes, are said bonds good to cover the penalty of the same? Yes, and I believe them good.

What is the amount of your own bond? \$50,000.

Does the fact of the company being in arrears with employees arise from your failure to keep the work in your office properly done and posted up? It has nothing to do with it.

Have you at all times during the present administration, been a failure on your part to keep your books in such order as has worked an injury to the interests of the company? There has not.

Have you at all times during the present administration kept your books properly posted? I think so.

Do you regularly attend at your office? I am in my office every day, except when absent on the business of the company, and possibly a day or two occasionally.

Has your failure to attend your office at any time proved detrimental to the company? No, I think not.

Have you, at any time, during the present administration, ordered the payment of the same account twice; if so, in how many instances, and from what cause? The President is constantly ordering the purchase of various things for the road from merchants in Salisbury. The account for the purchases are forwarded to my office for payment. About a year ago, among various accounts due Salisbury merchants, there was an account of \$50.02 due to a Salisbury merchant, in my office for payment, and approved by the President.

Has there been several months behind in your payments on account of scarcity of funds. The merchant above alluded to, made out a duplicate of his account, and it was paid by the Agent at Salisbury, and was then forwarded to me by the Agent for his credit.

Has Major Wilson furnished to the Railroad Company any cross-ties, saw-logs, cord-wood and trestle-timber, and if so, what pay has he received for the same, and why were they not purchased from other persons? I do not know of my own knowledge whether he has or not; but if he has, no bill has been presented and no money has been paid him on such account. I am informed and believe that he has furnished such articles on the line of construction. They were not purchased from other persons because the company had not sufficient means to buy them, and Major Wilson supplied the necessary want on long credit to enable the work to go on.

Do you know of Major Wilson's having furnished mules and carts to the company; if so on what terms? Major Wilson has furnished some mules and carts on the line of construction. I was present when the contract—a verbal one—was made by him with the Director, which was as follows, viz: Major Wilson agreed to furnish the mules and carts and leave it to the Board of Directors to fix the price he should receive; they took the opinion of two old railroad contractors and fixed the same at 25 cents per diem for each mule and cart—the company agreeing to feed the mules and keep the carts in repair. Major Wilson has received on this account \$238.

I have transmitted reports to the Governor showing all receipts and disbursements in my office, and I hereby refer the committee to the same as a part of this my testimony.

In the Agent at Morganton in arrears with the company? He is not.

Is there any improper management of the road which it is your duty to report that you have not? There is none within my knowledge.

Does Major Wilson furnish cross-ties or cord-wood for the operating part of the road? He does not.

Have you reserved any evidence of importance, or have you been deterred from answering fully from the fear of losing your position? I have not.

THE REP. Gold plowing winds and driving rains seldom fall to being on a Couch. Cold or Honeysuckle at this season, and Dr. Bell's Cough Syrup should be kept at every house. For sale by all Druggists.

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1879. FEBRUARY 1879.

We answer the query in local column of this issue, by saying that the citizens of Morganton are especially fortunate in being able to ascertain

FROM THE "BLADE"

that we are now adding to our unusually large stock of Staple and Fancy Goods such articles as at this season of the year are in special demand, to wit:

For the Garden and Farm. A fine assortment of Fresh Garden Seeds, clover and orchard Grass Seed.

Anchor Brand and Sea Fowl Fertilizers, these act finely in all Spring Crops.

A large lot of Remington's Handled Hose, the best made.

Farming and Wagon Implements, Nails, Window Glass, (all sizes) Putty, Lime, &c.

An assortment of Tin Ware, Pots, Ovens, Skillets and Lids.

Twenty-five Kegs Fresh Soda.

For the Family. Coffee, Sugar, Rice, Castile Soap, Camphor, Copperas, Chalk Grayons, Sewing Machine Oil, and our first installment of Spring Prints, in beautiful patterns, also a large lot of North Carolina Plaids and Sheetings, Kerosene Oil, Spirits Turpentine, Staple Dry Goods and Choice Rio Coffee.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS DURING THE SEASON TO BOTH WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BUYERS.

MILL BROTHERS.

Are you going to Paint? THEN USE MILLER BROS' CHEMICAL PAINT.

Ready for use in White and over One Hundred Different Colors, made of strictly pure White Lead, Zinc and Linseed Oil Chemically combined, warranted much Harder and Cheaper and to last TWICE AS LONG as any other Paint. It has taken the FIRST PREMIUM at twenty of the State Fairs of the Union, and is on MANY THOUSAND of the finest houses in the country.

St. Petersburg, Pa., Jan. 10th, 1877. MILLER BROTHERS. Gentlemen:—We have sold large quantities of your Chemical Paint in this section of the country, and all parties having used the same speak highly of its durability and finish; and they find the colors and mixture just as you represent.

Address, MILLER BROTHERS, 29, 31 & 33 St. Clair Street, CLEVELAND, OHIO. Sample Card Sent Free.



HAIR RENEWER. This standard article is compounded with the greatest care and is as satisfactory as ever.

It restores gray or faded hair to its youthful color. It removes all eruptions, itching and dandruff. It gives the head a cooling, soothing sensation of great comfort, and the scalp by its use becomes white and clean.

As a dressing, nothing has been found so effectual or desirable. A. A. Hayes, M. D., State Assayer of Massachusetts, says, "The constituents are pure, and carefully selected for excellent quality; and I consider it the BEST PREPARATION for its intended purposes."

Price, One Dollar.

Buckingham's Dye FOR THE WHISKERS.

This elegant preparation may be relied on to change the color of the beard from gray or any other undesirable shade, to brown or black, at discretion. It is easily applied, being in one preparation, and quickly and effectually produces a permanent color, which will neither rub nor wash off.

Manufactured by R. P. HALL & CO., NASHUA, N. H.

MARRIED DR. BUTTS' LIFE No. 12 N. Eighth St. St. Louis, Mo.

THE PHYSIOLOGY OF MARRIAGE THE PRIVATE MEDICAL ADVISER. Books that are really useful and that interest in all matters pertaining to the health and happiness of the human race.

SINGLE LIFE. People are getting acquainted—and those who are not ought to be—with the wonderful merits of the great American Remedy, the

MEXICAN Mustang Liniment, FOR MAN AND BEAST.

This liniment very recently originated in America, where Nature provides in her laboratory such surprising antidotes for the maladies of her children. Its fame has been spreading for 35 years, until now it reaches the habitable globe.

THE LIGHT-RUNNING NEW HOME. It has a SELF-SETTING NEEDLE; it has a LARGE SPACE under the arm; it is ROBUST, and has more points of EXCELLENCE than all other machines combined.

Johnson, Clark & Co. 30 UNION SQUARE, N. Y.

Blank Deeds for sale at this Office.

Advertisement for Church & Co's Soda Water, featuring a logo and text: 'USE THIS BRAND. BEST IN THE WORLD. And better than any Saleratus.'

Rutherford College. The fifthth session of Rutherford College will begin on the 2nd day of January, 1879. Tuition, from \$1 to \$4 per month. Board, from \$7 to \$9 per month.

Advertisement for Church & Co's Soda Water, featuring a logo and text: 'USE THIS BRAND. BEST IN THE WORLD. And better than any Saleratus.'

One teaspoonful of this Soda used with sour milk equals four teaspoonfuls of the best Baking Powder, saving Twenty Times its cost.

Advertisement for SMOKE DURHAM TOBACCO, featuring a logo and text: 'SMOKE DURHAM TOBACCO. BEST IN THE WORLD.'

WOOD'S HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE. It is a monthly, 100-page Brandy Book of the cream of the World's Literature.

Advertisement for THE OVAL CAKE COLGATE & CO'S NEW SOAP, featuring a logo and text: 'THE OVAL CAKE COLGATE & CO'S NEW SOAP. SAVES WASTE.'

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