THE RALEIGH NEWS.

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VOL. XV.--67. RALEIGH, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 20, 1879. $5.00 PER ANNUM.

BLAINE ONCE MORE.

SOUTHERN SCHOOL BOOKS BEFORE THE SENATE.

Senator Blaine Gets Excited Over the Nature of Southern Text Books, and is Soothed by Vance.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—SENATE.—The Senate resumed consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. It was agreed to vote on the socalled political clauses of the bill at four o'clock to-morrow.

Senator Blaine spoke at considerable length, taking ground against States rights, and was followed by Senator Vance. He also spoke of the system of education in Southern schools as being pernicious character, and quoted school books to show that such is the fact.

Senator Vance said he was requested to state the fact, which was also within his own knowledge, that the partisan and literature spoken of by Senator Blaine is non-existent. During the war such works circulated, but since no Southern child had ever seen them. No measure advocated by Southern men, said Mr. Vance, "has a fair hearing in this body; the fact that it is opposed by them is the signal for raising issues not pertinent to the question. He thought it essential to a fair consideration of this bill that it be discussed on its merits, but the speeches of its opponents were party denunciations. It this were an action at law and such answers to the complaint filed they would be rejected as sham. Mr. Vance made a very earnest demand that proper respect be shown Southern representatives and appealed upon the Republican legislation concerning elections, which was: "Elections shall be free if we have to surround the polls with bayonets; nothing to State laws, if we have to overrule the civil authorities by force. Have our way; they shall be pure, if we have to kill John Davenport and every man in our cities to avenge and give purity; they shall be conducted without appearance of violence if artillery has to be trained on every ballot-box, and they shall be fair if we have to arrest every man offering to vote the Democratic ticket; unless we can use the army at the polls to count in the next Presidential nominee, we will abandon the defenses of the country.

The State Medical Association.

Correspondence of the News.

GREENSBORO, May 19th, 1879 P. M.—The State Medical Association meets to-morrow. Dr. Duffy, of New Berne, is president, and at least sixty delegates are already here. Drs. Bahrison, Hill and Graham, of the examining board, today examined twenty-one applicants; ten more will be examined to-morrow. A.

Drowning Casualty.

CINCINNATI, May 19.—Wm. Morgan, owner of the St. Nicholas Hotel, and his brother, John Morgan, while rowing a skiff on Licking River yesterday afternoon, were upset and drowned in attempting to avoid a passing steamer.

The Presbyterian General Assembly.

SARATOGA, May 19.—At the meeting of the Presbyterian Assembly to-day a communication was received from the Commissioner of the Southern General Assembly, suggesting a co-operation in the efforts to prevent the desecration of the Sabbath, was referred to the committee on bills and overtures.

Presbyterian General Assembly.

SARATOGA, May 19.—After the Presbyterian General Assembly had opened, the Moderator presented the following telegraphic message to be sent to the General Assemblies at Louisville and Memphis, in accordance with the resolution of the Rev. Dr. Prime, adopted Friday: "The General Assembly of the Presbyterian church now in session at Saratoga Springs presents its cordial salutations to the General Assembly in session at Louisville and Memphis, praying for them grace, mercy and peace.

Bismarck on Prussian Affairs.

LONDON, May 19.—A dispatch to the Times from Berlin says Bismarck's parliamentary soiree on Saturday evening was less numerously attended than on previous occasions, the free traders sending but a thin contingent to the deputies from Alsace and Lorraine. The Prince was most affable, conversing with them partly in French and partly in German. The appointment of Gen. Manteuffel as governor of the province, he said, was certain, and a better man for the post could not be found. The Chancellor then dwelt on fiscal matters and the pressing necessity for protecting the agriculturists, especially the petty holders against foreign competition. The duty on beer, he said, must be got through. Referring to the tariff debates, he observed that if any one thought they would wear his patience out by prolonging the discussion, they were very much mistaken. He would remain in Berlin until September, if necessary; but successfully finished the thing must be. Honorable members were clearly not yet acquainted with the tough and dogged perseverance of Prussian officials.

Later on the Prince referred incidentally to the silver sales of the Prussian bank, which he would like to see stopped.

AFGHANISTAN.

The Ameer to Sign a Treaty According With England's Policy—Appearance of Cholera.

SIMLA, May 19.—The vice-regal council has been specially summoned for to-day to consider the draft of the Afghan treaty. The Ameer has agreed to such terms as will secure the chief objects of British policy.

The news from Cashmere is very bad; the increase of urgent distress and famine, joined to the incompetency, corruption and want of organization on the part of the officials, is producing a most serious state of affairs.

The cholera in Peshawur is threatening to raise an obstacle to the prompt withdrawal of the troops from Afghanistan. The disease has appeared in most of the cities of Punjaub, Dacoity, Robbery by armed gangs are assuming alarming proportions in Deccan, especially in the Poona district. For some time past bands of Dacoites have been scouring the country committing daring attacks on houses and villages. They seem to form part of the regular organization under command of one Wassudee Balwund, lately a clerk in the financial department. They are suspected of having set the fire which destroyed the government school, Dessaee palace, law courts, post office, police office and fifty houses, at Poona, on the night of the 13th inst.

The Trenchant Blade of the Efficient Swordsman.

Newbernian.

We publish to-day the prospectus of the Raleigh NEWS. This sterling Democratic journal, after eight years' battling with all the difficulties and trials of journalism, we are gratified to learn, is well sustained by the people of the State. The presentable and energetic editors, Messrs. Hussey and Jordan, who are experienced journalists, handle not only "the pen of the ready writer," but the trenchant blade efficient swordsman, as has been shown heretofore by the able and effective articles which they have produced in defence of the Democratic party. They might well adopt the motto, "*Quitas et ancitas*," and in our opinion the times need journals which utter no uncertain sound: which cling to Democratic principles without variableness or shadow of turning. We rejoice in so able a coadjutor, and we trust that the Raleigh NEWS will meet with a generous support, and that it will long remain, as it has been in time past, second to no Democratic paper in North Carolina.

A WOMAN TO BE HANGED.

Mrs. Michael, of Cherokee County, is Under Death Sentence for the Murder of James Ross.

Asheville Citizen.

We mentioned a couple of weeks since that a white woman named Mrs. Rachael Michael, had been convicted of murder in Cherokee county, and had been sentenced by Judge Gudger to be hanged on the 13th of June. An appeal, however, has been taken, and the execution of the sentence has been stayed in consequence thereof. We have obtained the following general particulars of the crime with which the woman is charged, and the attendant circumstances under which she was convicted, which will be of interest, as it is but seldom the country is called upon to see a woman sentenced to be hanged.

Mrs. Michael is about 35 years of age, is the wife of Baytie Michael and the sister-in-law of James Ross, the murdered man. Her husband resides about 15 miles from Murphy, the county seat of Cherokee, and the family live some half mile from the house of James Ross. Ross and Baytie Michael married sisters.

One morning in the early part of October last, the deceased, between daybreak and sunrise, went to his field of corn, about midway between his house and Michael's, to see if there were hogs in the field. About an hour by sun, a white boy named Allen Taylor, who lives with the Michaels, went to Ross' house and informed the family that he had found the dead body of Mr. Ross lying in the cornfield. The family at once repaired to the spot and found the tale too true. The unfortunate man was already cold in death, and by his side lay a stout stick, with which, evidently a blow had been inflicted upon the lower left side of the head, dislocating the neck. Soon afterwards Baytie Michael, his wife and a Mrs. Justice—a sister to both Mrs. M. and Mrs. Ross—came up.

The State claimed that the hogs of Michael had been in the habit of getting into the cornfield of the deceased, and from the conduct of the Michaels that day and the next, they were suspicioned of having caused the death of Ross. Baytie Michael, his wife Rachael, and the boy Allen Taylor, were arrested upon the charge of having murdered Ross, and all three were placed on trial upon this charge at the late term of Cherokee Court, Judge Gudger presiding.

The State, after having brought forward all the evidence—the whole being circumstantial—asked that Baytie Michael, the husband, and the boy Taylor be discharged as not guilty; but claimed that the woman Rachael Michael was guilty of the murder.

The defense endeavored to establish an alibi on the part of Rachael Michael, but the jury found her guilty, and the sentence of death was passed upon her.

Greensboro Female College.

Correspondence of the News.

GREENSBORO, N. C., May 19.—Your attendance is respectfully requested at the Commencement of the Greensboro Female College North Carolina, May 28 and 29, 1879. Literary Address, Hon. Walter L. Steele, Rockingham, N. C. Annual Sermon, John E. Edwards, D. D., Richmond, Va. Graduating Exercises. Concert.

Monroe High School.

Correspondence of the News.

MONROE, N. C., May 19, 1879.

You are respectfully invited to attend the Monroe High School at the Annual Reception June 6, 1879, at 7:30 o'clock, p. m.

Committee of Arrangements.—Jennie C. Whitfield, Annie E. Rush, Sue R. Howie, Ella Armfield, Hattie A. Bobbitt, Alice K. Walkup, Bettie A. Stewart, Cora L. Winchester, all of Monroe.

Marshals.—Capt. A. Player, Hamptonville, S. C., R. A. Threat, Brown Creek; Chas. F. Fitzgerald, Linwood; J. N. Secrest, Monroe; H. C. Long, Oak Grove; Rob't H. Broom, Monroe; John E. Flow, Monroe.

Graham High School.

Correspondence of the News.

You are invited to attend the closing exercises of Graham High School, Thursday and Friday, May 29th and 30th, 1879. Address by Kemp P. Battle, LL. D., Pres. Univ. of N. C. Annual sermon by Rev. T. H. Pritchard, D. D., Raleigh, N. C.; Marshals: S. B. Petty, Pittsboro, N. C., Chief. L. W. Scott, Graham, N. C., S. C. Branch, Enfield N. C., J. C. Garret, Curtis' Mill, N. C., W. L. Trolinger, Haw River, N. C., McBride Holt, Company Shops, N. C., W. L. Smith, Gibsonville, N. C.

Victoria's Troubles and Health.

The London *Times* of the 29th of April says something ominously: "The Queen returns to-day from a holiday in which she has been followed by the warm sympathy of her subjects. It was too easy to understand that she was in need of some special relaxation at the present time. The Queen has been on the throne for forty-two years, and during that long reign has borne the burden of one of the most momentous periods of British history. Had there been nothing else to try the Queen's health than her political cares and duties, they would of late have been more than sufficient to overstrain a nature which has borne the anxieties of so prolonged and eventful a career. But other troubles have of late fallen upon the Queen, which were peculiarly hard to bear amid such grave public difficulties, and which her people are more competent to understand. The death of Princess Alice, both in itself and in its singular circumstances, was a sorrow of unusual bitterness, and it revived the most grievous experience of the Queen's life. The deaths of her grandchildren deepened the gloom in her household; and her thoughts could only turn from anxieties abroad to sorrow at home. It would have been wonderful if, in such circumstances, she had been able to dispense with an interval of thorough change and rest, and it is only to be hoped that it has been long enough and complete enough to afford her a thorough refreshment."

A Philadelphia judge has issued an injunction to restrain the production of a play representing Gen. Grant's tour round the world. And yet Philadelphia has permitted the Black Crook to be produced there. How awfully the Grant crowd must have acted.—*Boston Post.*

STILL SIGNATURELESS.

THE MUCH TALKED OF SCHOOL BILL AGAIN CONSIDERED.

The Speakers Meet Again on the Old Camp Ground and Re-enact the Old Play.

The action of the two Speakers on the unsigned School Bill has been a source of much remark since the late General Assembly concluded its labors. The public are aware of the fact that Speakers Robinson and Moring came to Raleigh from their homes a few weeks after the adjournment to confer as to whether it was proper to sign the bill and make it a law, or let it go by default. They decided not to sign it and returned home again with a vague idea in the public mind, something about it being

DANGEROUS TO SET A PRECEDENT,

and the consequent responsibility. The energetic Superintendent of Public Instruction was not like minded and brought to bear on this point the opinion of the Attorney General, who held that the Speakers should sign. His opinion was published in the NEWS and had a good many citations from leading authorities, and altogether gave general satisfaction. Acting upon advice so authentic, the Superintendent of Public Instruction indited an epistolary correspondence to Messrs. Robinson and Moring and solicited a reconsideration of their action in the matter. A response was had that they would do so and for that purpose would meet in Raleigh about the middle of May.

Mr. Moring was in the city about three weeks since and had a talk with Mr. Scarboro, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and said to him

THAT HE WAS GOING TO SIGN THE BILL;

that he had received a letter from Mr. Robinson, and that he would be down about the 15th of May and they would attach their signatures to the Bill. There wasn't a shadow of a doubt about it. Mr. Scarboro might say to Secretary Saunders that he might have the bill printed and incorporated in the Laws of 1879. Mr. Scarboro was satisfied. The Bill was given to the Public Printer and the types set up all ready for the word to print. Things went on about as usual until yesterday, when the two Speakers had met in this city to finally dispose of the matter, that is, to "amicably adjust" the whole thing.

A conference was had in the Supreme Court room, and after looking through several books, they made up their minds, and the decision was that they had

BETTER NOT SIGN THE BILL.

A number of publishing houses, as well as the uneducated masses of North Carolina, were interested in the final disposition of this matter, and some of them were even represented by attorneys, and of course the lawyers had to get at bottom facts; so a little social meeting was arranged in the capitol, and the speakers were invited to disburden themselves and let it all out. Mr. Moring frankly said he was in favor of signing the bill at one time, but since he came to Raleigh and got to looking around

HE HAD CHANGED HIS MIND,

and he did not now think they ought to sign it. It was a matter that ought to occupy the attention of the Supreme Court, where he wished the responsibility to rest.

Mr. Robinson did not say whether he did or did not wish to sign the bill, but he asked Col. Saunders, the Secretary of State, if his signature alone would make the bill a law or do any good. Col. Saunders promptly said no, whereupon Mr. Robinson said there was no use for him to sign it then.

Mr. Scarboro did not meet Mr. Moring until a later hour. Their meeting was not tender nor was it tough, it was about so so.

Mr. Moring said he understood he (Mr. S.)

WAS MAD WITH HIM.

Mr. Scarboro said he couldn't exactly say he was mad with him, but he was very much disappointed and, really, very nervous about the matter; that Mr. Moring had so positively assured him that he would sign the bill, that he must confess he was not prepared to learn the result without feeling very much upset for the time being, at least.

Mr. Moring alluded to his conscience; that he had changed his mind, and he had a right to do this. Mr. Scarboro was disarmed at once, and, of course, much relieved.

The Speakers left yesterday afternoon, and Mr. Moring sent word to Mr. Scarboro that he could be reached at Durham, if he desired to serve papers on him, and that he would facilitate any writs that might be so served.

Mr. Scarboro is very much exercised about the matter. He wishes to see the "local taxation" provisions in the bill carried out, as it will do much to build up the cause of public education in this State.

Col. Kenan was called on and was so busily engaged finishing up the N. C. Reports that the reporter could not draw him out much. He had given his opinion to Mr. Scarboro; it was published in the NEWS, and he always stood by the record.

It is not known whether further action will be taken or not.

CETYWAYO'S IDEA OF HELL.

A Missionary Sermon and Its Effect—Demolishing the Christian's Hell Fire.

An enterprising reporter of the Utenhage *Times* has interviewed a bloodthirsty Zulu, who told the following remarkable and amusing story:

Some years since a missionary went to King Cetywayo's kraal with a view of converting him and his people to Christianity. He stayed there a few days, and the King agreed to hear him on the following Sunday. The Sunday arrived, and the King gathered his people together and also called up two of his finest regiments to hear what message had been brought to him from the white men. The missionary, being told that they were ready to listen to him, rose and delivered an elegant but short sermon, in which he set forth the beautiful of heaven as compared with the torments of the dark regions. He told them that if they lived a good life, did not steal, always spoke the truth, and, above all kept only one wife, they would after death go to the happy hunting grounds, where they would never miss their game, where they would never die, but be forever and ever far happier than they were ever in their happiest moments down here; Whereas on the other hand, if they lived a bad life and did what he had just told them they ought not to do, they would be cast into a tremendous fire, so large that it would scorch up the whole of the Zulu nation, though they were as numerous as locusts, in a few moments. The chief and people paid great attention to all the missionary said, and when he had finished the King asked him to dine with him. He accepted the invitation, but during the dinner noticed the people running about in all directions collecting wood, which they were piling up in one spot. The missionary began to feel queer; he thought it looked ominous; and the Zulu who told the story said he noticed that he did not eat any more, but continued to take large draughts of milk, as if to cool himself. At length the dinner was over; but, before rising, the King turned sharply round to the now affrighted missionary, and said: "What was that you said this morning about putting the great Zulu people in a great fire after they were dead? Come this way, and I will show you what the Zulus are; you don't know them, I can see." He took him to the pile of wood, which had by this time reached tremendous proportions—as big as a Bay store, the Zulu said—and it set fire to all around. When it was properly in a blaze, and gave out so much heat that no one could come near it, the King summoned the two regiments who had listened to the sermon, and ordered them to charge into the burning pile and extinguish it. Naked as they were—without shoes or any covering at all—they rushed into the burning mass like madmen, raving and yelling, and did not stop till hardly a vestige of the fire remained. The King then said to the missionary. "You have seen that. That is what we will do with your hell. The Zulu won't play with your fires, and you had better clear out of this country at once, or I will have a 'little fire' made for you to put out." The missionary took the hint, and left the kraal the same evening. Is it any wonder, ask people, after this, that Gatling guns and rocket batteries have no terror for the Zulu?—and it is certain they have none. The Zulus, when ordered to attack, attack; and though they may be mown down by thousands, still come on, until they conquer or die. It is a tradition among them, which Lord Chelmsford would do well to take into consideration in his future movements in Zululand.

A Rear and Curious Fish.

Wilmington Star, 18th.

We had brought to this office, last night, a very curious specimen of a fish, which was caught on Topsail Sound, by Mr. S. J. Sneeden, yesterday morning. Mr. Sneeden left the fish on exhibition at Huggin's store during the day, where it was viewed by many curious persons, none of whom could designate its variety except one professional gentleman, after consulting the authorities, pronounced it to be what is known as the "hair-tailed mackerel, or scabbard fish," a variety very rarely seen.

The fish looks like a cross between a mackerel and an eel, with a scaleless skin, much like the former. In shape it closely resembles a scabbard, is about two feet and a half long by two inches wide at the broadest part, its body terminating in a flat tail, nearly round at the ends and about six inches long, with a slight growth nearly resembling hair. The head is somewhat similar in shape to a mackerel, with the under part of the mouth protruding in advance of the nose. The mouth is furnished on the sides with rows of fine, sharp teeth, while those in front are long and resemble a squirrel or a rat. Taken altogether, it is a most curious specimen, and warrants, by its rarity, this detailed description.

A New Industry

Wilmington Star.

A new industry and article of export has come to the surface in our commercial world, in the hitherto neglected, despised and apparently worthless pine straw which formerly could not be utilized in any other manner than in making hog's beds, covering Irish potato beds, strawberry beds, etc. Mr. C. Hr Wessell, of this city, acting as agent fo, a factory in New York, is buying and shipping all the pine straw he can get. He shipped eight tons by the last New York steamer, and he informs us that the factory requires about fifty tons per week. It is said that at the factory where it is consumed it first undergoes a sweating process, by which an article of spirits is obtained which is used for medical purposes, and that it is then manufactured into paper and also into an article for stuffing mattresses. Quite a number of the colored population are now engaged in baling the straw and bringing it to this city for the purpose above mentioned.

The Ohio Canvass and the Presidency

Wash. Corr. Richmond Dispatch, 17th.

The feeling now is strong that Mr. Thurman will be forced to run as a candidate for Governor of Ohio, and a remark in his speech yesterday is construed to-night as indicating that he thinks so himself. If he does, John Sherman, as I have all along predicted, will be the opposing candidate, and then the skirmish to the great Presidential battle will be fought on the soil of the Buckeye State. While I believe that Grant will certainly be the Republican candidate, I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that Sherman is daily gaining strength, and that he evidently means business. One of his friends remarked at the Capitol to-day: "Why cannot the two great parties have the high courage to nominate Sherman and Bayard and make the fight on a square, dignified issue?"

A Planter's Mishap.

Danville (Va.) News, 17th.

Yesterday immediately after the rain storm, a clever and popular planter from Alamance county, N. C., left the city to return home, driving his wagon loaded with guano. On reaching Pumpkin creek on the Yanceyville road, he found it considerably swollen, but drove into the ford without a thought of danger. The water overwhelmed his wagon, breaking down the hind part of it and washing away his entire load of guano. He came near drowning himself and with difficulty saved his horse.

All He Has to Do.

Franklin Times.

But if Ohio and the West should not support the Democracy, Mr. Thurman does not stand the ghost of a chance. On the other hand all Mr. Tilden has to do is to carry New York with a good majority to make him the leading man in the field.

A Good Time for a Collection.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

Just about this time would it not be well for the Republicans to take up a collection among themselves and pay back to the Southern negroes the millions they stole from them through the decoy Freedman's Bank?

Watch.

E. City Falcon.

Certainly we live in the age of deception and fraud. When the affairs of a country are not wholly in the hands of honest and patriotic men, but are presided over by the creature of an unprincipled set of politicians then truly may we say watch.

"Not Below the Best."

Pee Dee Bee.

We note with pleasure the steady improvement of that *sterling daily newspaper*, the Raleigh NEWS. It is seeking a place in journalism not below the *best*. Abundant success, brother Hussey!

MILITARY AGRICULTURE.

MR. BENBOW'S EXCULPATION OF COL. POLK.

One of the Fathers of the Scheme Announces Himself in Plain Language.

Correspondence of the News.

GREENSBORO, May 19.—Having just returned home from Fayetteville, I hasten to reply to an article in your paper of the 15th, charging Col. L. L. Polk and the Board of Agriculture with the circular which I wrote, had printed and circulated. J. W. Albright, of this place, directed the envelopes for me, and to names that we jointly thought representative men, regardless of their politics; and I assure the writer of that article that neither Col. Polk or any member of the Board of Agriculture had any intimation of my intention. After getting up the circular I consulted with Mr. Albright, had it printed and at my own expense here, sent it out to more than one hundred addresses; and further, I assure the writer of that article that I am no Democrat, and never voted a straight Democratic ticket in my life, hence I deny any charge of a political nature in it.

I was then, and am now fully satisfied that a cheap way of reaching the farmers of North Carolina would do more good to that class of our citizens, for whom there has been so little legislating, so little protection; and from whom there has been so much tax collected. It was for their benefit that this Department was established. Now, how can the masses be benefited by the vast amount of information collected by their commissioner? How can Dr. Ledoux tell the farmers of North Carolina (a large portion of whom do not take a paper) the many formulas for improving their crops without some means of communication? Why has Prof. Kerr's vast fund of information and learning been of so little good to the farmers of our State? Simply because he did not have a means similar to the plan proposed in my circular. Ten thousand papers half the size of your daily can be sent to as many farmers in the State by this Department every week, for the small sum of $2,000 per year; and notwithstanding the political twist your correspondent tried to give the matter, which Col. Polk seemed to have apprehended, as shown by his card of the 16th, I still insist that the Department could not do more good for the farming interests of our good old State than by placing themselves in direct communication with at least ten farmers at every postoffice in the State, at an expense to the Department of twenty cents each for a whole year—not a political paper, but an agricultural paper through which all the statistics, formulas and geological information may be dealt to the people in small doses, suited to their needs. That is just what I wanted, and agreeable to Col. Polk's statement was indorsed by many who signed my circulars and forwarded them to him, and which I regret he failed to present to his Board as he says he did.

There were no political views intimated; I did not care who published it, and advised that they be advertised for the lowest bid, taking a bond for the faithful conduct of a strictly proper paper, etc.

I am alone responsible for the issue of that circular, and here thank you for its publication in your issue of the 15th, and would ask you to again annex it here, if it was not for the expense you would incur thereby.

Respectfully,
D. W. C. BENBOW.

STATE NEWS.

Warren.

Warrenton Gazette.

Capt. T. L. White, an aged and much esteemed citizen of Ridgeway, dropped dead last Friday evening. It is supposed he had heart disease.

Col. Cheek, master of the State Grange, made an excellent speech at Warrenton last Tuesday evening.

The Old North State Co. has the front windows of its office handsomely ornamented. Dr. Bellamy was the artist.

The Inferior Court adjourned last Tuesday. The presiding officers determined to hold one more term, which will be on the 2d Monday in August next.

Before the war, Warren was the largest tobacco growing county in the State; and it may become so again. No county in the State, excels it in fertility of soil and few are its equals. In 1860 the value of the real estate of Warren exceeded that of Wake, although the latter has twice the area of this county, and contains the seat of Government of the State.

Warren News.

Our fruit growers commenced on the 9th to ship strawberries, and will continue daily shipments until the crop is disposed of. Owing to the late frost the strawberry crop at Ridgeway is short, but that enhances their value, and they are now selling for very remunerative prices, which will encourage our growers to continue, and extend their efforts in that direction.

There seems to be much better prospect for a peach crop than many concluded early in the season, and the peaches seem to be remarkably free from injury by insects.

Squire J. W. Riggan informs us that a colored boy, who lives with him, Willis Johnston by name, fourteen years old, was bitten by a hound puppy on the 3d of April last. About two o'clock, the next afternoon about six o'clock, the boy was taken with a spasm or fit, and that he has had from three to five of them every day since. At times, while the fit is on him, he snaps and bites like a dog, frequently whining and smelling around audibly as a dog does, who is hunting for something, or as the Squire expresses it "the noise that a dog makes when snuffling in a mole's track." Willis is perfectly rational between times, has always been healthy and strong, and it is thought that simple fright at the attack made by the dogs is the cause of his present condition.

Lincoln.

Lincolnton Progress.

The delightful rain with which we have been visited this week was warmly welcomed by all. Its refreshing influence is always felt. We are told that the crops throughout the county generally are looking well. The healthful faces of those of our farmers who have visited town this week are beaming with the prospect of an abundant harvest.

A negro man was one day this week committed by Robert S. Reinhardt, Esq., to jail, charged with the horrible crime of rape. The name of the man is Adlas Gilliam, the girl is a daughter of Larkin Boyd, colored. It is a fearful thought, but it seems to be true, that this crime is becoming more and more prevalent.

Among the many hotly contested battles of the revolutionary war, that of Ramsour's Mill was not the least prominent. The scene of that battle is not a half mile from town, and the remains of the old mill are still visible. Lincolnton claims, therefore, that in the Centennial celebrations she should not be forgotten. The Centennial anniversary of this battle will be next year. Can we not have it properly celebrated?

We are told that there has been, and is considerable excitement throughout the central and western portions of the county about mad-dogs. Several have been killed within the last ten days in which the evidences of hydrophobia were complete. Many others have been killed which showed evident signs of being mad—one or two in town. We hear that in one neighborhood near here, about twenty were killed on Thursday of this week.

Burke.

Morganton Blade.

John Rutherford, of Bridgewater, the oldest citizen in Burke county, is, we are glad to learn from a lady friend who visited him recently, in fair health for one of his extreme age—about 90 years—and his mind as "clear as a bell." It is a melancholy fact that we are raising no such men now-a-days.

The general impression is that the prospect for a good yield of wheat this crop, is fair; but the fruit is cut short, even in that favored region, the South Mountains, where it never fails.

The dwelling-house of Mr. W. W. Parks, of Lower Creek, in this county, was entirely consumed by fire on the night of the 12th inst. The family were asleep, and awoke barely in time to make their escape from the burning building.

The Rev. P. F. W. Stamey on Sunday night, May 4th, closed a very interesting meeting of nine days' continuance at "Dry Ponds," on Morganton circuit. The revival swept all over the community. Persons were converted from the age of 12 years up to 80. Fifty-one persons joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the majority were heads of families.

Wheat has suddenly become scarce and high in this market—worth $1.25 for good white. And corn, thanks to the blockaders, perhaps, is "up in the pictures," too. Won't go to 75 cents. This, however, is a local demand. It cannot be shipped at any such figures.

Craven.

Newberne Nutshell.

On Friday night there seemed to be a decided increase of interest in the revival meetings now being held in the New street Methodist church.

We learn there is a plan on foot to organize in Newberne a Young Men's Christian Association. It is thought representative young men from all the churches will take part in the organization of the association, and much good will no doubt be accomplished under its auspices.

The walking match to come off on Thursday next, at the rink, corner Middle and Broad streets, promises to be most successful and interesting of any heretofore had. It is proposed to have the regular track and the inside track in use at the same time. On the regular track a fifty mile race will be in progress, while on the other track a ten mile heat will engage the attention of a large number of contestants.

Macon.

Franklin Reporter.

The mica mine on Nantahala mountain, recently sold by Dr. Lyle to Lyn & Co., of Philadelphia, is proving very satisfactory. Only a week or two's work by a few hands has been done, and last Saturday about one hundred dollars' worth was taken out.

Our mineral business is being rather vigorously pushed now. Dr. Lucas has forty tons of corundum ready for shipment.

Mr. Meninger started a party of hands to the Buck Creek Corundum mines yesterday. We hope to hear of tons of this valuable mineral being shipped from this new mine in a short time.

Wayne.

Goldsboro Messenger.

An old lady, 84 years old, was in town on Thursday of last week, who had never seen a town before, and had not even the faintest idea of a railroad. Her name is Abigail Eltheridge, and she was raised and had passed her four score summers in Westbrook township, Sampson county, and had never been more than sixteen miles from her home.

The eagle caught a few weeks ago by Mr. Barfield, near Mount Olive is now the property of the Messenger. He is a voracious bird. A well-grown rabbit makes just a good meal for his eagleship.

Watauga.

Morganton Blade.

The father of the long lost Charlie Ross, of Philadelphia, made a trip through Lenoir up into Watauga county one day last week hoping that a child found in that county would prove to be his, but he was doomed to disappointment.

Watauga county has voted against levying a tax on the county to build the proposed railroad through that county.

Union.

Monroe Express.

No more of the escaped jail birds have been recaptured since our last issue.

There is entirely too much shooting on the streets at night. Can't we have a night policeman?

Reports from the growing crops are all to the effect that they are looking well and give promise of abundant harvests.

Buncombe.

Asheville Citizen.

A good open coach has been placed upon the W. N. C. Railroad, to run from Henry's to Swannanoa Gap, which enables pasengers to get a full view of the grand scenery afforded by the ascent of the mountains. It is intended to keep this coach on this portion of the road for the accommodation of the traveling public.

Perquimans.

E. City Falcon.

Many farmers are planting rice as an experiment. The planting of cotton is over. Farmers are considerably in advance of the season.

The Good Templars of Hertford have surrendered their charter. The order has done a great deal of good. We are sorry to hear of its discontinuance.

The aim of the proprietor of the "St. Nicholas" hotel has always been to make this great New York institution the model house of the land, where all the comforts and elegancies of home should be presented on the most complete scale. The verdict of the traveling public has sustained this ambition, and both single guests and families find in *cuisine*, apartments and general convenience, the very acme of all that is desirable. An elevator makes all parts of the hotel accessible, and the closest attention is given to the wants of guests. Prices have been reduced to a figure very moderate, measured by the superb accommodations given.

Here Come the $10 Bonds.

Instead of affording relief to the languishing industries of the country, here come the "Ten Bollar Bonds" to absorb some more millions that should employ labor to develop our idle resources.

THE MIGRATORY NEGRO.

DYING LIKE SHEEP AT WYANDOTTE.

Stories Told by the Returning Refugees of Their Sufferings in Kansas.

Pathetic stories were told at St. Louis on Tuesday by the ninety negroes who came down the Missouri *en route* for the home they had so lately left in Mississippi. A reporter of one of the St. Louis papers visited the James Howard, the steamboat on which the refugees had embarked, and there found a lot of them grouped upon the lower deck awaiting impatiently the hour of the boat's departure, and talking eagerly of the good times in store for them upon a return to old friends and old scenes. A venerable old man, seated upon a lot of furniture, was questioned as to the causes which led him and those with him to return to the region they had so lately left. The old man, speaking for himself and those about him, told an affecting story:

"Wese, done comed back," said he, "coz ef we'd staid we'd all die, shuah. Dar is de people at Wyandotte, lyin' along de banks an' dyin' like sheep. De climate is somethin' dey ain't used to, an' dey gets plexrisy an' pneumonia, an' den dey dies. More'n two hundred has been buried already, an' dere wuz lots moah sick when we left 'em. Dey begged, some of 'em, to come with us, but dat couldn't be, and so dey stays dar ter die."

"How did you get passage on the boat?" was asked.

"Oh, some one paid de fares for us. I don't jes understand how the thing wuz fixed."

The old darkey was asked as to what he thought the reception of the refugees would be upon their return South, and answered that he thought it would be kind. They had been told that the white folks would not receive them well, but he knew better. Anyhow, they would be better off than staying in Kansas.

It appeared that most of the refugees on the Howard were from points near Davis' bend, not far from Vicksburg, and as they were all returning to the same locality, they all had the same reception to look forward to. Not one of them appeared to have apprehensions, and there was not one of them but seemed overjoyed at an escape from the miseries suffered at Wyandotte and other Kansas towns. On the levee one of the refugees, an intelligent young man, was holding forth at some length to a group of late arrivals from the South, who were waiting in St. Louis for a chance to continue their journey westward. His remarks were not likely to be misconstrued:

"We went out there," said he, "with some money, and they told us that with a little start we could get along well. They said there was plenty of good land and that we could have it to work. Well, most of us didn't get as far as that land, but some of us did, and just to see was enough. There was nothing but flat prairie alongside the railroad, no trees, no houses, no nothing. If you had a house there you wouldn't have anything to live on, and if you could raise any crops it would take you six weeks to go to mill. It was just starve, that was all there was of it, and we got back to Wyandotte as quick as we could."

"Why didn't you buy a place near one of the towns, if you had money?" "Some of you had money, you said. What did you do with it?"

The man who had been in Kansas answered the last question very curtly:

"We had to eat it up."

Accomplishments of Western Mules.

Two miners were seated on a bowlder alongside the road to Sutro, says the Virginia City Chronicle, discussing the kicking powers of the mules. One had just returned from Sutro and the other was on the way there, and having met near the rock they sat down for a talk.

"Have you quit over there?" said the one who was eastward bound.

"Yes."

"Why?"

"Mules."

"'Fraid of 'em?"

"You bet. I saw one yesterday alongside an old boiler kickin' off the rivet heads one by one. Never missed one, I was just going on shift, and when I saw the mule and heard there was more of 'em inside, I threw up my job. I've got a wife and three children depending on me, and I don't take no chances."

"The worst mule I ever saw," said the other, "was in Pioche some years ago. It was one I owned. One day it rubbed against some nails sticking out of a post, and it turned round and drove those nails one by one, using a single blow of the hoof, with the iron shoe on, for each nail. It never missed its kick, and always drove 'em just into the head. Then it saw a few tacks on a post a little lower down, which were only half driven in, and it drove them in, too, with light taps of the hoof, just as gentle and easy as could be. One day a man came along and set out a can of nitro glycerine and giant powder. He wanted to get the mule to kick it and get killed. I saw him about the corral with the can, and knew what was up. At first I was going to stop him, but then I thought if my mule was any sort of a mule at all he could take care of himself. So I just watched. Well, the mule saw the can, and walking up, smelt of it, and then squared himself for the kick. The man was sneaking off, and just as the mule was going to kick the can, he caught sight of the fellow and changed his position so that his tail was toward the man. He let fly his right hoof. The can went flying through the air and hit the man square between the shoulders just as he was gittin' over a fence about a hundred feet away. The thing exploded, and I never saw the man again. But next morning Pat Holland came out in the Record and said that the town had been visited by a shower of blood."

The general co-operative stores in London have proved to be so useful and remunerative that the establishment of special stores on similar principles is contemplated. A "Millinery and Dress Association" has been formed, with a large shop in London and a branch in Paris. Ladies who belong to it will not only be able to get at the lowest possible prices the very latest fashions in dress—they will also have a share in the profits of the establishment. The purchase of even a single share in the association gives participation in the shop's profits and the privilege of dealing at it.

Only a May Fly.

Franklin Times.

Zip! It flopped on the back of our hand, seeming to be the size of a buzzard, but it was only a—May fly.

It is the fashion to have the stems show in the bouquets worn in the belt. The new holders are ornamented with fans of Rhine pebbles.