The Chatham Record

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1883.

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

OUR JURY system is being much discussed nowadays, and while some persons favor its total abolition, others urge only a change. We have recently read with much interest in a leading Northern magazine a very able discussion of the startling question, "Is the jury system a failure?" The article is too long for us to copy, but we cannot refrain from reproducing some of the views therein expressed, and while we do not altogether agree with the author yet we would commend his arguments to the careful consideration of our readers.

His first objection to the present system is that our jurors are selected by lot, and secondly, that they are not trained to their duties. He urges that throughout all other human affairs, if we wish work of any kind done well, we select men of skill and training. Everywhere but in our public service a man must learn his trade, must learn how to do his one kind of work; but in the administration of justice—in passing upon our lives, our liberties and our property—we go to the extreme length of taking new men to decide each new cause, and choosing them by lot! The jury is a body of men who have no knowledge of the law,—who follow other callings,—and who have practically no experience or training in hearing and deciding mere questions of fact, and while it may be said that the jury has only to apply the principles of law, which are stated to them by the Judge, yet it is this applying legal principles, as it is called, which tries the brains of the strongest men in the legal profession. That is especially the work to which untrained minds are not equal, and this attempt to have twelve men decide a cause on another man's ideas of law is not fitted to give the best results. He admits that, for deciding the every-day differences of business men, we need the every-day common sense of business men; but he urges that every-day common sense is not enough—that we must have trained common sense. The work of judging, of sifting large masses of conflicting testimony, of detecting falsehood, is a thing which cannot be well done by men picked from the community at random. The thing especially needed in deciding causes is a knowledge of human nature as it shows itself on the witness stand, and that knowledge can be had only from a long experience in courtrooms.

The author goes on to say that in England, where the jury system grew, there was danger to the rights of the individual subject from kingly tyranny, in times gone by; and that it was then the bulwark of the people's liberties. But have we, in this country, the same dangers, or any dangers, against which the jury system is the only, or the true, protection? He alleges that with us the jury system is especially adapted to the protection of criminals, and that it is society which needs protection for its liberties. Most persons must admit the truth of this.

As a substitute for the jury system the author suggests the following:

"Suppose we were to keep in our judicial system the features which had been found by experience to work well, and were to do away with those features which have been found to work ill. Suppose that, in the place of this double tribunal,—made up partly of untrained men who give their time to other affairs, with whom deliberate examination of a case is impossible,—we were to have a single tribunal, of trained men, who should give their whole time to their work, who should give to each cause the time it really might need. Suppose, in short, we were to put our appellate court of trained judges at the beginning instead of at the end of it, were to have them hear the whole of the cause on its merits, instead of one or two points of it on a technicality, were to have them give a judgment themselves, instead of simply saying whether some one else had made a blunder, and that we were then to abolish appeals?

This may sound somewhat sweeping. But let us recall some steps of the argument, and see if there is any way of escaping the position in which we now find ourselves. We know that this jury is a body of men having no training for their work. We know that its constitution makes thorough deliberation an impossible thing. We know that it drives us to the double tribunal. We know that errors must certainly result. And we know that the existence of these errors must and does cause the costly and tedious delays of the law. Now, can any man point out any other cause for all these errors and delays, except this one fact, that we use a tribunal of untrained men for doing work which requires men of training? And what other remedy then is possible except to use trained men in their place? It may, too, at first seem that there would be danger in abolishing appeals. But what is the end that under our present system we try to gain by appeals? Nothing but the correction of error. And what is the means that we use for this correction of error? Nothing but the having in the final appellate courts some learned and experienced lawyers to hear the cause. If then we have our learned and experienced lawyers hear the cause in the beginning instead of at the end, what are we to lose, except delay?

It may be thought that such a change would necessitate a large increase in the number of our judges, and would therefore greatly increase the public expenses. If it did increase the direct outlay for judges' salaries, there would be in the end a great saving to the people. The item of judges' salaries is a small fraction of what the people now have to pay for the administration of justice. The delays of our courts are what now make the main tax on the people. Here, as elsewhere, it is no true economy to work with poor tools or bad materials. I doubt, however, if the force of judges needed would be much, if at all increased by the changes here proposed.

But, last of all, it may be said that such a scheme for having all causes, civil and criminal, decided by permanent judges, without juries of citizens, would not be democratic. But what does this mean? As has already been repeated, the only change here suggested is to put men of experience in the place of men without experience. If it be undemocratic to have our work done by skilled servants, who give their whole time to our affairs, then this proposed system is undemocratic. But let us not mistake the meaning of words. True democracy consists in having the people control the machinery of government, not in having them make a vain attempt to operate it with their own hands. The whole point lies here. This work of administering justice must be done by individuals, selected in some way from the community at large. The only question we have to decide is,—How shall those individuals be selected? Shall we take new men every day who cannot by possibility gain skill and experience, or shall we use trained workmen?"

A Family Ice-House.

We would urge upon the farmers of this county the convenience and advantages of having an ice house. Besides affording a supply of ice during the summer the ice house would be a suitable depository for keeping fresh meats, fruits, butter, milk, &c. The ice could be gathered in the winter without much expense, at a season when the farmers are not busy, and the building of the ice house need not cost much. The following plan for building an ice house has been highly commended, and we copy it with the hope that some of our readers will try it:

"The best site for a family ice-house is some shady place under a tree, or the north side of a building whichever is protected from the wind. Shade is of the first importance, and shelter from the wind the next; so if there is a choice, take the shady place. If a good position cannot be found, put it anywhere. The melting ice in the house causes a constant flow of water. If the soil on which the house is to stand is sandy or gravelly, and has a gentle slope, there is nothing to do but to dig a cellar about two feet deep and fill it with stones. Over the upper layers with smaller stones and sand. This will make the floor on which the ice is to rest. The water will escape easily through the sand and stones, and there will be no chance for currents of air to flow upward into the house. The tendency of the air in a badly made ice-house is always to flow through it. Therefore, while there must be drainage, there must be no inlets for air. If the soil is wet and not easily drained, the surface must be covered two feet thick with stones, and the house placed on top of this. If this is done, the sides of the stone work must be made tight with mortar, to prevent the entrance of air. If provision must be made for carrying off the water, the pipe must be trapped to prevent the air from entering the house. A well-drained foundation having been prepared, a wooden sill must be laid, on which the walls are to rest. On this sill will rest the uprights. These may be simply planks eight inches thick. They may be placed at intervals on the sill, and held in place by a string-piece on top. On the outside of the uprights may be nailed boards with battens or clapboards. On the inside they are simply boarded up with cheap stuff. The whole aim is to make a hollow wall. The space between the outside and inside boarding must be filled solid with tan-bark, saw-dust, or rough chaff of any kind. Upon the walls place a common pitch-roof, boarded and battened or shingled. It must be rain-tight, and must not be air-tight. There should be an opening at the ends, or a hood or ventilator, to permit a free circulation of air through the upper part of the house. The door should have double walls filled with saw dust.

These, in brief, are the conditions: perfect drainage below, double walls filled with saw-dust, no entrance for below, and free ventilation above. The ice should be laid on a foot of saw-dust or chaff, and a space of twelve inches all round between the ice and the wall should be filled with saw-dust, as well as all the cracks between the blocks. When it is all in the house, saw-dust is spread two feet deep on top of the ice. The cost of an ice-house must vary with the price of labor and materials. A house twelve feet square and ten feet high will hold enough ice for one family, and certainly will not cost much money to build. An ice-house should always be painted white, and, if convenient, it should be covered with vines, which will partly neutralize the heat of the sun's rays."

Our Washington Letter.

[From our regular correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 21, '83.

The Star-route trial is rapidly drawing to a close and it is interesting to note the different views and expectations concerning the result. The prosecution is very confident of conviction, while the defense is in high glee over the certainty of acquittal. The judge has seemed to lean heavily lately towards the defense, which has greatly surprised his friends. Certain it is that Brady and Dorsey are in excellent spirits, and they are already planning to begin big law suits against the papers that have slandered them. The first suit, they say, will be against the New York Times by Dorsey, and his damages will be laid at a half million dollars. He will engage the best and biggest lawyers, and although he has had to raise money on his valuable property, he will, so he says, spend a lot of money to punish the Times. Brady announces that he intends to make the government pay him a large sum of money for defending himself against a prosecution for doing what the law required him to do. All this planning for revenge will come to naught if it should happen that these gentlemen are called upon to reside a few years in private quarters at government expense. It is hardly worth while to express an opinion as to the result. A pretty strong case has been made out by the prosecution, but it is hard to tell how the jury may stand nevertheless. The defense have fought tooth and toe nail to keep all the evidence out they could, and a good deal has been ruled out on technical grounds that would have thrown much light on the case. This is the full investigation these defendants professed to court when first accused. Mr. Lilley, the old man of seventy whom Dorsey kicked out of his house, has brought suit against the latter for $10,000 damages for assault.

There is a small breeze over the displacement of Peter Collier, chemist of the Agricultural department, and the appointment of Prof. Riley to the place. From what can be learned it is a case of refractory conduct on the part of the chemist. It is understood that for eighteen months he has chosen so far to emphasize his difference with the Commissioner as to refuse to speak to him, and it became intolerable. The original point of departure was sorghum. Mr. Collier had the Le Duc theory about it, and he somehow got the Academy of Science on his side. Perhaps at its meeting here it will again take up the matter. Prof. White writes from Cornell university that his college loses and the department of Agriculture gains by the removal of Prof. Riley to Washington. It is known that Commissioner Loring is well sustained. And now the Agricultural bureau is busy prognosticating the yield for wheat, most of which has never been seen and the rest of which is not yet out of the ground. In order to get this ridiculous nonsense the government has to pay the traveling expenses of half a dozen agents traveling over Minnesota and heaven knows where. Last year, besides the fact that nobody knew or cared one copper cent about these absurd wheat estimates, a clerical error of a hundred million bushels was discovered in the bureau of Agriculture. This bureau is really rather a useful thing when it is managed on common sense principles, and does not aspire to know in February how much wheat will be harvested in July.

The country rests easy under the absence not only of the President, but four out of the seven cabinet officers. Mr. Chandler, of the navy, is still with the President though he has not fallen out of a wagon for several days. Mr. Lincoln, of the War department, is away on the Dispatch. Mr. Brewster, Attorney General, is somewhere out of town, probably in Philadelphia, but he goes and comes with such suddenness and frequency that nothing is thought of it. Secretary Folger is reported as absent at Seneca, N. Y., where his son and daughter are both very ill. They have consumption in its most threatening form, and though one has been traveling in Florida and the other in Minnesota, they cannot get relief. The rumor that Mr. Folger will resign is revived. The gossips say that when the discouraging condition of his children was made known to him it had the effect of leading him to determine on a return to private life. Added to his own illness, it had a very depressing effect. The Princeton Glee Club gave a concert here one night last week, and were afterwards entertained at supper at the White House by young Alen Arthur and Mrs. Haynesworth, who is at the White House during the President's absence. Young Arthur came over presumably to do the handsome thing by his college mates. They were received in the Blue Room and half a dozen young girls invited to meet them. The boys had supper with plenty of wine and a hilarious time after the manner of college youths, which was kept up until three o'clock in the morning. PHOSO.

A large fire has occurred at Liverpool. The loss is over $500,000.

Mrs. J. W. Stephens, wife of the probate judge of Missoula county, Montana, Thursday night shot and killed a man named Smith, who was attempting to enter her room through a window. Her husband was away from home at the time.

In April, 1880, Mr. J. W. Wood had 200 young carp placed in his ponds near Greenville, S. C. On Friday he drew off his ponds and found eighty four full grown carp averaging five lbs. in weight, the largest being twenty five inches long and weighing six and a half lbs. while the smallest weighed four lbs.

A Terrible Tornado.

A telegram from New Orleans, dated 23rd inst., says: A frightful cyclone passed over Wesson and the town of Beauregard, Miss., a mile above, about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The wind for the past three days had been blowing a gale, and the lowering clouds indicated a storm. Its approach was known for some minutes by the deep rumbling sounds, windows in dwellings shaking with violence, and many people thought it was an earthquake. Thunder roared and lightning flashed with alarming force and vividness. Fences were torn down. Trees which had stood the storms for years, were uprooted and cast a hundred yards away. East of the railroad in Wesson the damage was light, but in Wesson a portion of the town is in destruction. It was awful in its character. As soon as the storm had somewhat abated and people began to look about, loud peals of church bells were rung and the people were seen running in all directions toward Wesson; the rain in the meantime was pouring down in torrents. Reaching Peach Orchard street an indescribable scene was witnessed. This street is lined with a large number of houses in which the operatives of the Mississippi mills are domiciled. There the greatest destruction occurred and the people were seen on all sides sobbing and the groans of the wounded beneath the ruins were perfectly appalling. Dwellings were torn to atoms; a pine forest just beyond was blown out of existence. The work of removing the dead and severely wounded from the ruins has began. Calvin Reed, living in the vicinity, died from excitement. Drs. Scottow, Reave and Butler were seen upon the scene and did all in their power to relieve the suffering of the wounded. It is estimated that the number of persons killed is twelve. Two or three children are missing. One hundred and fifty or two hundred dwellings were blown down. The number of persons with broken limbs is estimated by the physicians at seventy five. The wounded were removed as fast as possible to the houses which escaped. Several of the dead lay out in a violent rain for more than an hour after the storm. The dead are now all laid out and coffins are being made for them. The mills will not run to-day. The citizens are doing all in their power for the wounded, many of whom it is feared will die. A special with physicians from McComb City and Brookhaven has arrived. Another extra special train will be here with additional help from Magnolia and the Summit, some of these physicians go to Beauregard where the destruction of life and property is simply indescribable. Among the killed in Wesson are Mrs. Country and two children, several children of J. E. Gibson, one of whom was found, were crushed under a chimney, two persons so mangled as to be unrecognizable, and several others whose names could not be obtained in the confusion. A little boy was found in the woods several hundred yards away unhurt. Wesson, except in the locality mentioned, suffered little except a general destruction of fences and trees. The dead will be buried to-morrow. Beauregard was visited last evening. It is only a miscellaneous heap, and lay in the direct path of the cyclone. The scene is absolutely appalling. Beauregard is no more. It is in truth a mass of ruins. It is with difficulty that one can find his way through, so thickly are trees strewn across the road. There is not a house of any character standing in the place. The two brick stores of Thompson & Co. and M. Dittel & Co., the largest in the place, are swept away. Timber is scattered for miles around, even out in the country two and a half miles dwellings were swept away.

A Contempt of Court

A dispatch from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, dated last Friday, says: A scene occurred in the Municipal Court here to-day which constituted the greatest sensation of the day. A Miss Kate Kane, a young lady lawyer of this city, has frequently had business before the Criminal Court, and on several occasions has exhausted the patience of the Court by methods of procedure not in harmony with the rulings of the Judge. This morning a petty case came up in which the prisoner had no attorney. He announced that he would like to have Miss Kane defend him, but Judge Mallory having lost patience with Miss Kane, assigned another lawyer to the defence.

This afternoon a little before three o'clock, Miss Kane entered the court room and took a seat beside the Clerk in front of the Judge's desk. Miss Kane looked at him a few minutes, and then suddenly rose and seized a large ink-stand from the desk. The inkstand slipping from her hands she next caught up a glass of water. The Judge's attention was attracted by her movements, and as he turned his head Miss Kane threw the contents of the glass in his face.

Judge Mallory ordered the offender under arrest, and after she had been placed in the prisoner's dock he immediately sentenced her for contempt of court to pay a fine of $50 and to stand committed to the County Jail until that sum should be forthcoming. Miss Kane then spoke her mind freely to the Judge, using anything but gentle expressions.

It is officially announced that the Emperor of Russia will be crowned on May 27.

The Supreme Court of Iowa have declared null and void the prohibition amendment to the constitution of that State.

Immense cargoes of wild pigeons have been shipped from the roosts in Oregon and Ripley counties, Mo. Men have made as high as $40 a night killing them.

Returning From Liberia.

There is no doubt that the colored people of the Southern States are in a better condition at their present homes, than they would be in any other country. As a warning to those who might wish to emigrate to Liberia, we copy the following from the Greensboro' Patriot:

Three destitute looking colored women came in on the Richmond train this morning all the way from Liberia. They were accompanied by nine children who were in a condition of semi-decay. The feet of the little ones were rotten with sores caused by the bite of a poisonous insect that is found in Africa. They presented a horrible spectacle. The women went from Cabarrus county about two years ago, and they tell a horrible story of suffering and destitution whilst living in Liberia. With the assistance of friends in Concord they have been enabled to get home, and all the gold on the African coast could not tempt them to return to that land of cannibals and savages.

Mobbing a Circus.

A despatch from Dover, Del., states that O'Brien's Circus and Menagerie, which exhibited in that place on Saturday, was attacked by a mob after the evening performance. The mob opened fire on the wagons as they were being loaded to the depot for embarkation, accompanied by a guard of showmen. Eight or ten of the circus employes were shot and some of them seriously wounded. Charles Henderson, one of the proprietors, was shot in the eye and head. One of the drivers was shot on his wagon. A portion of the wounded were taken to the office of Dr. Wilson, where their injuries were attended to, and the others were carried to the cars. The police made no arrest. A committee of citizens waited on the Sheriff at midnight and requested him to restore order and call on the militia if necessary to suppress the outbreak. That official hastily summoned a posse, with which he waited upon the proprietors of the show and tendered them his services, and under their protection the remainder of the wagons proceeded from the show grounds to the depot without being molested. All the wagons were loaded, and at three o'clock this morning the special train started for Cambridge, Md., with a physician in charge of the wounded. No arrests have yet been made. Several private residences and places of business were riddled with bullets. Breech loading guns and revolvers were the weapons used by the attacking mob, who were dissatisfied with the show.

Asheville Citizen: We learn by information from Madison county of a most unfortunate occurrence which took place in the Laurel section a few days ago. One H. K. Gilbert was sitting on a fence flourishing a pistol. His little child was behind him, unknown to him. It is said that he fired to frighten a horse passing by; another account is that the pistol was discharged without object. At all events, the ball entered the brain of the unfortunate child, killing it instantly. —Mr. Andrew J. Ballew, of Cherokee county, laboring under derangement on the subject of religion, met his little six year old daughter as she was returning home from the woods, commanded her to stop, and told her that God demanded of him a sacrifice, and making her "stand on line," to use his own words, he then struck her repeatedly on the head with a stone, fracturing her skull, and then laid her on a log for dead, and went home. The child, however, rallied from its insensibility, and staggered to the house, covered with blood, and at last accounts was alive. The insane father was secured and manacled, and will be taken to the Asylum.

EXECUTORS NOTICE.—HAVING qualified as Executor of James Lea, deceased, I hereby give notice to all persons having claims against said deceased to exhibit the same to me on or before the 4th day of April, 1884.

R. JAMES POWELL.

April 5, 1883. 4w.

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embraces special dispatches from all quarters of the globe. Under the head of

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Hardware, Tinware, Stoves, Farming Implements, &c., &c.

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COTTON HOES. GRAIN CRADLES, GRASS BLADES.

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ANALYSIS.

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393.

Received from Commissioner of Agriculture in Air tight Can, sealed:

Water at 212 degree F.	17.22 per cent.			
Soluble Phosphoric Acid.	6.32			
Reverted " "	2.29			
Total Available " "	8.52	Equal to Bone Phosphate		18.60
Insoluble " "	2.58	" " " "		5.63
Nitrogen	1.95	" " Ammonia		2.37
Potash	2.17			

Commercial Value Per Ton, (2000 lbs.) $35.75.

Signed, CHARLES W. DABNEY, Jr.

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We will sell the above First Class Fertilizer, (privilege tax paid,) at the following low prices, free on board in Baltimore, 10 ton lots $28 per ton; 5 ton lots $29; less than 5 tons $30; we also offer at lowest prices a full line of AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS, for making Home-Made Fertilizers. Send for our book about Fertilizers.

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March 22, 1883. 6m

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North Carolina!

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February 8th, 1883. 3m.

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W. A. LAWRANCE, Commissioner.

March 29, 1883. 4w

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OF ALL PLANTS, FOR ALL CROPS, FOR ALL CLIMATES.

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Nov. 16, 1882. 6m.

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ROTARY HARROW.

I have bought the county right for Chatham county for the sale of the celebrated ROTARY HARROW. These harrows are the best in use, and every farmer ought to have one. A model of it can be seen at London's store. For prices, &c., apply to JOHN S. CAMPBELL.

March 22, 1883. Pittsboro', N. C.

C. C. HAMLET,

—WITH—

JOS. P. GULLEY,

OF RALEIGH, N. C.

We are daily receiving new goods for the Spring, such as Hopkins, Heiser and Miles' gentlemen's handsewed Shoes, high and low cut, in all styles. Ladies', Misses' and Childrens' button Kid Shoes. We will keep the celebrated Pearl Shirt. Also Dress Goods, Domestics, bleached and unbleached, White Goods, Ribbons, Buttons, Speed Silks, Laces and Edgings, and all other goods kept in a first class dry goods store. Remember we keep a full stock of clothing. Call and see us when in our market.

April 12, 1883. 3m.