

**Terms of the Watchman.**  
For subscription, per year, Two Dollars—payable in advance. But if not paid in advance, Two Dollars and fifty cents will be charged.  
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Letters to the Editor must be post paid.

### THE BROWN SILK DRESS.

BY MRS. PHILIPS.  
"Why, Eliza! What a strange choice for a wedding dress! Your other dresses are in a very good style, and you have a plenty of them considering the changes in fashion—but a brown silk to be married in! who ever heard of such fancy in a girl of eighteen?"

"This true aunt, that my choice may seem somewhat sombre, but you know very well that I am to become the wife of a poor mechanic, who depends on his daily labor for support. As the wife of such a man, I must necessarily limit my expenditures to my circumstances, and I have thought it better to purchase something which would be useful for some time to come, than to consult my appearance as a splendid bride for one short evening—especially as I am to see no strangers."

"There is something in that. There is my Maria's wedding dress. She will never wear it again in the world. She had a white satin, with a lace dress over it. Oh! she did look beautiful; I do admire to see a handsome bride."

"Yes, it is very well for those who can afford it. But it would be quite absurd for me to purchase an expensive dress for one, or even a few evenings, when, by the expenditure of half the money, I can procure that which will be serviceable for some years. But come, put on your bonnet and step over to our new house. It is all furnished, at least all that is finished; I value it more highly than I should if it were not so near my mother's."

"There, William has left this small parlor, this sitting room, and three chambers, to finish at his leisure, when he is out of employment. See how everything is arranged. So handy for my work."

"You don't say you are going to do your own work?"

"Certainly I do. There is only one apprentice, and I should think it strange if I couldn't do it all with ease."

"My heart, what strange fancies you have! To be sure it is well enough, if you can bring your mind to it; but then folks do so differently now a days. There is my Maria, she has moved to an elegant house, all furnished from top to bottom—she keeps a great girl to do the work, and a little one to wait and tend. Oh, things do go on beautifully, I promise you!"

"Her husband is a young lawyer, is he not? Is he wealthy?"

"Oh, he is very well off. He does not get much practice yet, but I dare say he will in time. He has a thousand dollars at interest, besides. Maria would not have married a mechanic—their hands get so hard and black and their complexion especially if they are exposed, get so brown. I would not wish to hurt your feelings, but I do think that for pride's sake, for the sake of the family you might have made a little different choice."

"Oh, aunt excuse my language—I have yet to learn that a man's honest occupation whether it produces hard hands, or white soft hands—whether it gives the cheek a brown or pale hue, is any disparagement to him. You must get acquainted with William and hear him converse. You will not think of hard hands, and his animated, intelligent countenance will drive his bronzed skin quite out of your head. But aunt, you don't say anything about my furniture—and you must see my nice closets."

"Oh, your furniture is well enough. The less you have, the less you will have to take care of, you know."

"Yes, we could not get much furniture. I insisted upon William taking the money which my grandfather left me, to pay off a few hundred dollars which he owed for this place, in order to enable us to begin in the world. We both have such a horror of debt, that we are determined not to incur any we can possibly help it. See what a nice press for the clothes this is."

"Why, what a quantity of bed and table linen! It is really nice, too. You have more than my Maria has, I declare."

"Yes, I always want an abundance of such things. This drawer is filled with towels—this is for my ironing sheet and blanket—and this closet contains my tin and wooden ware."

"I declare, Eliza, you are a strange, thoughtful girl! I must tell you one thing about Maria that made us have a good hearty laugh. The Monday morning after she was married, the girl came to ask where the tubs were, and don't you think that child had actually forgotten to buy a tub, clothes line, or pins. She said it never popped into her head. But, la! it wasn't strange—she had never been used to do anything of the kind."

"I believe, aunt, I have shown you all now. We will go if you please. I hope you will not let my brown dress or William's brown hands frighten you away this evening."

"Oh no! But as I must take the stage for Maria's early in the morning, you must allow me to retire early."

"What follows these Yankees are for combining elegance and usefulness," said a Southern gentleman to himself, as he sat on the piazza of the Hotel in the town of—

"Sir, said he, addressing himself to a venerable looking man near him, can you tell me who resides in that elegant cottage, where the grounds are laid out with such taste?"

"Oh, that is Squire Bill Thorndike's. You must be a stranger in these parts, not to know him."

"I am, sir; and since he seems such a prominent member of society, I should be happy to know something of his history."

# THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

J. J. BRUNER,  
Editor & Proprietor.

"KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR  
RULES."



DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAFE.  
Gen'l Harrison.

NEW SERIES.  
VOLUME VII—NUMBER 35.

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1851.

"Oh, there is nothing remarkable in it, nothing at all, sir. His father was a man of great learning, but he nearly ran thro' a fortune in trying to live in style. He died and left three boys. Their mother, who went from this place, was a woman of strong sense. She sold the property, paid off the debts, and had enough left to buy that little house to the left. It has but two rooms, and there is a garden spot attached to it. Here she put out her boys to trades; one to a mason, one to a wheelwright, and this Bill to a carpenter. They were mighty smart boys and settled in different towns. Bill stayed however. He married the widow Perry's daughter—

She was as smart as a steel trap. She was a right good scholar, and she had made an excellent wife. They have got along wonderfully. Every body wondered how it was. He did not make better wages than other men, but somehow the money increased. It was no mystery to me, for I watched them pretty sharp. You never saw him, before he got a horse riding for pleasure. No, they both pulled one way, and took their pleasure in being sober, and industrious, and useful; and now they reap their reward in being universally respected."

"Why, there ain't a man that has so much money to let as Squire Thorndike, and he is never hard and screwing about it as some are. He isn't stingy, either. He has taken two children of one lawyer Willis to bring up, and he does as well by them as he does by his own. Lawyer Willis was a kind of a cousin to Squire Thorndike's wife. She was a dashy showy gal. Lord you'd have thought the richest folks upon air were married when they had the knot tied! Poor fellow he had a hard time notwithstanding, to support his lady wife in style."

"He took to drink, and died. I've heard said that she turned up her nose at her cousin's match but she little thought her boys would be glad to go to that same cousin for a home, while she would be glad to take up with the house that Squire Thorndike's mother lived in."

"Ah sir," continued the old man, "this is a charming world; but to my mind it folks would only be prudent and industrious and give up banking after things beyond their means, there would be more real good done in the world, and fewer changes."

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estly—I have gained wealth—and now, after many years, I have come to return to you, kind sir, the bread which you then cast freely upon the waters."

### AMERICAN ANTIQUITIES.

We saw in the shop of Mr. Alexander, the other day, a Pot, dug from the large mound two miles from here. It is quite large. We understand that there were two taken up—the other larger than this. The mound, we understand, is about sixty feet high, and near three hundred yards in circumference. The question naturally arises, who made these mounds? They are scattered over our country, and if you ask the Indian who made them, his answer is, they were here before us. Where are they who built them, and for what purpose were they made? are questions written in the forgotten history of the past. Centuries have rolled round since the aborigines first came to this land. How many centuries we know not, but when first they came, these mounds of a nation, whose history had even passed away, met their view. Were they here before the flood? Had they too, a Noah and a big canoe, as their legends speak? And are the Indians, whom the pale faces found here, the descendants of the American Noah? Or, were they destroyed in the deluge, and the Indians the result of emigration? Who can tell? Mightily as that deluge was, sweeping away, as it did, the vast mass of humanity, which thronged perhaps their splendid cities—it could not obliterate these monuments of a hidden world. For what were they used? were they worshippers in high places, and thronged they in deep devotion the lofty summit of these elevated places as they sent up their orisons to the great spirit? or were they watch towers, upon which were kindled the beacon fires to warn their tribe of the approaching foe? Or were there astronomers even then, who watched in the grand and stilly night, the wandering Pleiades, as they traced their gilded pathway across the sky—and marked the size of Arcturus in his bespangled seat. We intend at the first suitable opportunity to visit these antediluvian monuments, and as soon as we solve the above questions we will lay the answers before our readers.

Camden Journal.

DEATH FROM DRUNKENNESS.  
A lad named Mays—an apprentice in the establishment of the Messrs. Diognid was found dead in his bed on Christmas morning. On inquiring into the cause of the death, it was ascertained that on the evening before, a rum seller by the name of Wood, had sold the lad a quantity of liquor which he drank at one draught. He was soon completely intoxicated, and in this state of utter senselessness was privately conveyed to his bed by his fellow apprentices who were desirous to conceal the knowledge of his condition from their employers, little dreaming, however, that they were bearing him to the bed of death!

It gives us pain to record such an occurrence in this community, and in doing it we find some difficulty in restraining the pen from the merited castigation which the conduct of the rum-seller provokes. It is sometimes better, however, to leave the contemplation of such a deed to the silent stern monitions of conscience, which if it be not seared, must prove a tormenting companion, constantly holding up to the agonized view of the possessor, the ill-gained dime which is thus "crusted o'er" with the blood of the murdered apprentice and blistered with the tears of his bereaved friends.—Lynchburg Virginian.

Alligator shooting.—On a recent trip of the R. C. Oglesby from New Orleans to Alexandria, in about one hour and in a run of twenty miles, three passengers killed 55 alligators. These creatures have been driven out of the Mississippi river, but the number does not seem to diminish in Red River. Every boat plying on that river carries guns and ammunition, and the passengers and officers amuse themselves in killing these lizards. Thousands are annually destroyed; but the dismal region extending from the mouth for one hundred and fifty miles, furnishes them retreats in which their young are reared. They are as abundant now as they were fifty years ago. In Florida they are now extensively killed for their oil—the tough skin on their belly is tanned and used as saddles. An inexhaustible supply is annually produced.

Excitement.—The Baltimore correspondent of the Washington Union says: "The excitement among the Protestant churches, with regard to the attendance of several ministers on concerts of Jenny Lind, continues rather to increase than to abate. An advertisement in the Sun early in the week invited those who attended them to preach to their flocks from certain texts named in Luke and Romans, to show what it is to be conformed to the world, and what it is to deny oneself."

Awful Disaster.—By a passenger on board the ship Vandalia, we learn that the barque Emily, from San Francisco to Realejo and Panama, was lost on the Pacific coast on the 20th September last. Out of nearly 200 persons on board only two were saved; one a passenger, and the other one of the officers of the vessel. No names given.

N. Orleans Picayune.

The Liberia packet sailed from Baltimore on the 21st inst., for Liberia, with 71 emigrant free negroes—12 from North Carolina.

### From the Washington Republic.

#### MYSTERIOUS RAPPINGS.

We learn from the letter of a private correspondent that the "mysterious rappings" are again exciting no little attention among the citizens of Boston and Providence. This letter was not intended for publication, but, as it comes from a source on which we can rely, and touches some matters of curious speculation, we take the liberty of presenting a portion of it to our readers.

"I have nothing new to tell you touching the rappings; I am as much in the dark as ever as to the mode of their production. Sounds are made, and furniture is made to move, and electric sensations communicated. This I have heard, seen, and felt; and I do not believe the manifestations are the result of the collusion or trickery. My own opinion, so far as I have been able to form any on the subject, that the medium (so called) produces unconsciously all these phenomena; but my notions are as yet crude on this point, and I must investigate the matter much further before resting in them satisfied. The subject is beginning to create a good deal of attention both here and in Providence; and almost every one who is satisfied as to the absence of trickery accepts the spiritual solution. When I saw the table move, it moved the length of my hand, so that my hand, which was resting on it, fell. This was repeated several times. There were no castors on the table, and it required considerable effort to move it. The room was light. Four persons were present, no one of whom, I am confident, had any thing to do (knowingly) with the motion. It was considered an unsuccessful experiment; as a few nights before the table had been carried across the room and back, and upset and restored to its legs. The same thing was done in Providence in a very respectable and intelligent family. Very curious all this, but I am indisposed to believe that spirits out of the flesh do it, although I am fully satisfied that there is no human collusion in the matter."

LEGISLATURE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

### SENATE.

Monday, Dec. 30th.

Mr. Joyner presented a memorial from Forsythe County, praying for the repeal of the act of last Session authorizing the construction of a public road through the counties of Forsythe, Surry and Ashe, which on his motion was referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. G. W. Caldwell introduced a bill to incorporate the Rock Island Manufacturing Company in the county of Mecklenburg. Mr. G. W. Caldwell introduced a bill to incorporate the Catawba Bridge Company.

Mr. Joyner moved that the Senate take up the bill to incorporate the Raleigh and Gaston R. R. Company, which, after sundry amendments passed its 2nd reading.

The following bills passed the 3d reading and were ordered to be engrossed: The bill to improve the State Road from Wilkesboro' to the Tennessee line. The bill to incorporate the Fayetteville and Warsaw Plank Road Company.

Mr. Woodfin two bills—a bill to facilitate the subscription to the North Carolina Rail Road Company and to secure the immediate representation of stock in said corporation—a bill to establish a new county by the name of—; both of which passed 1st time.

The bill to charter the Merchants Bank of Newbern was taken up and passed its 3d reading.

On motion of Mr. Lillington, the Senate adjourned.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A message was received from the Senate, transmitting the following engrossed Bills and Resolutions; which were severally read the first time and passed, viz: A bill to encourage the investment of capital for mining or manufacturing purposes; a bill to repeal the act of the General Assembly of 1848-9, to provide for the support of a system of Scientific and Literary Exchanges; a bill to incorporate a Bank in the town of Washington, in the county of Beaufort; referred to Committee on Judiciary; a bill to incorporate the Franklinsville Academy in Randolph county;

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

Mr. Marshall presented a memorial from citizens of Forsythe, praying the passage of an act to divide the Militia of said county into two separate regiments. Referred.

Mr. Gordon a memorial praying for the establishment of a new county out of portions of Surry and Wilkes. Referred.

Mr. Love a memorial from citizens of Davidson, praying to have a portion of said County attached to Forsythe. Laid on the table.

Mr. Webb a memorial from citizens of Rutherford, praying against the re-establishment of the county of Polk. Referred.

Mr. Holland a petition from the citizens of Cleveland, praying for the passage of an act giving the people of said County power to elect a deputy sheriff, &c. Referred.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

Mr. Gordon a bill to lay off and establish a new County by the name of Blue Ridge, out of portions of Wilkes and Surry. Passed 1st reading, and was referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. J. Hayes a bill to incorporate the town of Lenoir in Caldwell county. Passed 1st reading, and was referred to the Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Caldwell of Rowan, a bill concerning the Salisbury Female Academy. Passed 1st reading, and was referred to the Committee on Education.

Mr. Sharp a bill to establish a new county by the name of—, out of portions of Buncombe and Yancy. Passed first reading.

Mr. Jones from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported the bill to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Williams, and recommended its rejection.—Rejected—ayes 19, noes 80.

The Speaker then announced that the hour had arrived for taking up the special order, it

being the bill to amend the constitution of N. Carolina.

On motion of Mr. G. Hayes, the special order was postponed for half an hour, and the House proceeded to consider the bill to provide relief for the purchasers of Cherokee lands.

The question was taken on the motion to reconsider and it prevailed.

The question then recurring on the passage of the bill on its 2nd reading.

Mr. Fleming moved to amend by striking out the clause authorizing the County Court of Cherokee to appoint a commissioner to value the land; which was agreed to.

Mr. Walton then offered the amendment which was rejected on Saturday, viz: to provide for refunding in Cherokee lands to those who have paid an amount above the valuation; which was rejected by a vote of ayes 35, noes 64.

The question was then taken on the passage of the bill, and it was rejected—ayes 50 noes 51.

Mr. Winston moved to reconsider the vote by which this bill was rejected, and then moved to lay this motion on the table, which was agreed to.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The bill to amend the Constitution of North Carolina, was taken up.

Mr. Caldwell of Guilford, being entitled to the floor, proceeded to address the House.

Mr. Person of Moore, took the floor, and said that he desired to address the House on this subject, but did not feel well enough to proceed at this stage of the discussion. He would move to postpone until 12 o'clock to-morrow, unless some other gentleman desired to address the House at the present time.

On motion of Mr. Stevenson, the farther consideration of the subject was postponed until 3 o'clock, P. M.

On motion of Mr. R. M. Saunders, the resolutions on the subject of slavery were taken up, amended by general consent, and made the order of the day for Thursday next.

The House then took a recess.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. Waugh gave notice that he would, on to-morrow, introduce a resolution to terminate the debate on the bill to amend the Constitution at 1 o'clock on that day.

Mr. Brogden of Wayne, then addressed the House on the bill to amend the Constitution, taking grounds in favor of the original bill and in opposition to a Convention. When he had concluded.

Mr. Steele of Richmond, took the floor.—He said he believed our Constitution was the best in the world, and he was willing to live under it as it is, until the Arch Angel's last trump shall sound. He argued against legislative amendments, and in favor of amending by a Convention—giving as a strong case in point, the manner in which the bill before the House had been argued. The question, is the proposed amendment right? had not been argued at all. The only questions thus far discussed were, are the people in favor of the amendment? and in what manner shall it be done? Mr. S. was in favor of submitting the question to the people, to say whether they desired any change in the Constitution, and if they desire a change he wished it to be done by a Convention.

Mr. Person of Moore, made a motion to adjourn, but withdrew it; when

Mr. R. M. Saunders introduced a resolution to terminate the debate on this question at 4 o'clock to-morrow, only allowing 5 minutes to any gentleman offering an amendment to explain it.

After three ineffectual motions to adjourn and a motion to lay on the table, upon which the ayes and noes were called, and after some more discussion, without the vote being taken. The House at length adjourned.

### SENATE.

The Raleigh Register says: We are compelled to omit the Senate proceedings of yesterday, 31st Dec.

The only items of special importance were the introduction of a bill, by Mr. Gilmer, to ascertain the sense of the freemen of North Carolina, as to the call of a Convention on the Federal Basis; and the adoption of Mr. Bowler's Resolution proposing to adjourn on the 13th of January.

Messrs. Edwards and Shepard, in Committee of the whole, debated the Slavery Resolutions.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Wilson, from the Joint Select Committee to make arrangements for the inauguration of the Governor, reported the arrangements for the same, which report was agreed to, and a message was sent to the Senate asking its concurrence.

Petitions and Memorials.

Mr. Erwin presented a memorial from citizens of Buncombe county, praying to have money refunded, which was lost by them in consequence of the action of the State in regard to the executive land claims. Referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Fonville, a memorial from citizens of Onslow, praying for the establishment of a Bank at Jacksonville, in said county, with a capital of \$300,000. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Martin, a memorial of Mary M. Fuller, praying for damages in consequence of an injury received by her—while travelling on the Raleigh and Gaston Road. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Bills and Resolutions.

Mr. Wilson introduced a resolution to send a message to the Senate proposing to go into the election of Counsellors of State at 11 o'clock on Monday next; which was adopted.

Mr. Drake, a bill to amend the act passed at the General Assembly of 1848-9, entitled an act to incorporate the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road Company; which passed its first reading, and was referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Stevenson, a bill regulating the emancipation of slaves by last will and testament.

Mr. A. H. Caldwell, a resolution on behalf

of the Boards of Superintendants of Common Schools for Rowan and Edgecombe counties. [Authorizes the Literary Board to pay to said Superintendants the interest due upon the different instalments of the Literary Fund allotted to said counties respectively from July 1841 to October 1847, under the act distributing the said fund among the several counties of the State, and which were not accepted by said counties until August 1845.] Referred to the Committee on Education.

On motion of Mr. Rayner, the House proceeded to the unfinished business of yesterday, viz: the bill to amend the Constitution of North Carolina.

Mr. Winston took the floor, Mr. Person having given way. He made an argument in favor of striking out of the Constitution the freehold qualification, opposed an unlimited Convention, and said he would go for the bill of the gentleman from Hertford, (Mr. Rayner,) for a restricted Convention, if it were so changed as to call the Convention immediately, without first submitting the question to the people to say whether they desired the Convention or not—it being the province of the Legislature, under the Constitution, to call a Convention, and not of the people. Mr. W. said he would support the original bill, and called upon his friends to support it—if defeated, he believed some Democrats would rejoice over it, as it would furnish capital for future use. If not passed, this free suffrage question would drag the basis question with it. An unlimited Convention would not suit in a century—these, will never consent to a change in the basis of representation. In answer to a question, Mr. W. said he was opposed to all amendments save that of giving free suffrage.

Mr. Person, of Moore, argued at length in favor of the original bill, and in opposition both to a limited and an unlimited Convention;—when he had concluded.

Mr. Cotton, of Chatham, addressed the House in favor of free suffrage, and in favor of the election of Judges by the people; and concluded by saying that if he could not get the amendments in any other way he would jump flat footed in an unlimited Convention.

The further consideration of the question was then postponed to 3 o'clock, P. M.

A message was received from the Senate proposing that the two Houses adjourn sine die on the 13th day of January, and also informing the House that that body had refused to accept the resignation of John Ligon, of Wake, as a Justice of the Peace for said county. The proposition to adjourn was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Fleming, the House took a recess.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to amend the Constitution.

Mr. Drake, of Randolph, addressed the House in favor of a Convention. He was in favor of a free suffrage, but he desired more than that.

Mr. Webb, of Rutherford, wished to correct the impression on the minds of some, that the people of his county voted for Mr. Reid because of his advocating free suffrage—it was because of a local question. He was in favor of submitting it to the people to say whether they desired a Convention; and if they do, let it come.

The