

Bad English—The Stay Law. In our present issue, we republish from the *Charlotte Democrat* an explanation and criticism of the Stay-Law recently passed by our Legislature. It is from the pen of a member of the Bar, and our readers will no doubt get a clearer idea of that law from its perusal, than they would from reading the Act itself.

It is greatly to be regretted that the Legislature in framing this measure, which is certainly one of the most important that has engaged the attention of that body at its present session, did not take more care to couch it in intelligible language. Such a murderous onslaught upon the King's English has not had any parallel in our Legislative history, that we are aware of, unless it were in the Stay-Law passed by the last General Assembly. We submit that such a tissue of bungling tautology, obscurity, and grammatical solecisms, is discreditable to the literary reputation of the State. Other documents which have emanated from our present Legislature have shown that there are scholars in that body. Why do they allow such miserable specimens of intricate and incomprehensible nonsense as this, to disgrace our Statute Books?

But the evidence, which it affords, of the want of literary culture and taste of its authors, is but a minor matter. A much weightier consideration is involved in it.—This is a measure of the first importance. It intimately concerns the every-day business of the common people. The administration of justice under it will necessarily fall, to a large extent, into the hands of plain men, who can readily understand straight-forward Anglo-Saxon, but who will be unable to comprehend and properly construe many of the obscure provisions of this Stay-Law. The results will be much doubt about mutual rights, increased litigation, multiplied costs, and great irregularity and uncertainty in the performance of common and what ought to be, simple duties.

Why could not the Legislature even yet resume the consideration of this important subject, and pass this measure in an improved form? The substance and the general intent need not be changed. The Legislature understands its own intention in the enactment of each provision contained in the Law. Nobody else ever can or will. Let that body then have it re-drafted and re-enacted in such a shape that its intentions may distinctly appear. If our humble voice could make itself heard, we would appeal to the General Assembly to do this. Such a step would receive the thanks of the entire people; and our lawmakers owe it also to their own reputation.

Direct Trade with Europe.
We are gratified to learn from the Norfolk papers that direct trade from that port to Liverpool is no longer a project awaiting practical development, but a *fait accompli*. The steamship *Peruvian* sailed from Norfolk on last Saturday morning with a full cargo of cotton, corn, tobacco, and other produce. The *Delaware* will shortly sail. She will also carry a complete cargo, and will not be able to take all that is awaiting shipment. This, we hope, is but the trickling rill of a commerce which will yet swell into a mighty river. This is the true road to the independence of the South. The political oppression which our section suffers is nothing in comparison with the commercial enslavement under which we have groaned for long years. We verily believe that if foreign trade had been more equally distributed among the ports of our country, and the wealth which it brings had been realized in part by every section of the Union, instead of swelling the coffers of the North only, many of the causes of sectional alienation, such as partial legislation and oppressive tariffs, would never have existed, and the Union never would have been dissolved. By working, therefore, for the building up of the commercial importance of the South, we shall not only be achieving power for ourselves, but will also aid in restoring the balance between the now unequal sections of this country, and laying a basis for future harmony.

A man can't well ride to mill with a bushel of corn in one end of his sack and a pint in the other. That is what is the matter with this country. One end of it is overgrown and preponderates too much. We must labor for an equalization. If Norfolk, Charleston, Mobile, and New Orleans, rivalled New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, we should get on better. Such a thing is not impossible. The materials of commerce are boundless in the South. The waters are only dammed up by long habit. Let even a finger be drawn across the dam and the current once set in motion, it will soon sweep on in resistless power. Hence we rejoice to see that a beginning is made at Norfolk. Let Wilmington and our other cities imitate the example. The

case and it will be done. The finger is being drawn across the dam. A great Southern commerce is as sure to follow as fate; and when we have accomplished it, we will be astonished at ourselves for so long overlooking a prize that was so easy to grasp.

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

The North Carolina Railroad.
MISSENS ERRORS.—The offensive and unprovoked attempt of General Barringer to throw more than suspicion upon my personal and political conduct, because of remarks made in the Stockholders meeting in December last, merits my contempt rather than resentment.

I wonder it should be so dull in Charlotte, with Dr. Jones and Governor Vance both in town. So dull that the General has to excite himself and try to excite the public mind, by publishing what he thinks of me politically.—I know he does it with the hope that I will retaliate, by publishing what I think of him. I shall not gratify him. I will not publish.—When the General in 1860-'61 turned Democrat and seceder, and again in 1865 turned Holden man, and again in 1866 turned Worth man, I formed my opinion of him; but I am not obliged to publish it to afford him and the public a foolish pleasure and gratification. I must flatly refuse the General's invitation or rather challenge to a personal newspaper altercation.—It will be of no service to the public, and gentlemen are not apt to be pleased with such exercise and exhibition of themselves, though the people do enjoy it largely.

Leaving the General to reflect at his leisure upon the necessity, utility or propriety of his personalities, I will proceed to notice that portion of his communication not personal. The General says I am in error as to the history of the Company, and I do the Stockholders great injustice. Again he says "Mr. Turner charges that the Stockholders some of whom were contractors swindled the State." He misses the mark. I charged no such thing. I did say the large Stockholders who paid their subscription stock in work instead of money, held their stock without having paid a dime for it.—There was no swindling charged. I meant to state what was well understood at the time the Road was graded,—that contractors were making their stock clear. I have been contradicted in this by an anonymous correspondent of the *Sentinel*, as well as by Gen. Barringer.—I always heard that Mr. Richard Ashe, Bennett Hazel, Esq., Mr. Paul C. Cameron, Mr. Giles Mebane, Turner and Jones, and others I could name, made their stock clear.

I never heard it denied until recently, that every contractor did not do the same. A large contractor recently told me, he not only made his stock but money besides. I now have reason to believe that a few contractors by reason of their bad management, did not make their stock clear.

But this question was before the Supreme Court in 1856. Chief Justice Pearson then did the Stockholders the same justice or "injustice" if you please, that I did. In the case of Ashe against Johnson's administrator, Judge Pearson in second *Jones' Equity Reports* said as follows:

"For the purpose of inducing individuals to subscribe for the amount of stock, necessary to secure the charter, the gentlemen, who felt the deepest interest in the success of the enterprise, and to whose exertions the North Carolina Railroad owes its existence, in their speeches and in conversations, which they procured to meet, held out the assurance that the company, when organized, would take care to relieve the subscribers of their stock, by requiring those who contracted to do work on the road, to take stock in payment of one half of the amount of the price of their work.

The Company, at its first meeting, instructed the directors to carry into effect the assurance which had been held out to the subscribers for stock—and, in the language of the Company, in its answer, "the substance of these resolutions, passed at different times and Conventions, was that in letting out the contracts, the contractors were to be required to take stock as far as it was practicable to get them to do so." In pursuance of these instructions, the President and directors, in the advertisements for letting out contracts, made this stipulation: the contractors receiving in payment on their contracts one half in stock of the road, the other half in cash.

He, the defendant, insists that it could not have been the intention of his intestate to take the stock of the plaintiff off of his hands at par, because, as he alleges, the stock was then greatly under par, and his intestate, not being a professional contractor, did not desire any greater contract than one estimated at double the value of his own stock.

It being a prevalent opinion at the time, that a contractor with a contract yielding double the amount of his subscription, might pay the expenses of the work from the money, and the stock was then not worth par, and no prudent man would have purchased it at that price; the rate of depression may be judged of from the fact, that the sub-contractors under Johnson allowed a discount of twenty-five per cent to obtain cash for the work.

It was accordingly made a subject of anxious consideration by us, whether such an undertaking on the part of the individual Stockholders was not exposed to the objection of being against public policy, as tending to induce the officers of the Company to allow more to contractors than their work was worth in cash, in order to induce them to take individual stock in part-payment, the result of which would necessarily bring into effect an agreement growing out of this understanding, or based upon it. After much reflection, we have come to the conclusion, that this objection to our entertaining the cause, has been removed by the concuring acts of the Executive and Legislative departments of the government.

We have, from high consideration of public good, concurred in, approved of and ratified the acts of individual members of the Company in regard to the undertaking, with full notice; and it is proper to say, that the matter was at all times openly avowed and justified upon the ground of public good, and the rights of the largest Stockholder.

The disclosure in the answer of the defendant, proves it was the prevalent opinion at that time, that the contractor, with his contract yielding double the amount of his subscription, might pay the expenses of the work from the money. In other words, might make his stock clear; that is, things were in such a condition that the State, as was supposed, would pay all the money required for the construction of the Road, and yet, individuals would own one-third of the stock. This disclosure, together with the further fact, that contractors who took one-half in stock were allowed such prices as to enable them to let out sub-contracts, to be paid in cash at a deduction of 25 per cent, is really startling.

If the original undertaking was against public policy, of course this court could not in any way aid in carrying it out. The executive officers have caused the subscription on the part of the State to be paid, and the Legislature at its last session, appropriated one other million of dollars, to aid in the completion of a work which they deemed so important to the interest of the State.

Thus Judge Pearson settles one question in dispute between the General and myself, settles it too upon sworn testimony, and more, I doubt not, to the General's conviction than to his satisfaction. Let the General answer the Chief Justice. If the General answers the Chief Justice, I suggest brevity. I would commend to him the policy of his Dutch ancestors, who in their *Spice Island* days, cut their teeth their spice trees to improve the value of the other half, by producing scarcity and doubling prices. I would fain call the General's attention to his memorial, in which he pretends that the disasters of the Company are owing to dissension and division between the Stockholders and the State. I repeat, since the first election of Col. Fisher, (except one year of Mr. Boyden's administration) there has been entire harmony between the State Directors and the Directors on the part of the Stockholders. Even in Mr. Boyden's administration there was no protest or remonstrance or objection to his projects, plans and expenditures. The Stockholders, through their Directors, Thomas Webb, C. P. Mendenhall, D. A. Davis and John L. Morehead, if not quietly concurring never remonstrating against any act of Mr. Boyden's administration. These gentlemen are large Stockholders. I say it to their credit, they have devoted more time and attention to the road than all the large Stockholders owning above 20 shares, put together, and into whose hands the General proposes to commit the future destinies of the road.—These four gentlemen are as much responsible for Boyden's extravagant administration as Gen. Leach and the State Directors.—They did nothing to encourage it, and they did nothing to prevent it. Neither they nor the State Directors knew of it until it was all over and too late to apply the remedy. So it has been with all Directors in this and all roads, and so it will continue to be. The President and Superintendent run the road, and not Directors.

The General, No. 1, charges me with making a lame apology for Mr. Boyden. I said Mr. Boyden had spent without paying the interest on our debt, one million of three hundred thousand dollars. I said he took the Presidency without desiring it, and promised as he would not give his whole attention to the affairs of the road. I said he left the Presidency informing us he had kept his promise. Mistaking this sarcasm for an apology, is well calculated to give the public an humble opinion of the General's capacity and powers of discrimination.

The General, No. 2, honors with his notice only two-thirds of the present Board of Directors. He only names the State Directors. Let me inform him, the Board consists of twelve members, and that Messrs. Morehead, Webb, Morehead and Davis, "large Stockholders," are entitled to the honor of his notice as much as the State Directors. They are as much addicted to "paying claims and granting favors" as others of the Board. In fact when the Board, to use the General's language, "at last resolved to modify the negro hire order," they did it without the aid of either of these gentlemen. I would give the amount of Stock each of these gentlemen own, but it would not add to their capacity, fidelity or fitness for the place, except in the General's estimation.

I fear, since the General's mistake of sarcasm for apology, he has misread the

General, No. 3, says:

"There is little or no reform, and the money continues to flow like water." Why did you not inform the Stockholders and Directors of it? "The trains and stations," says the General, "are often the scenes of rowdiness and obscenity, disgraceful to the age and country." I am at the first of this; I never witnessed or heard of disorder on the trains or at the depots.—Until better informed, I can only blame a large Stockholder, who knowing these indignities, has failed to report them to the Board. I suggest to the memorialists that they amend their memorial and ask the Legislature, to forbid the General's voting in the Stockholders' meeting, by way of punishment for not informing the Board. I would not, however, ask the Legislature to act on the amended memorial. I may add, it would be for that body to do so, as it would be for them to forbid the Stockholders electing a Director who has owned twenty shares of stock.

There is no impropriety in the memorialists asking for this, for it would not hurt the complexion of the memorial to add this additional, but very feature to its face.

"As to fare and freights the whole system is a jumble of confusion, of favoritism, fraud or folly."

This may be so as to the "confusion and folly," but we have our doubts as to the "favoritism and fraud." If true, it is an argument against the large stockholders, who controlled in Gov. Morehead's and Col. Fisher's administrations. The basis of charges and tariffs were made in the early days of the Company, and they have undergone no great change since. I can not think either of these gentlemen established "fairs and freights" in "fraud or favoritism." If Messrs. Cameron and Webb, the favorites of the large stockholders, have continued these "fares and freights," I submit to the General, that folly, not fraud, expresses both his meaning and his indignation.

"Freights are high. The secret is about one-half the travel, and a large proportion of the freights and telegraphs are free." If I imitated the General, in his offensive personalities in No. 1, I would call this a "reckless assertion." If the General can prove what he says, I would not give much for Mr. Webb's high character as an honest man. "Half the travel, and a large proportion of the freights and telegraphs," could not be free without the guilty knowledge of the President.

I ask pardon of Mr. Webb for the supposition. Suppose it be true. It only goes to condemn the General's plan, the large stockholders and the memorial; for Mr. Webb is the special favorite and choice of the "large stockholders." If they did not make him director he could not be President.

I suggest to the General, foregoing personalities to vindicate his memorial if he can, in No. 4, reconcile its contradictions, explain its nonsense and ceremonies. "Do this, or in No. 5 ask forgiveness of 664 brother Stockholders in the Company, whom you propose to outlaw, and rob of their just weight and influence in the corporation.

The State is the large stockholder owning three million three hundred thousand to one million on the part of individuals. The State has eight Directors—individuals four. This is according to the original contract. Now you propose to give the State three Directors and individuals six. Why give the State any? She would be as powerless as she had one or none.—With regard to the example of South Carolina I may here say that the State "does not own two-thirds of her roads." You memorialize the Legislature to forbid the individual stockholders, electing any person Directors who does not own twenty shares of stock. This is in violation of the constitution, and every law of honor and good faith which should bind man and man in business transactions. There are 776 stockholders, only 112 own above 20 shares of stock.

You wish to make a victim of the large Stockholder, because he is too large, and of 664 Private Stockholders because they are too small. The Legislature may make a victim of the State—that is a matter for that body and their constituents, but if they do so, they will be depriving them of 664 citizens, by depriving them of the just control of their property, they will appeal to Chief Justice Pearson and the Court, failing in that, they promise the General not peaceably to secede from the corporation.

If I understand the General in No. 2—He proposes to run the road with directors. What road is run by directors? I never knew directors to run a road. They don't run the Raleigh & Gaston road. Dr. Hawkins is as supreme there as Col. Fisher, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Webb, or Mr. Boyden, on our road. I can hear only of Mr. Johnson on the S. O. Road.—If a railroad is well managed, the President gets all the credit for it. If it is badly managed, they must take discredit. No man except the General ever heard of running a road by directors,—holding them responsible instead of the President.

Well, said the old divine, wearing warm, "you are raising yourself by writing your serious and reading them off.—Your congregation cannot become interested in your preaching, and if you are called upon to preach unexpectedly, unless you could get hold of an old sermon, you would be completely confounded."

The young divine used all his eloquence, but in vain, to convince the old gentleman that the written sermon expressed his own thoughts and feelings, and if called upon he could preach extemporaneously.

"As we are of the same faith," said the young minister, "suppose you try me next Sabbath morning." On ascending the pulpit you can hand me a text from any part of the Bible, and I will convince you that I can preach without having looked at the text before I stand up. Likewise, I must be allowed the same privilege with you, and see who will make the best of it."

The idea seemed to delight the old gentleman, and it was immediately agreed upon.

The following Sabbath, on mounting the pulpit, his senior brother handed him a slip of paper, on which was written, "And the ass opened his mouth and said," from which he preached a glorious sermon, chaining the attention of his delighted hearers, and charming his old friend with his eloquence.

In the afternoon, the young brother, who was sitting below the pulpit, handed his slip. After rising and opening the Bible, the old man looked sadly around—"Am I not thine ass?" Pacing a few minutes, he ran his fingers through his hair, straightened his collar, blew his nose like the last of the last trumpet, and read aloud, "Am I not thine ass?" Another pause, in which a deadly silence reigned. After reading the third time, "Am I not thine ass?" he looked over the pulpit at his friend, and in a doleful voice said, "I think I am, brother."

WIT.—Wit was originally a general name for all the intellectual powers, meaning the faculty which sees, perceives, knows, understands; it was gradually narrowed in its signification to express merely the resemblance between ideas; and lastly, to note that resemblance when it occasioned ludicrous surprise. It marries ideas lying wide apart by a sudden jerk of the understanding. Humor originally meant moisture, a signification that metaphorically retains, for it is the very juice of the mind cozzling from the brain, and curling and frothing wherever it falls. Wit exists by antipathy, Humor by sympathy.

Wit laughs at things. Humor laughs with them. Wit lashes external appearances, or cunningly exaggerates simple follies into the heart of its object, looks lovingly on the infirmities and defects, and represents the whole man.

Wit is abrupt, darting, scornful, and tosses its analogies in your face; Humor is slow and shy, insinuating its fun into your heart. Wit is negative, analytical, deductive; Humor is creative. The couplets of Pope are witty; but Sancho Panza is a humorous creation. Wit, when earnest, has the earnestness of passion seeking to destroy; Humor has the earnestness of affection, and would lift up what is scagliugly low into our charity and love. Wit is bright, rapid, and variable in an instant; Humor, warm and all-embracing as the sunshine, bathes its objects in a genial and abiding light.

Warranted free from impurity and rubbish, which will sell for Twenty-Five Dollars per Ton, delivered on board of vessel in New York city.

SPECIAL FERTILIZER Poudreite.
This article, which is pulverized as fine as flour, has no equal for corn, cotton, and tobacco, and is equal to No. 1, Peruvian Guano in the proportion of two for one of Guano, and better than the best brands of Super-Phosphate, pound for pound. This is just the thing for those who will pay cash for each article at a low price. We have a choice article at Twenty Dollars per Ton. Samples sent by mail, free, on receipt of 3-cent stamp. Send for pamphlet, and be convinced.

Address the "Lodi Manufacturing Company," Rocky Mount, Edgecombe Co., N. C.
Mr. James R. Day—Sir: In reply to your inquiry of the results of our experience in the use of your improved Poudreite, purchased of you for this year's Cotton Crop, we would beg leave to say that the present season has been one quite favorable to the action of all fertilizers. Several kinds of Manures were used by us, with the exception of your Poudreite, with little or no effect to the crop. Where the Poudreite was applied it gave us near half a bale more per acre, and caused the Cotton to open much earlier, and we would therefore recommend the same as a concentrated manure for the growth of Cotton, as well as improvement to the soil.

Yours, very respectfully,
HENRY P. SPULFUS & BROS.
Read This!
MANSFIELD, Kansas, April 1868.

I want to say a little more about the Pain Killer. I consider it a very valuable medicine, and always keep it on hand. I have traveled a good deal since I was in Kansas, and never without taking it with me. In my practice, I use it freely for the Asiatic Cholera in 1856, and with better success than any other medicine. I also used it here for cholera in 1855, with the same good result.

From Rev. R. Telford, *Ministry in China*, now visiting his home in Pennsylvania:
Wassersburg, Pa., June 25, 1858.
Messrs. Perry Davis & Son, Providence, R. I.
Dear Sir: During a residence of some ten years, as a missionary, in China, I found your Vegetable Pain Killer a most valuable remedy for that fearful scourge, the cholera.

In administering the medicine, I found it most effectual. Two or three spoonfuls of the Pain Killer, in a gill of hot water sweetened with sugar; then after about fifteen minutes, begin to give a tablespoonful of the same mixture every minute, until relief was obtained. Apply hot applications to the extremities. Bathe the stomach with the Pain Killer clear and strong, and look kindly. Of those who had the cholera, and took the medicine faithfully in the way stated above, eight out of the ten recovered. Truly yours,
R. TELFORD.

If attacked with diarrhoea, dysentery, or cramp colic, don't delay the use of the Pain Killer.
Be aware of all Imitations of the Pain Killer. The Pain Killer is sold by all respectable drug stores throughout the United States and foreign countries. Prices—25 cents, 50 cents, and \$1 per bottle.
June 16, '66 64w&wly.

Marriage Guide.—YOUNG'S GREAT PHYSIOLOGICAL WORK, or Every one his own Doctor.
Being a Private Instructor for Married Persons or those about to Marry, both Male and Female, in everything concerning the physiology and relations of our Sexual System, and the Production or Prevention of Offspring, including all the new discoveries never before given in the English language, by Wm. YOUNG, M. D. This is really a valuable and interesting work. It is written in plain language for the general reader, and is illustrated with upwards of one hundred engravings. All young married people, or those contemplating marriage, and having the least impediment to married life, should read this book. It discloses secrets that every one should be acquainted with. Still it is a book that must be locked up, and not let about the house. It will be sent to any one on the receipt of Fifty cents: Address Dr. Wm. YOUNG, No. 416 Spruce Street, above Fourth, Philadelphia.

June 16, '66 64w&wly.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
Garden Seed.—JUST RECEIVED at ROBERT'S DRUG STORE, (Wyatt's old stand) a splendid assortment of GARDEN SEEDS, warranted fresh and genuine. W. C. ROBERTS, Druggist.
Feb. 24, 1867.

A Pull What is a Pull?—IF you want a GOOD CIGAR; A NO. 1 CIGAR, call and puff one at the Boyden House Cigar Saloon. Feb 21-31

WORTH & DANIEL, CHEMISTS And Commission Merchants, WILMINGTON, N. C.
DEALERS IN BAGGING, ROPE, Iron Ties, Lime, Plaster, Cotton, Hair, Glass, Paraffin, Gunpowder, direct from Government agents. Agents for Bang's Raw Bone Super Phosphate of Lime. Agents for the Philadelphia Southern Mail Steamship line. Agents for Goodspeed's weekly Steamship line from New York. Agents for Jones Smith & Co's., line of New York mail packets. Feb. 16, '67. 6m.

NOTICE!
The PLEASANT GROVE ASSOCIATION of the colored Baptist Church, which was organized in December last, will meet again on the third Thursday in April next at Bethel Church, Halifax County Virginia, twelve miles from South Boston Depot on the Richmond and Danville Railroad. All ordained and local Baptist preachers in North Carolina are invited to attend.
Rev. R. P. MARTIN, Roxboro, N. C. 1-1st-pp

WM. M. ROBBINS, ATTORNEY AT LAW, SALISBURY, N. C.
Attends the Courts of Rowan and the adjoining counties. Office—East side of Main street, below the Market House. Jan 5 if