

The Messenger.

New Advertisements. Local-Special. Church-Sociable. This Week-S. W. Sanders. The Best Seed-Hall & Pearsall.

Weather Conditions. (Reported by C. M. Strong, Local Forecaster.) U. S. Weather Bureau Office.

The storm has moved slowly north-west from Alabama to central over northern South Carolina.

Rain is falling over Virginia, the Ohio and Tennessee valleys, the Carolinas and Georgia.

Fair warmer weather, with slight changes in barometer, prevails over the central west and south-west.

The wind attained a maximum velocity of thirty-six miles southeast, during the prevalence of the local thunder storm at this point at 7:40 o'clock p. m.

Rain, followed by clearing weather in the afternoon, winds shifting to westerly, cooler.

FOR THE STATE. By telegraph from Washington-Rain followed by clearing weather this afternoon; winds shifting to westerly, slightly warmer in interior.

TEMPERATURE. 1896-8 a. m., 32 degrees; 8 p. m., 52 degrees; highest, 72 degrees; lowest, 49 degrees.

1897-8 a. m., 36 degrees; 8 p. m., 60 degrees; highest, 60 degrees; lowest, 32 degrees.

Miniature Almanac-Sun rises 7:01 a. m.; sun sets 5:36 p. m.; high water at Southampton, 8:14 p. m.; high water at Wilmington, 10:01 p. m.

Moon's Phases-New moon, 1st, 3:05 p. m.; first quarter, 9th, 2:17 p. m.; full moon, 17th, 5:03 a. m.; last quarter, 23rd, 10:35 p. m.

FIFTH LOCALS. The annual meeting of the Seamen's Friend Society will be held at 4 o'clock this (Tuesday) afternoon at the Seamen's Bethel, on Dock Street between Water and Front Streets.

The ladies of the sanctuary society of St. Thomas Catholic church will give a social tomorrow night at Hillman hall, on Third street opposite the city hall. Refreshments will be served and the affair will be a most enjoyable one.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of aldermen was to have taken place last night, but owing to the storm a quorum was not present.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wilmington Seacoast Railroad Company will be held this forenoon at 11 o'clock in the directors' room of the National Bank of Wilmington.

The officers who went to Charleston after Nockles' schooner, the Syrian, arrived here last night, and on the morning of the 29th, they were committed to jail.

The report of Colonel John L. Cantwell secretary of the produce exchange, published elsewhere in today's Messenger shows that during the month of January 14,971 bales of cotton were received at this port, against 17,221 bales in January 1896. The receipts since September 1st have been 223,588 bales, against 150,573 bales the corresponding period last year.

Iredell Meares, Esq., assignee of Captain James H. Taylor, advertises his stock of stoves, tin ware, etc., at sale. See advertisement.

PERSONAL MENTION. Mr. C. W. Hanks, of Charlotte, is here.

Mr. P. E. Linnell, of Durham, is in the city.

Mr. A. C. Davis, of Goldsboro, was at The Orton yesterday.

Captain J. E. St. George, of Clinton, spent Sunday in the city.

Mr. E. Bullock, of Alfordville, was here on business yesterday.

Mr. J. Lucien Anderson, of Winston, spent Sunday at The Orton.

Captain L. D. Cherry, of Long Creek, came down to the city last night.

Colonel Francis M. Moore, of Brunswick, was on street yesterday.

Mr. G. S. Phillips, of Red Springs, was among last night's arrivals in the city.

Mr. F. L. Allen, of Harrell's Store, was among the visitors in the city yesterday.

Mr. W. J. Conery, of Fair Bluff, was in the city making business calls yesterday.

We regret to learn that Mrs. Love, Burbank and Thomas have been laid up with the grippe.

Mr. I. J. Scott, of Scott & Gresham, Rose Hill, was in the city yesterday, making business calls.

Governor Russell, who came here Saturday and went over to his plantation, expects to return to Raleigh this morning.

Captain W. E. Kyle, of Fayetteville, was on street yesterday.

Mr. C. F. Fear and Yadin Valley railway, arrived at The Orton last night.

We were glad to see that Mr. E. Piner, baggage master on the Wilmington, Columbia and Augusta railroad, was able to come and go on his run yesterday. He got his foot severely mashed several days ago.

We regret to learn that Mrs. Amelia A. Branton, sister of Mrs. J. M. McGowan, suffered a stroke of paralysis yesterday morning about 8 o'clock. The attack came on her while she was in the yard. She is 67 years of age and it is feared the attack is serious.

COUNTY AFFAIRS.

Proceedings of the Board of Commissioners-The Board Proceeds to Meet the City Hall.

The board of commissioners of New Hanover county met in regular session yesterday afternoon at 2:45 o'clock.

The commissioners were present, viz: Chairman F. W. Foster and Commissioners F. J. Dempsey, Roger Moore, W. F. Adams and Jordan Nixon.

Mr. Marshall, Esq., appeared before the board and presented a statement of the accounts of the late Stacey VanAmringe, county treasurer.

The county treasurer made his report to the effect that the accounts of the late Stacey VanAmringe, county treasurer, were correct.

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The minutes of the last meeting of the board were read, corrected and approved.

The following report offered by Commissioner Dempsey was adopted: "That the chairman of this board and the board of aldermen and the board of audit and finance of the city of Wilmington be and they are hereby authorized to expend the sum of \$100,000 in the improvement of the city limits, one-half of the amount to be expended on the city limits, and the other half on the city limits, one-half of the amount to be expended on the city limits, and the other half on the city limits."

Several matters concerning errors in the listing of taxes were referred to County Attorney Marsden Bellamy.

The chairman read a petition from the naval reserves, asking permission to make about \$40 in repairs to the room in the old court house, which has been occupied by the navy as an armory for the past three years or more.

On motion, the petition was granted, provided the reserves make the repairs at their own expense.

Application was made by T. T. Smith for license to sell spirituous and malt liquors on Third Water street. On motion, the same was granted.

The written report of Dr. W. D. McMillan, county physician, was presented and was received and ordered on file. He reports that during the month of January he issued 101 prescriptions to the outdoor poor, and paid 215 visits to 138 patients.

The report of Dr. J. C. Shepard, county superintendent of health, was presented. It was received and ordered on file. He reports that some improvements are being made at the county home; that there are 22 inmates in the home, and that they are being treated with the most skillful medical attention.

On motion of Commissioner Dempsey, it was ordered that repairs to cost not exceeding \$7 be made to the little house in Harnett township belonging to the city.

On motion, the board ordered that the sheriff be and he is hereby authorized to turn over to the county treasurer the several special funds separately, so that the accounts can be kept separately.

On motion of Commissioner Alexander, the matter of apportioning the road tax among the various townships was taken up. Delegations from the several townships were heard by the board as to what roads they desire their portion expended. On motion, the matter was referred to Commissioners Dempsey and Nixon, to inquire into the matter and report back to the board this morning.

Receipts of Cotton and Naval Stores. The following were the receipts of cotton and naval stores at the port of Wilmington yesterday:

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad-24 bales cotton, 11 barrels tar.

Wilmington, Columbia and Augusta Railroad-57 bales cotton, 5 casks spirits turpentine, 49 barrels rosin, 28 barrels tar.

Carolina Central Railroad-83 bales cotton, 19 barrels rosin.

Cape Fear and Yadin Valley Railroad-9 casks spirits turpentine, 11 barrels tar.

Wilmington, Newbern and Norfolk Railroad-83 bales cotton, 17 casks spirits turpentine, 20 barrels rosin.

Schooner Stonewall-145 barrels rosin. Total-24 bales cotton, 31 casks spirits turpentine, 263 barrels rosin, 28 barrels tar.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is known by its wrapper. The experience of half a century proves that no other preparation of the kind stops coughing and allays irritation of the throat and bronchial tubes so promptly and effectually as this.

Two Small Fires. There was an alarm of fire Sunday night at 8 o'clock, from box 41, caused by the burning out of a chimney on Cook street, between Front and Second streets. There was no damage.

Yesterday morning there was an alarm from box 43. Fire broke out in the second story of Mr. J. M. Forshaw's residence, on Front street, between Nun and Church streets, but it was put out before the fire department arrived. The damage amounted to about \$10.

LA Q'IPPE. Johnson's Chill and Fever Tonic cured a chill and is gripe in one day, 24 hours.

The dealer gives the money back if it does not cure.

THE OPERA HOUSE.

Oscar P. Sisson's Splendid Company Here for a Week's Engagement-A Flattering Reception for Them Last Night at Their First Performance.

Last night was an awful night with thunder and lightning and rain, and only Mr. Oscar P. Sisson, Wilmington's favorite comedian, could have drawn a crowd to the opera house, and never was there a more appreciative or better pleased audience.

Mr. Sisson and his company of players are here for a week's engagement, and last night they gave their opening performance with the ever popular comedy, "The Colonel."

The comedy played the title role as Alfred Hummer, and in that character he is the best Hummer we ever saw. We have seen him play it before--we have seen him try to play it but he never did it so well as he did last night.

Miss Dorothy Reepine took the role of "The Colonel's" daughter, and in an intelligent and entertaining manner. The lecture was illustrated by fine, large stereoscopic views. These, together with the imposing dramatic presentations, formed a most impressive picture of the imposing times of Queen Victoria.

The Raleigh News and Observer of Saturday, January 30th says: "Everybody, from the reading classes to the least important personage in the cast, acted their parts well, and the result was one of the best entertainments ever witnessed in this city. Mrs. Monroe, the lecturer, told the tragic story of the beautiful, but erratic Queen of Scots in a clear voice and in an intelligent and entertaining manner. The lecture was illustrated by fine, large stereoscopic views. These, together with the imposing dramatic presentations, formed a most impressive picture of the imposing times of Queen Victoria."

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THE SCOTTISH REFORMATION.

A Splendid Entertainment to be Given in the Opera House on Monday and Tuesday, February 8th and 9th.

Much satisfaction is expressed that the Westminster League of the First Presbyterian church has secured Mrs. Monroe to deliver her lecture on "The Scottish Reformation."

The entertainment to be given next Monday and Tuesday, February 8th and 9th, will be a most interesting and profitable one.

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GENERAL CRAIGHILL RETIRES.

This Distinguished Engineer Went on the Retired List of the Army Last Saturday.

General Craighill, who has been retired from active service Saturday afternoon last, is the purpose of General Craighill to star north today to drink in the balmy air of Florida.

General Craighill, who has been retired