

The Messenger

Entered at the Postoffice at Wilmington, N. C., as Second Class Matter, April 11, 1879.

THE WEATHER.

FORECASTS—Fair Tuesday and Wednesday; light variable winds. TEMPERATURE—8 a. m., 41 degrees; 8 p. m., 46 degrees; highest, 57 degrees; lowest, 41 degrees.

Local Advertisements.

Wanted—Special. J. M. Bunting—Real Estate. D. B. Sloan, Sec.—St. John's Lodge. W. B. Cooper, Sec.—John's Lodge. E. Warren & Son—Hot Chocolate. Van Amringe's Auction Rooms—Special. Everybody Must Go to Van Amringe's Auction Room—Special. Mechanics Home Association—New Series Brought. Call and Get One—W. M. Cumming. Read Johnson's ad. today.

PITNEY LOCALS.

The meeting of the lot owners of Oakdale Cemetery Company was held last night, and was postponed until next Monday night. The regular quarterly meeting of the board of directors of the City of Wilmington was held at 11 o'clock this (Tuesday) morning at the office of the association in the old court house. The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Auxiliary will be held in the Y. M. C. A. parlors this morning at 11 o'clock. All members are earnestly advised to attend.

The week of prayer will be observed this week in the First Presbyterian church. Half hour services will be held in the lecture room every evening during the week at 6 o'clock. All are invited to attend.

Whilmington Lodge, No. 532, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, held a very large and enthusiastic meeting last night, the occasion being the initiation of seven candidates, who were inducted into the mysteries and secrets of the order. The candidates were all pleased and, our word for it, they will be on hand when others are to be taken in.

Special Bargains in every department at Johnson's today.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. F. T. Mills went to Richmond last night. Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Emerson left last night for New York. Mr. O. L. Clark, of Charlotte, was here on business yesterday. Mr. J. J. Jolley was to Wilmington yesterday to spend his vacation. Mr. C. M. Brand, A. C. L. train dispatcher, left last night for Sumter. Mr. A. D. Pridden, of Viola, was in the city yesterday making business calls. Mr. Joseph Armstrong went back yesterday to Horner's Military school, Oxford. Mrs. D. F. Nichols, of Mt. Olive, is a guest of Mrs. J. J. Kelly, on Third and Market streets. Mr. Harlow Bellamy left last night for Philadelphia, where he is taking a course in medicine. Professor David Russell, who has been in Wilson some time, returned to the city last evening. Mr. Burke Bridgers returned on Sunday to Chapel Hill, where he is a student in the state university. Misses Marjita Elliott and Elizabeth Elliott left last evening to re-enter St. Timothy, Baltimore. Miss Maggie Smith, of Whiteville, who has been here on a visit to Miss Lydia Yates, will return home tomorrow. Misses Mary Belle Steed and Lucy Baldwin returned yesterday to the Baptist university for women, at Raleigh. Miss Mary Culbreth, who has been home to spend the holidays with her parents, returned to Littleton Female college yesterday. Miss Zene Croom, of Burgaw, who has been visiting in the city, returned home last evening, much to the regret of her many friends.

Misses Lucy Bridgers, Margaret Bridgers, Beulah Armstrong, and Blanche Chaddour returned yesterday to St. Mary's, Raleigh.

Dr. D. I. Watson, of Southport, delegate from Pythian lodge No. 42 A. F. and A. M., left last night for Raleigh, to attend the grand lodge.

Mr. W. G. Sale, formerly connected with the Western Express Company in this city, but now with the same company in Augusta, is in the city for a few days. He was a close visitor at the Messenger office last night.

Mr. M. J. O'Brien, of New York, president of the Southern Express Company, accompanied by Mr. E. M. Williams, assistant to the president, arrived here Sunday in the private car of the Southern Express, and accompanied by him they left yesterday at 3:45 p. m. for Charleston.

All Millinery at Cost at Johnson's.

Pleasant Incident Last Night. On the first Sabbath of the new year, in the primary department of Grace M. E. church Sunday school, which Mrs. W. H. Shaw is superintendent, a pleasant incident transpired. Masters James Chaston, John N. Cole, Jr., Bryn a Newark, Harry W. Keen, pupils of Miss Pentecost, and Master Walter Benson, Dixie Bowler, Edward Polly, pupil of Miss Hattie Willis, were passed to the intermediate school, in the auditorium.

In behalf of these boys Miss Pentecost expressed their grateful thanks to Mrs. Shaw for her untiring patience, her valuable instruction and ever abiding interest in them, and then presenting to Mrs. Shaw a lovely souvenir spoon of Wilmington, containing an etching of the postoffice building. The gift was presented as a slight token of her appreciation for her earnest labors bestowed on them in the primary department, and was tendered with their best wishes for a very happy new year.

Mrs. Shaw replied in heartfelt words of appreciation for this unexpected mark of esteem. She also thanked Miss Pentecost and Miss Willis for their faithful help in her department of Sunday school work, and closed with expressions of her deep interest in the future spiritual and temporal welfare of each of the noble boys who gave her the souvenir.

The superintendent of Grace Sabbath school is Mr. W. B. Cooper, whose unique business card, sent out to his teachers and patrons was one of the most beautiful of this festive season. It contained lithograph pictures of a charming girl and boy in colonial dress and the card was encircled with lovely passages on a pink background, intertwined in a net work of white and gold tinted leaves.

A Baby Turned Over to the Wrong Man. On Sunday night, about 11 o'clock, Mr. B. A. Orrell had a girl baby left in his house at Ninth and Walnut streets. The little stranger appeared to be about three days old. Whoever it was that brought it, knocked loudly at the door, set the basket containing the baby on the piazza and then ran off before he, she or they could be seen. We do not think Mr. Orrell was served right, as he already has seven children.

31-50 Kid Gloves 1.06 today at Johnson's.

Attend Johnson's Clearing Sale today.

CITY MATTERS.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN LAST NIGHT.

Mayor Waddell Delivers His Annual Message—He Gives a Fine Account of the Achievements During the Term of This Board—During Two Years the Expenditures Were Greater Than Those of the Wright Board, but This Board Collected \$60,000 More Than the Former Board.

The first regular monthly meeting of the board of aldermen for the new year and the twentieth century, was held last night in the mayor's office. The meeting was of more than usual importance, as it was the first since the Mayor's annual message, covering the work of the present municipal administration. He then read his message as follows: THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE.

TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN:— It seems appropriate that, as the chief executive officer of this city, I should lay before you and the public a brief statement of the present condition of the affairs of this municipality. The progress that has been made in the two years of my service as Mayor will be referred to respectively, under the following heads: On the 10th day of November, 1898, when the change of administration occurred, the department of finance which had by wise legislation been left in the hands of a department of responsible tax-payers—every honest and intelligent citizen of the department of the city government and demoralization. This condition of affairs was one of the chief causes of the failure of this city at that time. It is unnecessary to refer in detail to the other causes which led to this state of affairs. Suffice it to say that crime unpunished, official venality and corruption undisguised, and general inefficiency acknowledged, produced the natural and inevitable result in a community of this kind.

As the people of this city might and asserted their right to good government by removing their incompetent and inefficient servants, and substituting for them others in whom they had confidence. These substituted servants have since that time, by their constant and faithful attention to their duties, and by the aid of the Board of Aldermen, have succeeded in restoring to the city a measure of order and efficiency. The necessity for a radical change in the administration of every department of the city government was apparent and pressing, but the resources available were so limited that the reconstruction of larger and more commodious buildings in our leading thoroughfares in this city, which had been contemplated, had to be abandoned.

It is gratifying to see that the work of the Board of Aldermen has been accomplished. The results, I confidently assert, have been such as to have placed the city in a position to meet the future with confidence and courage, and to have avoided the dangers surrounding investment in a city so small as this. The work of the Board of Aldermen, by the change of administration, began to manifest its presence by the construction of larger and more commodious buildings in our leading thoroughfares in this city, which had been contemplated, had to be abandoned.

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and Treasurer, and his assistant, for the diligent and faithful manner in which they have discharged their duties. In this connection I wish to urge upon the board the necessity for a change in the arrangement of the offices of the clerk and treasurer. It ought to be constructed and made a more creditable place for the transaction of the city business, and I hope the chairman of the committee on public buildings will be furnished with the necessary funds directed to make the changes so plainly required in it.

The tax rate in this city (1.75 per cent) is as high as in many other places, as was shown by the comparative statement compiled by the committee on the subject of this year, but we confidently indulge the hope that, even with the increased expense of street and sewerage improvements, it will soon be reduced.

Attention is called to the report of the city engineer, which shows that during the incumbency of the present officer he has collected in back taxes the sum of \$189,000, and in December, 1899, \$27,748.00. His report on back taxes and recommendations in regard to the collection of the same, and the city are commended to your attention.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SEWERAGE.— Next to the restoration of order and good government and the healthy financial condition of the city, perhaps the most important improvement has been that which has been made in connection with streets and sidewalks. The report of the committee on streets and wharves sets forth in detail the work that has been done. From this report it will be seen that never before in the history of the city has such extensive and permanent improvement been made. There is much to be done, of course, but if the rate of progress during the past two years is kept up, it will be but a short time before Wilmington will be able to show as fine streets and drives as any city of its size, and the corresponding improvement in the county roads leading into the city emphasizes the importance of this improvement. The sewerage of the city is a subject that has been called to your attention frequently, and is one that I think demands prompt consideration and action. Lack of means and unwillingness to increase the city debt have retarded the establishment of a modern system of sewerage heretofore, but the intelligence of the community has been awakened, and it is our duty to sustain the board of aldermen in any effort they may make to secure it. There is no other way of doing this than by the adoption of a modern system of sewerage, and I believe that the board of aldermen will be able to secure it.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.— The fire department of the city has for some years been well managed, and is now in a more efficient condition than ever before. It is a pleasure to report to the chief of the department, some of the arrangements that have been made for the betterment of the department. The fire department of the city has for some years been well managed, and is now in a more efficient condition than ever before. It is a pleasure to report to the chief of the department, some of the arrangements that have been made for the betterment of the department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.— The police force is reliable and faithful in the discharge of its duties. It is a pleasure to report to the chief of the department, some of the arrangements that have been made for the betterment of the department. The police force is reliable and faithful in the discharge of its duties. It is a pleasure to report to the chief of the department, some of the arrangements that have been made for the betterment of the department.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.— The following is a report made up by the City Engineer, showing a comparison of receipts and disbursements for two years each of Mayor Waddell's and Mayor Waddell's administration: STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS—CITY OF WILMINGTON.

Apr. 1, '97 Apr. 1, '99 Merchants License Tax \$2,355.50 \$2,400.00 Markets \$4,087.92 \$4,044.83 Public Buildings \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Fire Department \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Sanitary \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Miscellaneous and Extra \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Total \$11,777.32 \$11,777.32

Apr. 1, '97 Apr. 1, '99 Disbursements from Dec. 1, 1896, to Dec. 31, 1897 \$30,886.08 \$30,886.08 Disbursements from Nov. 1, 1898, to Dec. 31, 1899 \$30,886.08 \$30,886.08 Total \$61,772.16 \$61,772.16

Apr. 1, '97 Apr. 1, '99 Streets and Wharves \$27,109.50 \$28,300.00 Public Buildings \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Fire Department \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Sanitary \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Miscellaneous and Extra \$1,200.00 \$1,200.00 Total \$32,729.50 \$32,729.50

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The clerk read a communication from Mr. N. B. Vincent complaining that vehicles blocked Second Street in front of the city hall, and that the Police and Chestnut streets. After considerable discussion, the ordinance as to the arrangement of the streets was amended so as to include "vehicles," and the chief of police was ordered to enforce the ordinance. All vehicles were removed from the streets.

A permit was granted to the Atlantic Coast Line to retain its paint shop on Hanover street, between Second and Third streets. A complaint from Mr. W. N. Harris that following the removal of the corner Third street between Dock and Orange streets, had undermined a brick wall from the Hanover street to the street of the city attorney and the streets and wharves committee.

With reference to the improvements on Fifth street between Dock and Orange streets, it was ordered that the street be declared "open," so that all work be done by the line of the eastern side of the street. A complaint from Mr. W. N. Harris that following the removal of the corner Third street between Dock and Orange streets, had undermined a brick wall from the Hanover street to the street of the city attorney and the streets and wharves committee.

THE CITY CHARTER.— City Attorney J. E. Boscch, who is to be presented to the general assembly for confirmation at this time, stated that the provisions of the charter might be objectionable, and he stated that the matter should be considered by the board of aldermen. The board then adjourned.

THE CONFEDERATE VETERANS.— An interesting meeting last night—The members of the Confederate Veterans Association met last night and visited the Old Soldiers in a Body. Cape Fear Camp No. 254, United Confederate Veterans, held a very interesting monthly session last night in the assembly hall of the army of the Wilmington Division. The meeting was presided over by the commander, James I. Metts, president of the meeting, Adjutant Henry J. S. Carr, and Sergeant Major J. R. P. Hamme, an excellent speaker on the rostrum.

The minutes of the last meeting were read. A letter of acknowledgment was received from W. C. Stronach, secretary and treasurer of the state organization of the Confederate Veterans, acknowledging a contribution of \$25 by this camp for the soldiers' home. Colonel J. S. Carr was read, requesting the appointment of a committee from this camp to visit the Soldiers' Home, and to confer with representatives from other camps, for the purpose of going before the Legislature and securing the appropriation of \$25,000 for the Soldiers' Home and in behalf of the old veterans. The commander appointed a committee consisting of the following: Colonel A. M. Waddell, Captain J. R. P. Hamme, Dr. E. Porter, Major Charles W. Stroman, Major J. H. Bernard, and Commodore Junius Davis and W. J. Woodward.

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The clerk read a communication from Mr. N. B. Vincent complaining that vehicles blocked Second Street in front of the city hall, and that the Police and Chestnut streets. After considerable discussion, the ordinance as to the arrangement of the streets was amended so as to include "vehicles," and the chief of police was ordered to enforce the ordinance. All vehicles were removed from the streets.

A permit was granted to the Atlantic Coast Line to retain its paint shop on Hanover street, between Second and Third streets. A complaint from Mr. W. N. Harris that following the removal of the corner Third street between Dock and Orange streets, had undermined a brick wall from the Hanover street to the street of the city attorney and the streets and wharves committee.

With reference to the improvements on Fifth street between Dock and Orange streets, it was ordered that the street be declared "open," so that all work be done by the line