

An Unwritten Chapter in History.

Cor. State Chronicle.

Raleigh, Nov. 26, 1892.
As the Legislature of North Carolina is soon to assemble in our capital city, I have thought it might interest some of our readers to take them back some fifty or sixty years ago and give them a glimpse of olden times.

It must be borne in mind that, while the state of North Carolina embraced just as much territory then as now, there was no railroad built to the capital city. The members of the general assembly were therefore compelled to rely on the old stage lines from Warrenton, Newbern, Fayetteville, and Hillsboro, or on private conveyances to get to Raleigh. It must be also remembered that some of these stages reached Raleigh only two or three times a week, and no newspaper was printed in Raleigh or North Carolina oftener than once a week. The telegraph had not been heard of, and it was no new thing to read in heavy printed binds the words "Fifteen days later news from Europe."

Many of the members of the general assembly from remote counties had recourse to their own saddle-bags. It was an age of the blood and stock, and as most of these members were selected from the young and ambitious men of the state, there was much rivalry as to who should ride the best looking or fastest horse in Raleigh.

This was well understood at Raleigh. There was no livery here. It was care for so large a number of horses and the farmers in the vicinity came in with propositions to provide for them during the session. It was generally stipulated that the horses should be brought into town every Saturday that the owners might see that full justice was being done to them. The "Locust Tavern," which stood where the residence of Mrs. Geo. W. Swepson now stands, at the corner of Salisbury and Hillsboro streets, was the usual place of meeting, and the Saturday session was cut short that the young members might inspect their favorite steeds. There came the cantering and trotting up and down the street by the country keepers, followed by the owners, and many a spirited horse race was witnessed each Saturday, whose riders' names were borne on the journals of the two houses of the general assembly. Of course much of the business of the town was suspended in order to give the tradesmen and mechanics an opportunity to attend the "Legislative Races."

The members of the general assembly of those days were simply "Esquimaux" and no constituent ever presumed to place "Honorable" before his senator's or commoner's name. I remember that once in the ante-bellum days I consulted a gentleman who had been speaker of the house of commons as to whether he was not entitled to the prefix "Honorable." "No, sir," said he (and he was a man of which the whole state is proud) "only governors, members of congress, the president of the United States and cabinet officers are entitled to that honor. All others are simply 'Esquimaux!'"

With 1840 came the "Fire Wagon" (as our Cherokee Indians term the steam car) drawn by the historic "Tornado," "Whirlwind" and "Spitter," of the Raleigh and Gaston railroad, and the blooded horses of the members gave way to the steam engine, and the members of the general assembly of 1893 who care to recall these races on Hillsboro street will find in the place of the clattering hoofs of former days the whirl of the electric car of today.

J. B. NEATHERY.

A Home Thrust

Had Tracher—"Now little boys, after what I have told you can any you define 'nothing'?" Little York—"Yes, sir, I can." Teacher—"Well, how would you describe it?" Little York—"Please, sir, it's what you've got on the top of your head."—N. C. Teacher.

Hon. W. T. Crawford Married

WAYNESVILLE, N. C., Nov. 30.—Hon. W. T. Crawford, democratic representative of the ninth congressional district, was married today to Inez Coman, a talented Haywood county lady, at a lovely country place near this town. The happy couple left at once for Washington and other northern cities.

What Shall we Read.

BY N. S. STOWELL.

It is of the greatest importance that those who have in charge the training of the young should see to it that their reading is of the proper character; and to control this, it does not by any means follow that only instructive, or, what is thought to be useful, reading should be allowed. There is a curious perversion about human nature that resents the command, "Thou shalt not!" when applied to that which seems to them altogether harmless. One of the wisest of instructors recently remarked that if the reading of history were strictly prohibited, the American youngster would sit up nights to read and study it.

There is a lesson to be learned from this peculiarity of the mind, and one that but few teachers appear to understand. It is a serious error to urge children to give their attention to studies that seem to be dull. Teachers should instead strive to so present the subjects in hand that they will attract the pupil's attention and hold it. Once a taste for historic study and reading is formed, and nothing is as interesting. But the very name of history is usually made a terror; and when one considers the dryness and monotony of most works of this class, there is little wonder that children and young people fail to become interested in them.

Almost all children enjoy listening to stories about people, and this is the best study of history that can be based. To give a few facts about some celebrity of ancient or modern times, then, rouse in the mind an interest in all that the said individual has ever said or done, will often incite the most thorough research, in order to find out additional items and facts concerning the subject under discussion.

History-talks and readings are useful, and in the same way give one a taste for solid and instructive reading; and once the mind is awakened to the fact that there is no romance in the world that can equal the narrations that history gives, and that biography is more entertaining than any but the greatest fiction, no further incentive is necessary.

The most thrilling novel ever written cannot equal in dramatic and tragic interest the story of the conquest of Mexico as told in Prescott's wonderfully fascinating history.

It would be well if some of the noted writers of romance would draw more extensively upon the incidents recorded in the histories of ancient and modern times. Presented in the attractive style of which these writers are capable, such books would very soon supersede much with which the markets are filled.

There is little advantage to any mind in sensational literature and the class of stories that deal with very poor and very beautiful girls who seek employment and are given work in factories where clanging machinery, shrieking steam-whistles, whirring belts and the dull, heavy roar of the shafting as it keeps up its ceaseless revolutions, afford an appropriate background for an exciting tragedy. Either the beautiful girl has her long golden hair caught in a belt, or she slips and is in danger of being crushed, or some equally exciting accident occurs that gives the only son and heir of the millionaire proprietor the opportunity to rescue her and declare his love. Of course, he marries her and loads her with jewels, silks, satins and laces galore.

One story of this sort will entirely unsettle a weak mind. From the hour its reading is finished, some girl who has been told that she is pretty is on the lookout for the accident and the rescue, and the consequences following. It is said that within one year three girls narrowly escaped death and one was killed outright because of the presence of the unmarried junior partner of a large manufacturing establishment. In hope of some providential rescue, one of the girls actually threw herself against a flying belt. The young man caught her, but too late to avoid an injury from which she will never recover. Instead of a wedding-ring, she now wears a steel collar and limps through a ward of a respectable hospital for incurables.

Good fiction is most valuable and delightful reading for young and old, but there is no place for literature that unsettles the mind, destroys the moral and intellectual

balance and turns rational beings into reckless and senseless seekers after adventures.

The full effect of what we habitually read is a matter not yet fully investigated and ascertained. Great results often follow from the perusal of a single article, and for good or evil, books, like companions, affect every one of us.—N. Y. Ledger.

Third Party Promises.

During the campaign Harry Shiner made a speech at Battlesboro in which he predicted that if Cleveland were elected cotton would fall to three cents a pound and labor would bring but six cents a day. Mr. Skinner's judgement as a being capable of reasoning, should be measured by such utterance, and he should be accorded his proper place as a person entirely incapable of arriving at a correct conclusion.—News and Observer.

Macune's Opinion.

The Economist supposed the nomination of Mr. Cleveland, but it bows gracefully to the verdict of the people, and now that the Democratic party will probably come into possession of the whole Government, it shall have a fair chance and everything done or said by Mr. Cleveland or the Democratic party which is calculated to promote good government and benefit the people will be duly reported and interpreted by the Economist, and the decline and death of the people's movement will be hailed with joy. It did because its mission has been accomplished by the Democratic party.—National Economist.

Dr. Scott's Funeral.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—In the east room of the White House where only five weeks ago the sad funeral rites were held over the body of his daughter, Mrs. Harrison, funeral services were held this afternoon over the remains of the venerable Dr. Scott. The services were simple. Besides the President and other relatives of the dead man there were present several hundred other persons, mostly personal friends of the deceased. Services began with prayer by Rev. Dr. Hamlin, of the Church of the Covenant, after which a quartette from Dr. Hamlin's Church, stationed in the Blue room sang "Rock of Ages." Dr. Hamlin then read selected verses from Scriptures and delivered an address on the life of Dr. Scott. The quartette sang "Asleep in Jesus," after which a prayer by Dr. Hamlin closed the services. This evening the body was borne to the Pennsylvania station by the ushers of the White House, and about seven o'clock a special train left conveying the President, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Harrison, Mrs. McKee-Leutenant and Mrs. Parker and Russell Scott who accompanied the remains to Washington, Penn., where the interment will take place tomorrow morning. The funeral party will return to this city at once.

The Statesville Landmark says that at the recent election J. N. Sherill, of Catawba county, walked up and voted the Third party ticket and called out to know who would kill his vote. His son, M. F. Sherill, responded that he would, and following along after his father voted the straight Democratic ticket. The young man also told his father that he (the father) had trained him up in the way in which he should go, and now that he had come to the years of discretion he did not propose to depart from the Democratic faith.

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Shot Through the Heart.

A post mortem examination held yesterday over Wm. Tillman, colored, who was mortally wounded last Friday night by Ben Huskins, revealed the remarkable fact that the bullet, a (32 calibre) had passed the negro's heart, notwithstanding which he lived from Friday night until Tuesday afternoon. The bullet, Dr. Wilder says, passed the right ventricle of the heart. From the point of entrance to the exit was two inches. The bullet did not pass directly through the centre of the ventricle, but rather in an oblique direction. The track of the ball from the entrance of the ventricle to its exit was three quarters of an inch. The post mortem was held by Dr. H. M. Wilder, assisted by Drs. Faison and Montgomery. The

astonishing fact revealed by it was an interesting theme of discussion yesterday amongst the medical fraternity. Such an occurrence has been known in medical science but rarely—never before in this country. The negro was up and walking about the morning after he was shot. Dr. Paul Barringer, of the University of Virginia, who is at present in the city, says there is no record of such a remarkable wound occurring on either side during the late war—it is the first instance he has ever known a man being shot through the heart and living for any period of time over a few minutes. Dr. Barringer will take the heart to the University of Virginia to be placed with the specimens in the medical department.—Charlotte Observer.

If you feel weak and all your feet take BROWN'S IRON BITTERS

Important Cases.

There is a case of grave importance before the Supreme Court. It is from Duplin, and is to define the question as to whether the school tax shall be sufficient to keep the public school open four months in the year, as required by the Constitution, no matter if it does exceed 25-3 cents on the valuation of property and \$2 on the poll, as required by the law. There is coming up another case of exceeding importance. This is to settle the question as to whether the school taxes shall be disbursed as now in the counties where they are raised, or shall be sent to the State Treasury and then disbursed parata among the school population. Some able men say the latter is the proper course, and that the present law is unconstitutional. It is a delicate question. The matter has been before the Legislature twice. Once it nearly passed the House.—Charlotte News.

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When a man drowning he will grasp at straws, but straws will not save him. Extend to him a life-boat and his rescue is certain. James A. Greer, of Athens, Ga. (endorsed by the editor of the Athens Banner-Watchman) makes the following statement: "I am first cousin of the late ex-Governor Alexander H. Stephens, and have been postal clerk on different railroads since 1862. For ten years I have been a sufferer from cancer, which grew worse until the discharge of matter became profuse and very offensive. I became thoroughly disgusted with blood purifiers and pronounced them humbugs, as I had tried many without relief. Finally I was induced to use Botanic Blood Palm (B. B. B.) The offensive discharge decreased at once and the hardness disappeared. It became less and less in size until nothing remained except a scar. I gained flesh and strength, and all who have seen me bear testimony. I can not say too much in its praise."

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