

ANNEXATION OR INDEPENDENCE.

A few days ago the statement was telegraphed over the country that Mr. McKinley was exceedingly anxious to see civil government established in Cuba, and to call our troops home. This was intended for effect at home, where there is much dissatisfaction with the dilly-dallying in Cuba, and the failure to fix any time for recalling our troops and recognizing the independence of that island. There are abundant evidences that the expansion boomers, who are now urging the expenditure of many millions of dollars and thousands of lives to establish American supremacy over the Philippines, also have their eyes on Cuba and have no idea of recognizing her independence if any pretext can be found for not doing so.

There are a great many people in this country who do not believe the Cubans are fit for self-government, as there are a great many who believe that the people of none of the republics south of us are fit for self government, and they are probably correct, and it will in all probability be a long time before they are. The Cubans are just about as fit for self-government as any of these. That is none of our business. But this will be the pretext for refusing to recognize their independence and for finally absorbing the island and calling it annexation. —Wilmington Star.

"If cotton goes to 10 cents, as it now looks like it will," remarked Col. A. C. Davis, of Goldsboro, at the depot, "the raising of tobacco in eastern North Carolina will be a thing of the past. The people in that section like cotton farming better than they do tobacco raising. They take to it as naturally as a duck does to water." —News-Observer.

The price of tobacco is low—too low. The acreage in tobacco will be greatly reduced unless it goes up in price, resulting probably in a big crop of cotton next year and lower prices. Tobacco is selling too cheap, and its cheapness is due to the American Tobacco Trust. Down with the trusts!

According to Robert P. Pattison, president of a Pennsylvania life insurance company, there are 15,000,000 people who carry life insurance in this country, or about one to every family, and the aggregate amount they carry would buy every railroad, with its equipment, on the continent and leave a balance of \$3,000,000,000.

Every pound of cotton manufactured in the mills of the south is that much better for the farmer that depends on cotton as a money crop, and those of them who are so fortunate as to have surplus capital could not possibly do better than invest it in cotton mills, truly says the Durham Herald.

Lizards That Grow New Eyes.
The tuatara lizard of New Zealand is said to be one of the most ancient forms of animal life now existing. It originally possessed four eyes, but now has to be contented with but two. It lays eggs, and these take no less than 18 months to hatch out, the embryos passing the winter in a state of hibernation.

These remarkable animals are found only in one or two places in the colony, and they are rapidly becoming scarce, as collectors from every part of the world are continually on their track. They are about 18 inches in length, and, like many of the lizards, are said to have the characteristic of being able to replace portions of their limbs, etc., which have been destroyed. One owned by Mr. Carl Hanser of Awanui had the misfortune to lose an eye some time ago, and now a complete new eye, as perfect as the undamaged one, has grown in the place of that lost.

While the eye was developing the lizard seemed to be no more inconvenienced than a human being is in the growing of finger nails or hair.

Action repeated becomes habit. Habit long continued becomes second nature. We are today what we were accustomed to do yesterday and the day before. —Lyman Abbott

Hotel Life in Washington.

At breakfast the other morning a Washington young woman found a little note at her plate saying that her aunt had arrived from the east the night before and was at a well known hotel. About 9 o'clock she went to the hotel indicated and asked the clerk whether the newcomer had been down to breakfast yet. The clerk informed her that he did not believe she had been down and offered to send up a card.

"Oh, never mind doing that!" she replied. "You just tell me the number of her room, and I will go up."

"No. —," promptly replied the clerk, and the young woman took the elevator. Upon arriving at the door of No. —, instead of rapping, she softly put her ear to the door and listened in order that she might not disturb her aunt if she were asleep. She heard no noise and so took out one of her cards, and after writing, "Will come again at 10—Jane," she tied a little bunch of flowers to it and left it on the knob, where it would fall into the doorway when the door was opened.

At 10 o'clock she came again. The clerk had not seen her aunt and did not believe that she had left her room. So, after looking about the parlors in vain, she went to the door of No. — and softly tapped.

"Who is it?" came a gruff voice, and at the same time a man opened the door and stepped out into the hall.

"Oh, you are the party who was coming again at 10, are you?" continued the man smilingly. "Well, what can I do for you?"

"Nothing, thank you," she replied, "unless you come down stairs and help me thrash that hotel clerk." —Washington Post.

Some Cases of Kleptomania.

Here are some striking cases of kleptomania: A series of thefts was committed in some of the best houses in New York. The culprit turned out to be a young woman connected by birth and marriage with the owners. Thereafter, when from a household which she had visited anything was missed, the owner would go to her, kiss her and ask it back. It was quite a family matter.

At that time there was a journalist about town who was both a social favorite and an able man. He kept a bachelor establishment in which it was his amiable habit to entertain those who had entertained him. There of an afternoon or of an evening people would gather and take back from his drawing room things which he had taken from theirs. There was never a word exchanged on the subject. Perfect courtesy prevailed.

Then there was a young fellow whose name figures in the early history of the United States. At a dinner which he attended a ring handed about for inspection disappeared. So much was said that later he returned it with a statement to the effect that it had caught in the lining of his sleeve. A few days afterward we heard Talboys—dead since, but not forgotten—ordering a coat of a tailor whom we patronized in common and expressly stipulating that it should not have that kind of sleeve.

In each of these instances the case belonged not to jurisprudence, but to pathology. Kleptomania is a disease, like influenza, only, thank fortune, less catching. —Collier's Weekly.

A Good Story of Landseer.

Landseer, riding down Bond street, saw the following notice in a picture dealer's shop window, "A Fine Landseer on View Within." He went into the shop and asked to see the "Fine Landseer." The dealer, who did not recognize him, proudly pointed out the work. It was rather an early one. The dealer was, of course, loud in its praise.

"And how much do you want for it?" said Landseer.

"Two thousand guineas, sir," was the reply.

"Two thousand guineas! That seems a long price for an early work."

"I could not take a shilling less," said the dealer. "He's gone, sir," touching his forehead significantly.

"He's out of his mind. He'll never paint another."

"Is he indeed?" said Landseer. "I'm very sorry to hear that." And as he was coming away he noticed a large picture by Stanfield.

"May I ask what you want for this Stanfield?"

"That, sir, is also 2,000 guineas."

"What!" said Landseer, touching his forehead and imitating the dealer's gesture. "Is Stanfield gone too?"

An Unpleasant Diet.

Mr. Dukane—Jonesy indulged in a Ungulstic diet yesterday.

Mr. Galswell—What do you mean by that?

Mr. Dukane—Northside made him eat his words.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

DR. H. D. HARRICK.
DENTAL SURGEON.
KINSTON, N. C.

OFFICE OVER DAN QUINERLY'S, IN THE MORELBY BUILDING, NEXT TO J. A. PRIDGEN'S STORE.

JOHN F. STRATTON'S
Celebrated GUITARS.

Importer and Wholesale Dealer in all kinds of MUSICAL MERCHANDISE.
Send for Catalogue JOHN F. STRATTON CO. 62 GRAND ST. NEW YORK.

New Carpets

We are just in receipt of our NEW SAMPLES OF CARPETS in all grades for the coming season. It will be to your advantage to make an early inspection of them, even though you do not intend to purchase until later. You will find our goods and prices compare favorably with those of any H. use in the country, as we are direct agents for the largest manufacturers in the United States.

We are in a position to quote special prices for Hotels, Lodge Rooms and Churches.

Carpets may be cut at the Mills and laid on your floor two days after placing the order.

COX & CO.

...dealers in...

Dry Goods, Clothing,
Furnishing Goods,
Mattings, Rugs,
Carpets, &c.,
KINSTON, - N. C.

JOHN F. STRATTON CO.

Importer & Wholesale Dealer in all kinds of MUSICAL MERCHANDISE,
Violins, Guitars, Banjos, Accordions,
Harmonicas. All kinds of Strings, &c.
Send for JOHN F. STRATTON CO. Catalogue. 62 GRAND ST. NEW YORK.

At Cost
For Cash.

A \$2,500 to \$3,000 Stock
of Goods.

Having bought out the stock of Redditt & Lee, I offer the entire stock AT AND BELOW COST,

Commencing
September 28th,

and continuing until the stock is disposed of. At the low prices offered no goods will be delivered except at the store and none will be charged to anybody.

Remember that the entire stock will go AT AND BELOW COST. The stock consists of good lines of

Dry Goods, Notions

Hats, Shoes, Groceries, Crockery, Tinware and small lines of Hardware and Drugs.

Mr. Lee will continue with us until the stock is closed out and will then resume business at the old stand for himself.

The object of the sale is to close out the entire stock as the undersigned will retire from business.

All parties indebted to Redditt & Lee are requested to come forward at once and settle their accounts. All who have claims against the firm of Redditt & Lee are requested to present them for settlement.

S. M. REDDITT.

Comfort, Durability and Style

are what you want in a pair of shoes.

Try a pair of our Patent Leather VICIS, and you get all three combined. We have them in button or lace, Price \$5.

To make room for fall stock we will reduce the price of every pair of Tan Shoes in stock.

A few pair of John Kelly's Ladies' Fine Shoes. Former price was \$3; they go now at.....\$2.25.

All new styles. Come quick, as they wont last long.

DAN QUINERLY,

Queen Street.

KINSTON, N. C.

Patronize Home
and Save Money!

The hose and half-hose made by the ORION MILLS, Kinston, N. C., are not only economical for you to wear, because of their fine wearing qualities and comfortableness, but they are made at home. The manufacture of them gives employment to people right in Kinston. Every dealer ought to handle them.

Be sure to insist on having goods made at the ORION MILLS. By doing so you will not only save money, but will be helping a home industry.

DR. THOS. H. FAULKNER,
DENTIST.

Office Hours: 8 a. m. to 6 p. m.
Rooms over the Bank of Kinston.

Good Printing

is always done by design, never by accident. It requires intelligence, but need not be high-priced. Our superior Job Printing costs no more than what you are paying for poor or medium work. See our samples.

FREE PRESS, Kinston, N. C.

PRINTING
ADVANCED!

Prices of papers and envelopes have advanced largely in price, and the tendency is still upward. However, we will do printing at the following low prices until forced to raise prices again by a still further advance in cost of materials:

LARGE NOTE HEADS.	STATEMENTS.
250 for only.....75c.	250 for only.....75c.
500 " " ..\$1.00.	500 " " ..\$1.00.
1,000 " " .. 1.65.	1,000 " " .. 1.65.
5,000 " " .. 6.25.	5,000 " " .. 6.25.

LETTER HEADS.	ENVELOPES.
250 for only...\$1.00.	250 for only.....\$50.
500 " " .. 1.40.	500 " " ..\$1.25.
1,000 " " .. 2.00.	1,000 " " .. 2.00.
5,000 " " .. 8.75.	5,000 " " .. 8.75.

BILL HEADS.
(at and 6c. half of each.)
250 sheets for only.....75c.
500 " " " ..\$1.00.
1,000 " " " .. 1.65.
5,000 " " " .. 6.25.

The above prices include paper (or material) and printing, and are for ordinary jobs. In the few cases where fancy or difficult setting is required the cost will be slightly higher.

If Note Heads, Statements, Bill Heads and Letter Heads are desired put up in pads the cost will be 15 cents per 1,000 extra, or 10 cents for 500 extra.

The above prices are for good material. We have fine material at increased prices. We guarantee neat, tasty, elegant printing—better than you can get in most small cities.

To obtain good printing at low prices send your orders, accompanied by the cash, to

THE FREE PRESS,
KINSTON, N. C.

Your orders will be filled promptly and satisfactorily.