

The Southport Leader.

Entered according to postal regulations at the postoffice at Southport, N. C., as second class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION,
 THREE MONTHS..... 35 Cents.
 SIX MONTHS..... 60 Cents.
 ONE YEAR..... \$1.00
 Sent by Mail. Payable in advance.

Give postoffice address in full, including county and State.
 Remit by draft, postoffice order, or registered letter, at our risk.

Advertising rates furnished on application.

No communication will be printed in the LEADER without the name of the writer being known to the editors.

Obituary or death notices, of five lines, subject to editorial revision, free. Longer notices, subject to approval, to be paid for in advance.

THE LEADER cannot return rejected manuscripts, no matter what their character may be. To this rule no exception will be made with regard to either letters or inclosures. Nor will the editor enter into any correspondence respecting rejected communications. All matter not inserted is destroyed.

STEVENS & FARRELL

Editors and Proprietors.

SOUTHPORT, Brunswick Co., N. C.

SOUTHPORT, N. C., SEPTEMBER 24, 1891.

THE GRAND JURY'S REPORT.

The report made last week, at the Fall term of the Superior Court of Brunswick County, by the Grand Jury, cannot but impress all who read it as a report which unhesitatingly records matters as they appeared to the jurors. Its brevity is worthy of imitation by future juries. The fact that the report was not handed in until after the court had adjourned, Judge McIver waiting over one night to receive it, indicates that the jurors looked carefully into the condition of the Courthouse and Jail, and reported the actual condition of these buildings without fear or favor. These conditions agree perfectly with the LEADER'S accounts, which have been so often published in these columns.

The Grand Jury's report on the Jail is short—"in bad condition and totally insufficient as a jail"—and its recommendation, without apology or words, is equally concise in condemning it, with no appeals for mercy in the shape of a few dollars, to prolong its already too long existence.

The Code of North Carolina is rather explicit, when it says (Section 782): "There shall be kept and maintained in good and sufficient repair in every County a Courthouse and common Jail," and certainly the jury's report differs widely from the Code, as regards the present state of the Courthouse and Jail, and its recommendation is in accordance with the conditions and law in the matter.

On the Courthouse the jurors probably found so many things needing repairs that they could particularize only in one case. Their report indicates plainly enough what ought to be done, and the recommendation to make such "general" and "necessary repairs" thorough is well put in. The jury evidently do not believe in half-way measures, even in repairing County buildings.

In the report on the Home for the Aged and Infirm there seems to be some question on the suitability of the buildings. This should be looked into and provided for; but the inmates seem to be well cared for. It would have been well if the jury had given closer attention to Judge McIver's most admirable charge to them on the conditions and surroundings of the County poor, and recommended in accordance. While the inmates of the Home are unfortunate, it should be the pleasure, as well as the duty, of the County to see to it that their situation is made as pleasant as possible, and all the comfort given them which the name of "home" would signify. The Commissioners can act in the matter if they will. If there were no recommendations, the Code is plain enough for the County Commissioners' guidance, and surely, with this report, there can be no question of the Commissioners' duty in the matter of seeing these recommendations faithfully carried out. The County

jail should have been declared a nuisance by the city authorities long ago, and ordered removed.

Unless this disgusting building is cleared away at once, the city should act in the matter, and have the County nuisance removed. Why the County should be entitled to the privilege of keeping such an offensive building and surroundings, is not clear.

IN STATU QUO OR WORSE.

The bill for the County seat removal, as passed by the last Legislature, has been declared by an eminent authority, as deficient in its expression, hence in the absence of expressed conditions, the Code of North Carolina would govern the points not mentioned or expressed in the bill as passed last winter. Accepting, therefore the opinion of this eminent authority, that the bill does not abrogate the law of the Code governing such proposed County seat removals, as Brunswick County's, it may be well to notice the law and line of procedure which must be followed to make any action legal, looking towards a removal of the County seat of Brunswick.

First, a majority of the County Commissioners in session, must decide for removal, secondly, a majority of the County Commissioners and Magistrates of the County, in joint session must decide for removal, and so instruct the County Commissioners to call for an election of the qualified voters of the County, which, thirdly, must be held after due notice of such an election has been advertised.

At the Commissioners meeting, the vote on the question of removal, resulted in a tie, Mr. Chinis not arriving until after the meeting, hence there was actually no question to be brought before the joint session of Magistrates and Commissioners, which had been called for, and which the assembled Magistrates from all over the county were here to attend. The verbal notification to the Chairman of the Board of Magistrates by the Chairman of the County Commissioners, of the action of the Commissioners in the matter of removal was ignored, and the meeting of a minority of the Commissioners and a majority of the Magistrates was held, as noted in these columns last week.

The proceedings or actions taken by this meeting cannot be considered as legal, and any suit undertaken to sustain them will be unwise, causing an increased bad feeling, and a loss of money to those instituting such a suit. The absenteeism practiced by certain of the Commissioners from the meeting is not to be commended, and such an action cannot but be hurtful to their cause and provoke unfavorable criticism.

The LEADER has not believed in evading this County seat issue at any time. It has questioned whether it was the mind of the majority of the people to wish to vote on the question, but was anxious to have it determined and settled, in order to get the County into some progressive line of action which would result in the general advancement and welfare of the people, instead of contentions within our borders which can only result in hindering the material prosperity of the people, and keep the County back in its struggle for advancement.

The present conditions in Brunswick County are not favorable for any further disturbance at present on this question. Let the County's debts be paid, and the law observed in the matter of its present County buildings, before any further indebtedness be made. If it can be shown at any time that the wish of the people is to change the County seat, let the processes towards a determination of the question be done openly and in order, and until that time, it is the duty of every citizen to work for the material development, the educational advancement, and the general prosperity of his County of Brunswick. Let us put away bickerings and disagreements, and get to work and accomplish something.

THE EUROPEAN BREAD SUPPLY.

While every week brings yet more conclusive evidence of a great and perhaps unprecedented shortage of wheat and rye in Europe, and of a harvest that has never been surpassed, if indeed it has ever been equaled, it does not necessarily follow that famine prices will prevail on either side of the water. But a small per cent. of the European population is compelled to eat wheat bread whether cheap or dear.

The rye eating population of the

continent will regard it as a hardship to use wheat bread as a substitute for rye and will only do it when rye costs more than wheat; so much is diet a matter of habit. When the Southern planter in ante-war times chose the corn bread on the table for himself and declared wheat bread was fit only for "niggers," he gave a fine illustration of the old proverb: "There is no disputing about tastes." The old world people have their tastes and habits formed, and, while it would require a very large advance in price to diminish the consumption of wheat per capita in America, a very little advance in Europe will cause her people to make a little wheat go a great ways. Wheat and flour have for many years been wonderfully cheap in Europe. Not only has the price of wheat and flour been cheap, but bread made from American flour is far cheaper even in remote country places than in the cities of America surrounded by the fields where the grain is grown.

While the consumption of wheat bread has been enormous of recent years because it has been cheap beyond all precedent, it does not follow that it will continue with any material advance in prices. The laboring classes, which make up the great bulk of the population, will not use wheat bread a day longer than it continues to be the cheapest form of food. All last winter Europe was shipping us potatoes and taking our wheat in exchange, and the farmer was making a nice profit in the transaction. He will do so long as he can sell his potatoes at home at a price above that for which he can buy our bread there and no longer. The percentage of Europeans who will use wheat bread at a high price is very small, while in America it comprises almost the whole population of the Northern States. If we had a short crop in America and only the local demand to supply, the height to which wheat would go would be guided entirely by the shortness of supply. It is quite otherwise when we are supplying nations with a vast population that live on whatever is cheapest and figure very closely on the cost of living.

We submit these considerations to the farmers and speculators who imagine that because America has a large crop of wheat and rye and Europe a very light crop, therefore it is possible for the farmers of the United States to run a gigantic corner on bread and say to the unfortunate nations, "pay us our price or starve." They will do neither, because they are obliged to do neither. Neither will they take our corn at famine prices. Cheap as it has been until the last twelve months, Europe does not use much of it for bread. For this there are probably two reasons, one that they have not learned how to cook it, the other and most potent because they regard it as cattle and pig food and use it mainly for that purpose. If, however, wheat advanced greatly in price corn meal with potatoes would find a large place in the wheat loaf, and to this extent keep down the price of wheat and flour.

Under these conditions how foolish it is for the American farmer to think that he can take advantage of the necessities of the European laborer and extort famine prices for bread. Should the speculator conclude to do so and corner the bread of the world, he would only inflict irreparable damage on the American farmer by pushing the price beyond the exporting point and leaving us with a surplus to carry over to the next year's crop and drag down future prices. It must, however, be borne in mind that the price of wheat has for years been abnormally low, the result of bringing into cultivation an empire of wheat land in advance of the demand of the population for bread.

While wheat at a dollar a bushel is counted high, and is high, as compared with recent years, it has only reached what was formerly regarded as its nominal price. Forty years ago a dollar was regarded by the farmers as the lowest point of profitable wheat production. The cost in labor is as great now as then. Much of it is produced on cheaper lands, but the cost of freight to the mills from these cheaper lands very nearly balances the account. From the producer's standpoint wheat is not high by any means. Whether the farmer will reap the benefits of his large crop depends on the way it is marketed. If the bulk of it is rushed to market, blocking the railroads and overflowing the elevators, speculators, who see it will all be needed, will not hesitate to bear

the price and buy the superabundance as cheap as possible. If speculation puts the price beyond the ability or willingness of Europe to pay and export ceases, an accumulation must take place that must sometime be worked off at lower figures than those now current. If prices are kept at as high a point as Europe will take the crop, that point being determined by the demand and supply, and exportation continues as it has at the rate of 5,000,000 bushels a week, the big crop of America will be a blessing both to the American farmer and the European consumer. So long as the action of the markets is normal, as it is now, the farmer runs no risk in holding his wheat, as the price will naturally advance with the season. If he is in need of funds he can sell now at a good profit. Any attempt to corner the market, whether made by the farmer or by the speculator, must result in serious damage to the whole country. The wheat growers do not have Europe under their thumb by any means, but they are in a position to turn an honest penny and make money in growing wheat.—Des Moines, Ia., Homestead.

PRESS COMMENTS.

The *Tradesman*, of the 15th inst., is an edition especially on cotton seed oil, cotton mills and cotton generally, and is not only interesting reading, but also very valuable and instructive in its facts and figures. Every farmer and business man can read this issue with pleasure and profit.

PROFIT-SHARING.

In England twenty firms adopted profit-sharing in 1890, bringing the total number in which profit-sharing, pure and simple, is practiced, up to forty-seven.

The South Metropolitan Gas Co., of London, is one of the last large firms to adopt it. In the winter the company employs 3,500 men, and 2,000 in the summer. The system was begun by a present from the company to every man who had been in its employ June 30, 1889, and would sign an agreement not to leave it for three months. This gift varied with each man's term of previous service.

The amount was credited on the company's books to each workman, to draw four per cent. interest for five years. In June, 1890, about 1,500 men were entitled to share in the scheme, and the sum they received reached about \$25,000.

Already a great improvement is seen in the men's work. They are more diligent, and see and suggest ways of saving expense.

In other English firms the results are equally good. In France, where the movement began, it continues to grow rapidly. Wherever it is fairly tried, whether through cash payments, credit in provident funds or presents of the company's stock, the outlook is sure to be encouraging.

A system under which the humblest toiler, in just measure with the man of more brains or skill, sees his work recognized, and knows that, good or bad, it affects the total result, must be better than old methods.

A man's ambition cannot last long when its bounds, in wages and narrow opportunities, shut him and his family in on every side. If it can be quickened by profit-sharing or any other just plan, by all means let the plan be tried.—Youth's Companion.

THE SOUTHPORT LEADER \$1 a year.

WILMINGTON ADVERTISEMENTS.

WILMINGTON MARBLE YARD,
 JOHN MAUNDER, Proprietor.
 WILMINGTON, N. C.
 North Front Street.
 MONUMENTS AND GRAVE STONES MADE TO ORDER.

WANTED. WANTED.

100 BARRELS SALT MULLETS.
 Highest market price paid by **SAMUEL BEAR, Sr.,**
 No. 12 Market Street, WILMINGTON, N. C.

FISHBLATE The King Clothier.

With an entire new stock of ready made

CLOTHING

MEN, YOUTHS, BOYS and CHILDREN

Fitted in the latest styles and newest patterns for Fall and Winter Wear.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

S. H. FISHBLATE,
 WILMINGTON, N. C.

WE THANK

the people of Southport and Brunswick County for their liberal patronage in the past.

In continuing our style of doing business, good value at one price, We hope to merit the same in the future. We expect a very large trade in the fall and desire the people of Brunswick to be liberal patrons.

FOR THE PRESENT
 We offer our entire Stock of Summer Goods at 10 per cent above cost.

Our Sample and Mail order department, will be complete in the future. Orders solicited. Respectfully,

J. T. HEDBICK.

ALDERMAN & FLANNER.

Importers and Wholesale DEALERS IN

HARDWARE, STOVES, TINWARE, Etc.

No. 114 North Front Street

WILMINGTON, N. C.

CLOSING OUT.

We are now closing out our summer

HATS AND FLOWERS

at and below cost. Any one in need of a Hat can get it at their own price.

One of our buyers has been in New York over two weeks buying all the jobs and cheap goods he can find.

The goods are coming in and we will be able to sell you goods

AT PRICES

that will astonish everyone for the next sixty days. We will then open our New Store, which is twice as large as the one we now occupy.

MATTING

We have a special drive in Matting which we are selling at 22 cents per yard, worth 30 cents. Also a job lot for 16 cents, worth 20 cents. These Mattings were bought at Auction Sale.

Come and see us before you are too late for the Bargains.

RACKET STORE,
 Opposite Front Street Market, WILMINGTON, N. C.

Men's Furnishings ARE

FLOURISHING AT

NAUMBURG'S
 113 Princess Street.

HEADQUARTERS
 for Negligee Shirts.

—H T U R T—

I Am The Only Strictly Retail Dealer In Fine

BOOTS, SHOES AND SLIPPERS

IN WILMINGTON.

I sell no shoddy goods, but sell as fine all leather shoes as are manufactured in the United States.

L. L. GREENEWALD,
 113 Market Street, Wilmington, N. C.

HEINSBERGER

THE LIVE BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER.

ALSO DEALER IN

Fancy Goods, Wedding Presents, Oil Paintings, Steel Engravings, Chromos.

Pianos, Organs, Guitars,

Violins, Brass Instruments, Etc., Etc.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

THE ORION

WILMINGTON, N. C.

The Favorite Hotel for all Northern Travel.

QUIET,

ELEGANT,

HOMELIKE.

"THE ORTON"

Caters to the highest class of patronage with Cuisine and Service equal to any in the South.

Careful attention paid to Business Men and Tourists.

Rates: \$2 per day and upwards.
J. E. MONTAGUE, Manager.

IREDELL MEARES,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Office, 17 Princess Street

WILMINGTON, N. C.

Practices in all State and Federal Courts

ELEGANT

CROCKERY,

GLASSWARE,

LAMPS and

HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS,

Chamber, Dinner and Tea Sets

a Specialty.

S. A. SCHLOSS & CO.

21 and 23 Market Street.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

W. MUNROE & CO.

Dealers in

FURNITURE.

CARPETS,

BEDDING, &c.

No. 10 South Front Street,

WILMINGTON, N. C.