

**Oxford Free Lance.**

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

The only Democratic Journal published at the County Seat of Granville. Fearless exponent of true Democratic principles. The determined Enemy of all Rings and Cliques, and the steadfast advocate of Reform and Retrenchment in County, State and National Administrations.

OXFORD, N. C.:  
FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1878.

**NOT THE RIGHT KIND.**

Our Representative in Congress, Hon. J. J. Davis, never lets an opportunity pass of defending his section from the many false aspersions cast upon it by Northern members. In his speech on the Mexican war veterans pension bill, Mr. Davis referred to certain of the members who by their remarks tried to keep alive the bitterness engendered by the war. "I find it curious to observe," said Mr. Davis, "that all these men protest that all they say and all they do is in a spirit of great kindness and love and reconciliation, and covered by the broadest canopy of charity. Sir, I do not like Job's reconciliation. Job said to Amasa, 'Art thou in health, my brother?' and then, under the cover of a perfidious embrace, he stabbed him to death. I do not like that reconciliation which is constantly reminding Southern members that they have been traitors, and charging them with all sorts of crimes."

**ADJOURNED RAILROAD MEETING.**

On Saturday next a very important Railroad meeting will take place in Oxford. We say very important, for the reason that the action that will be taken that day by those interested in this matter may determine definitely the question whether we are to have a railroad or not. With the present unprecedented low price of iron and of provisions, and the certainty that we can get convict labor as much as we might require on the most favorable terms are propitious indications, and seem to put our citizens on the tide that will lead to the getting of the much coveted railroad, provided, of course, that those of them who have means will come forward and do their duty in the premises. Of course, unless the capitalists here are willing to make a reasonable expenditure for the purpose of getting railroad facilities, every enterprise looking to such a result will end in utter failure.

No amount of words, no amount of eloquence will build one foot of railroad unless followed up by subscriptions of money. To talk of getting a railroad from Oxford to Henderson is as baseless as a dream without active effort and liberal subscriptions on the part of those to whom the advantages of the road would chiefly accrue by reason of their large interest in real estate.

We appeal to these persons, the large real estate owners, to buckle on their armor and be ready on Saturday next to do something practical to show the masses that they desire the road, and then, that portion of the masses who are able to do anything we feel assured will do their duty in this matter. We trust the meeting on Saturday will be largely attended and that wisdom and harmony of counsel will prevail.

What are our property owners? Will they build the road or let it sleep the sleep that know no waking. If they determine to do their duty as one man Oxford will enter on a career of prosperity that will shed its benefits to all parts of the county.

**THE BOND QUESTION.**

Dr. Rice, special correspondent of the Raleigh News, writing from Oxford under date of March 13th, has the following to say in regard to politics in Granville;

"Dissensions, disorganization, and complete demoralization prevail in the republican party, and the democrats are determined in the near future to wrest the government of the county from the hands which have so long mismanaged its affairs. This could have been done long ago, by a very simple process, viz: by democrats refusing to sign the bonds of republican officers. But for this material aid, the offices would now be filled by democrats. What is the difference between voting for a republican and acting as surety for the faithful performance of his duty? Let the democratic bondsmen of republican office holders in North Carolina answer if they can."

While we cannot altogether agree with the Doctor in his statements as to the "complete demoralization" of the radical party in Granville, yet we can heartily substantiate him in the assertion that the Democrats have resolved, if possible, to drive the rads in ignominious disgrace from the offices they have so long mismanaged, and that the prospects are remarkably cheering for such a result.

In the latter portion of the extract he strikes the key note of the entire position—a note we have been sounding for the past month in the LANCE and one which we honestly think is to prove of more value and force than all the other arguments we can use in the coming campaign. As we have already said, without this Democratic aid scarcely a rad in the county can give a good bond, and what excuse then can be made for such democrats as shall in the future assist in keeping any of the miserable crew in office.

Better, far better, that every democrat disposed so to get should at once fall into radical line. His vote will do us much less harm than his name upon a Radical official bond—for the first we can neutralize, while the latter utterly nullifies the united efforts of our entire party.

**DR. GRISSOM AND THE INSANE ASYLUM.**

With a few exceptions the press of North Carolina, representing the great mass of the people of the State, are outspoken in denunciation of the Directors in retaining Dr. Grissom as Superintendent of the Insane Asylum. The "Newbernian" talks in this wise on the subject;

"This action of the Board is not in accord with the desires or wishes of a large majority of the Democratic party in this State, nor with the promises made during the campaign of 1876. We have no personal bias or prejudice against Dr. Grissom, but we do think his past actions and affiliations in the darkest hour of North Carolina's history, when she was encompassed on every side by bitter and uncompromising partisans, should be sufficient ground to warrant his removal. The same spirit of hate that raised the mailed hand of a Kirk and a Burgen against us, and put the iron heel of military despotism upon our necks, originally elevated Dr. Grissom to the position he now occupies by the sanction and consent of a Democratic Directory. It was generally understood in the last campaign that reform in every department and office was the chart and compass by which the Democratic party was to be guided, and that in the event of victory the Augean stables were to be purged, swept and cleansed, and that none but Democrats, pure and undefiled, were to be put on guard from the officer of the day down to the sentinel that walks his beat. How have these promises been kept and fulfilled? We do not speak of Dr. Grissom alone, though his retention is the most glaring disregard of the wishes of the Democracy on record. Who in this State heard the voice of Dr. Grissom in the troublous times, when all the sacred rights of North Carolina were jeopardized and imperilled by the bold, bad men then in power? Who heard him speak one word in her behalf when that vindictive, vengeful, disappointed arch conspirator, Holden, had her in his grasp? Why was his voice silent and hushed, while the prayers of Bragg, Graham, Moore, Manly, Merrimon, Fowle Vance and all the good men of the State from the mountains to the seashore were being offered up for her redemption from the coils of her enemies and the machinations of her evil rulers? Why was Dr. Grissom's voice silent then, if he was not acting in concert with them, sharing in their ill gotten gains, and giving his countenance

and consent by his silence? It is said that we should forgive our enemies and those who despitefully use us; certainly, but prudence should teach us to so circumstantiate them that there will be no need of forgiveness in the future. It will be said by some that it was not his province to take part in these troubles. It is the province of every good citizen to raise his voice and his arms at all times in defence of his State to avert any impending calamity. It is to be presumed that there are numbers of Democrats in the medical fraternity, good men and true, who never have been, nor can be led astray by the glitter and glare of office, and who are amply qualified to fill this position. Then why retain Dr. Grissom? He may be all right now, but he certainly was all wrong a few short years since, and it is reasonable to suppose if the opportunity offers and he is again tempted, he will again fall. As yet we have seen no evidences of his contrition for the past. We ask how long would a Democrat have remained in office had the Radicals been victorious in the last campaign? The Wilson Advance hits the nail squarely in saying that "the Board should have elected a Democratic Superintendent every way worthy to fill the office, and then the question of Dr. Grissom's legal right to hold over could have been settled in a short time by the Courts and no one would have been to blame."

**BREVITIES.**

North Carolina bonds sell in New York lower than ever before. Old, from 14 3/4 to 17 cents; new 8 1/2 to 9 1/4. Special tax 2 1/8 to 2 1/2.

The Western newspapers report that the prospect for a great wheat crop was never better. The acreage is larger than it has been for years, and from no quarter can be heard the sound of the croaker.

The New York Times notifies the country that the Republican victory in New Hampshire must not be distorted into an indorsement of Hayes. It is simply a case of force of habit.

North Carolina alone of all the States and Territories was enabled to report the entire list of articles called for by the schedule of the U. S. Commissioners at the Centennial last year.

The executive committee of the State Agricultural Society held a meeting in Raleigh, Friday, and determined to hold the next annual fair in October on the 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19th.

Nearly all our native rice comes from South Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana, the former States supplying one-half the entire product of the country, and Georgia going 7,000,000 pounds ahead of Louisiana.

The Republicans carried the New Hampshire election because so many of the leading Democrats in Congress have condoned the Great Fraud that the Democratic masses could not make a square fight against the party in power.—Sun.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald says there is great talk at the Capital of the attempt to oust the President by judicial proceedings. Judge Black is said to be at the bottom of it. He is in Washington, and has been closeted for days with prominent Democrats.

The Advocate says: Several Conferences in our connection are setting forth their claims for a Bishop. North Carolina, it should be remembered, is entitled to a Bishop. We have the men, worthy and all qualified. Our sister Conferences have been honored. Are not our claims as strong as others? We think they are.

The French War Indemnity has been nearly paid, but \$3,286,350 remains to be divided. The official return recently made to the German Federal Council shows that the indemnity produced altogether \$1,051,012,814, and there is no fact in history, ancient or modern, more remarkable than the manner in which France arose in so brief a time under so crushing a burden.

There were sixteen in all the cases known as "the North Carolina tobacco cases," recently compromised by the government. According to the terms of the compromise the defendants are to join the "Tobacco Association," and pay the government \$12,000, including costs, etc. There are about sixty other cases on the docket of the Western District, which can be adjusted on like terms.

North Carolina has only 3 exhibitors at Paris exposition, viz: W. M. Coleman, Concord, flour and wheat; Shelton Tobacco Curing Co., Asheville, tobacco; Wallace Bros., Statesville, medical herbs and plants. The notice was so short that it was next to impossible for our people to make anything like a creditable showing. As it is New York and Philadelphia exhibitors monopolize nearly the entire space. They furnish 350 out of the 577 exhibitors.

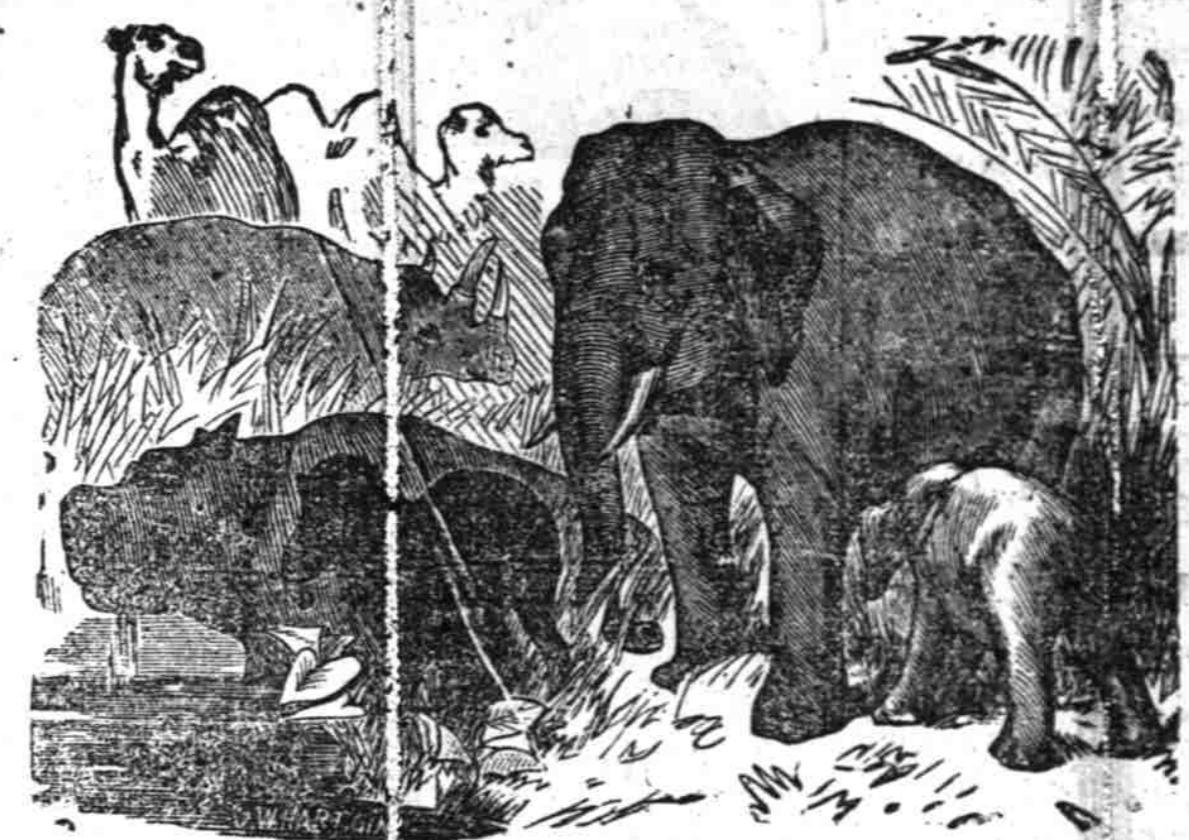
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Feb 15/78.

Remember the day and date, Wednesday April 3rd, 1878.