THE JOURNAL.

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NEW BERNE, N. C., FEB. [illegible]

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BUT little real work has been done in Congress since it convened in December. Many measures are discussed but only a few passed upon.

THE N. Y. *Sun* has discovered the fact that while there are 2,015 survivors of the war of 1812, there are 17,212 widows of soldiers who served in that war on the pension rolls. Few die and none resign.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND may be earnest in his desire to separate office holders from politics, and he may be bull-headed and strong in his determination, but it will fall just the same. To engage in politics and hold office is the right of every American citizen, and the President cannot abridge this right so long as the people will that it shall be so.

IT is now about to appear that the New York newspapers that are raising such a howl about the Pan-Electric Telephone stock are interested in the Bell Telephone that procured its patent by fraud. This fraudulent concern has been paying large dividends to stockholders, hence, they will move heaven and earth, if possible, to prevent any interference by the Government.

CHARLES EMORY SMITH, of the Philadelphia *Press*, if the Washington correspondent of the New York *World* tells the truth, has learned in Washington that the Democrats are making up the ticket for 1888, and that CARLISLE of Kentucky and HILL of New York will be the ticket. The Democrats had better attend to other business just now. They must prove to the people that they ought to succeed in 1888. It is time enough to discuss the candidates.

THE people of Pender county assembled at Burgaw on Tuesday of last week and adopted resolutions endorsing the BLAIR educational bill. This was right and proper. The people in North Carolina need the money for the education of their children. Some newspapers think the appropriation of money for this purpose by Congress will outrage the Constitution and degrade the people. The JOURNAL is not among the number. We do not understand that the BLAIR bill gives the National Government control of the public schools of the States. It is for the purpose of aiding the schools, and no sane man in North Carolina, acquainted with the condition of our public schools, will doubt that they need money.

LET THEM WAKE UP.

If the business men of Wilmington do not wake up to the importance of securing additional railroad facilities the old song of "dull times" will become as monotonous as it is discouraging.—*Wil. Star.*

Unite with us in a demand upon the next General Assembly for convicts, and a donation from the Board of Education of a portion of the State lands in Jones and Onslow counties for the construction of a railroad from Wilmington to New Berne.

A PRACTICAL PROPOSITION.

The gold crank of the New York *Herald* continues to rant about the "BLAND dollar worth 79.60 cents" and predicts all sorts of disasters if the coinage is not stopped. Y-es one may step up to the *Herald* counter, thrown down seven of these "Bland dollars" reinforced by a silver half dollar and get a receipt showing that he is entitled to receive that "golden stair" newspaper for one year. Would the *Herald* extend the time beyond one year if seven gold dollars were substituted for the seven silver dollars? Now let the *Herald* advertise a gold price and a silver price.—*Wil. Star.*

This is the practical way to test the matter. The silver dollar may not be prized so highly as the gold dollar by the bondholder, but the masses of the people are satisfied with it as long as it has the same purchasing power as a gold dollar. The conspiracy to depreciate the silver dollar will fail, as fail it ought.

A REMARKABLE CONCLUSION.

The *Lenoir Topic* has given its "In Conclusion" on the great civil service humbug, and makes this knock-down illustration:

"A young man of parts, living in an obscure and isolated rural district, by dint of his own exertions, burning the midnight oil and studying at night, while in the daytime he plods along between the plow handles, at last makes a man of himself. He emerges from his cove, gets a sheet of foolscap and writes on it a certificate of character and a petition for an office. Everybody signs it; they write down one page till it is full, and then, turning it over the other side is filled with names of people, who recommend him. He goes to the powers that be and hands in his position. At the same time a dapper young dude, who wears a claw-hammer coat and a hat with half an inch of brim, a fellow who knows nothing but who has "influoence" and connections," applies for the same office. Of course Clawhammer gets the office and Rusticus gets—to come home with his petition a yard long. This is under the spoils system. Under the merit system Rusticus would get the office so quick that Clawhammer's head would swim. He would stand on his merits as a man and show that he knew something and could do something, while Clawhammer would show just the reverse."

The illustration shows lamentable ignorance of the power of the "Clawhammer dude." He can deceive the civil service commission by answering their questions more glibly and readily than "Rusticus," and would carry off the prize every time. But if the two were to seek the aid of a Senator or Representative in getting a place, "Rusticus" would get it.

The *Topic* [illegible] upon the presumption [illegible] and Representatives [illegible] the people and [illegible] funds in office, [illegible] vice commission [illegible] and gives offi[illegible] matter it ought not to have [illegible] "In Conclusion" [illegible] ought to fight to the [illegible] opposition to its [illegible] humbug of the age.

DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL FUNDS.

The board of education in some of the counties seem to not exactly understand how to apportion the reserve fund which they are authorized by the school law to use in equalizing school facilities.

We regard this as the best feature of the Amended law, and if properly applied a little great good. The object is to help the weak districts. In order to make the matter plain let us take two school districts for illustration. Here is No. 1 with sixty children, and there is No. 2 with thirty children. Suppose the money is apportioned under the old law and there is one dollar and fifty cents for each child within the school age in the county. District No. 1 would get ninety dollars and would be able to run a school from these to four months, while No. 2 would get forty five dollars and could have a school from one to two months only. Now the children in No. 2 district are entitled to the same school facilities as those in No. 1; but by apportioning the whole fund per capita they get only half the facilities. Hence, the present law says apportion two thirds of the money per capita and apportion the other third in such manner, *not per capita*, as will equalize the schools in districts No. 1 and 2.

The board of education of Craven county apportioned the whole fund per capita, the majority of the board being under the impression that the schools were about as near equal as they could get them, but the chairman, a lawyer of unquestioned ability, holds the view that we have given above.

If we understand the law, the county board of education is not bound to reserve the one-third fund; they have the power to do it, and under certain circumstances it is their duty to do it. For instance, if the board knows the fact that there is a district in the county that gets money enough to run a school only one month in the year while an adjoining district, or a district anywhere in the county, is drawing money enough to maintain a four months school, or longer, in the year, then it is unquestionably the duty of the board to reserve the one-third fund in order to equalize these schools. Not only does the law empower them to do it, but justice and fairness to children of the sparsely settled districts demand that it be done.

If the reserve fund is to be distributed per capita, as some seem to think, there is no sense in reserving it. The whole might as well be apportioned at once. We think it an easy matter for the boards of education, with the assistance of the county superintendents, to ascertain the weak districts and equalize the schools as the law requires.

MISMANAGEMENT AND EXTRAVAGANCE.

MR. EDITOR:—The *State Chronicle* of a recent date, contained an article on the N. C. Department of Agriculture, in which it plainly shows mismagement and very extravagant use of the State's money; for instance, the Experiment Station, the chief object of which is: "The protection and instruction of N. C. farmers in the purchase and use of fertilizers and fertiling material." The Director is paid a salary of $2,500 per annum—four assistants, three at $1,000 each—one at $750; servant hire $300, making in all a cost of $6,520 a year, then besides this generous salary from a heavily taxed people, we find the officials of this office, who are ever ready to guard the interests of the farmer, charging the State's account with the blacking of their shoes, for a whisp brush, etc; and all this for the "protection and instruction" of the farmer. Well, now Mr. Editor, of all cases of business men the farmer is the most thoroughly *instructed* and *advised*. Yet it must remain a mystery to the mind of the average farmer how he can successfully raise cotton at 8 cents per pound and pay such enormous prices for "protection and instruction." FARMER.

Craven county, Feb. 4th, 1886.

This "Farmer" is right in raising this question, but he need not have gone so far from home to find that there is extravagance and waste. It is an easy matter to find fault; the thoughtless see where the Department of Agriculture has wasted money, but did he ever think about the waste of money right here in his own county? Did he ever think about the county commissioners allowing a justice of peace twenty-four dollars as chairman of the Board of the poor for two days? Did he ever think about the commissioners allowing a justice of the peace fees for disposing of cases when the law says in such cases the county shall not be liable for cost?

We believe this "Farmer" is a magistrate of Craven county. Did he make an effort at the last meeting of the justices to elect a good and efficient finance committee appointed to examine into the financial condition of the county? He is perfectly right in criticising the extravagance of the Department of Agriculture, but is he doing his duty as a magistrate to prevent extravagance in Craven county?

THE GREAT ORIGINAL.

The newspapers in North Carolina are now reporting the prospects [illegible] "The Great Original." The Washington correspondent [illegible] Congressmen and Representatives [illegible] "Page, who started [illegible] and failed [illegible] and most [illegible] in the State, [illegible] did not work a [illegible] revolution in North Carolina journalism and in gratitude [illegible] Nassalige to the [illegible] the great and only Original, has written a letter to the *News & Observer*, which Brother Daniel publishes with some complimentary leading lines in which an animadversion is heaped upon the entire press of the State, with "perhaps two or three exceptions," and such noble and well equipped journals as the secretary Kingsbury, the brilliant Dorsey Battle, the well posted conservative Holden, the refined polished Ashe, the learned Cowper, the level headed Yates, the fearless Kitchen, the talented Robinson, the strong and correct Holmes, the admirable Mayrover, the sensible and intelligent Foote and the other worthy and excellent journalists who have done so much for North Carolina and who are content to remain here and aid in her rehabilitation, and help share her struggles and bear her burdens, have been sent in far away exile to freeze and the snows and sleets and ice of his Siberian wastes of contempt and displeasure, and only Joe Daniels and Joe Caldwell are left to look in the warm and genial sunlight of appreciation, and wear the badge of competent journalists. Yes, Mr. Page—the "Great Original," as Brother Kingsbury so felicitously calls him, says that a feeling of shame overcomes him how sad and distressing whenever he thinks of the North Carolina papers, and he would give up in despair but for the fact that he has hopes, and believes that the *State Chronicle* is going to wipe away the clouds of opprobrium and the stains of dishonor and the mildew of neglect which all the other papers allowed to remain, and that it will supply the desideratum so long felt in the benighted realm of North Carolina journalism. Thrice happy, fortunate Josephus Daniels, for he received a kind, patronizing pat on the head, while we other miserable sinners were so cruelly kicked and cuffed. Alas, alas, alas."

THE TELEPHONE MUDDLE.

The New York *World* has succeeded in working up a sensation over the Pan Electric Telephone stock held by Attorney General GARLAND and several U. S. Senators. That paper reports that the impeachment of Mr. GARLAND is seriously thought of in Washington and at all events he must either get rid of the stock in this concern or leave the Cabinet. Mr. GARLAND received this stock several years ago, when he had no idea of ever being at the head of the Department of Justice, and certainly not the least idea that he would, in his present position, have to conduct a suit on the part of the Government against a rival company. Finding himself in this attitude, he refuses to have anything to do with the suit, but leaves its prosecution in the hands of Solicitor General GOOPE. But he was a Senator at the time he received this stock, and the propriety of a Senator or Representative of Congress receiving stock in any speculative scheme which might require legislation or Government aid at their hands is certainly a doubtful one. We all remember with what vigor the Democratic papers throughout the land assailed members of Congress who held stock in the Credit Mobilier swindle. They cannot, to be consistent, do less now, when leading Democrats are found engaged in a business, which, though it may not be similar to the Credit Mobilier affair, certainly involves the same principle. The following article from the Baltimore *Sun*, we think presents the case properly:

The fact that all or nearly all United States Senators own bank railroad, telegraph, telephone, electric lighting, gas, manufacturing or other stocks, the value of which will be more or less affected by their votes in the Senate, is certainly to be regretted. In this respect the morals of our public men in both houses of Congress are sorely in need of amendment. There are of course stocks and stocks. The holder of stock in an old and well established enterprise, which has no favors to ask, occupies obviously a position different from that of a subscriber to a new company whose sole chance of making profits lies in getting favors from Congress. There are enterprises which from their nature cannot be directly affected by one's vote. There are others still whose success will be greatly promoted by the presence of well known names of public men of unquestionable integrity and ability in the published list of directors. The retention of a Senator, who is a distinguished lawyer, as counsel is a much sought advantage of a similar character. So great are the attractions of great names that impecunious inventors and speculators—who are always to be distinguished from inventors—sometimes distribute stock in their enterprises gratuitously to public men "for the use of their names." Such, at least, according to Dr. J. W. Rogers, the father of the inventor of the machine sought to be used by the Pan Electric Telephone Company, was the motive which induced him in the spring of 1882 to give stock in his company, as he alleges, to Gen. J. E. Johnston, Senator Harris, Gen. Casey, Young and Senator Garland, and to make those gentlemen respectively president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, and all three of the Pan-Electric corporation. There was, of course, in 1882 an apparent probability that Senator Garland would favor the Attorney General, [illegible] Senator Harris [illegible] of the Senate [illegible] party at Washington, so [illegible] improperly of their way to procure Pan Electric stock, as illegal as a par with that of other holders of stocks in the Senate and House at that time. The purest code of public ethics would undoubtedly con[illegible]

[illegible]

THE COTTON MOVEMENT

From Rountree's

The market during the week was generally dull and dragging, and no important fluctuations in price took place. The volume of sales was contracted and the week was not satisfactory in any respect. The chief reason for the apathy displayed is soon told. Liverpool gave no encouragement to any possible advancing tendency that might have existed, and the general view taken of the past receipts was that they were full enough considering the bad weather at the south. The effect of the late storm on the movement is yet to be felt, and the coming week will probably see an attempt at raising values, using this as a basis. The receipts at interior towns are falling from last week by some few thousand bales. February delivery closed last Friday at 9.00, and it closed this week at 9.08, showing what a slight margin for fluctuations was possible. The position of the market, as results, is very discouraging, so far as an upward movement is concerned. The Liverpool prices are still nearly [illegible] above New York, and [illegible] outside speculators are [illegible] charge [illegible] The question at Liverpool is one of demand and supply, and in view of the crop [illegible] of spot cotton.

The total receipts [illegible] were 153,000 bales against 150,000 last week. [illegible] against [illegible] last week. The receipts [illegible] week [illegible] week. The receipts [illegible] week [illegible] The receipts [illegible] September 1st [illegible] were 4,250,000 against [illegible] last year.

The following [illegible] closing quotations [illegible] New York [illegible] Comparison:

[illegible]

Below we [illegible] the week and [illegible] closing quotations [illegible] ladies' cotton [illegible]

[illegible]

A Laugh in the Senate.

Judge David Davis, when he ponderously presided over the Senate, preserved the manners of the bench, and ruled in an arbitrary manner never before witnessed at the Capitol. One of his annoyances was a debate protracted after his usual dinner hour, and when that time arrived he would look around imploringly for a motion to adjourn. If no Senator made the motion, he would boldly mumble out: "The chair hears no objection, the Senate stands adjourned until to-morrow at 12." Take the question by the proceeding others are at times perplexed, and make a motion to adjourn. Senators who also want to dine [illegible]

On a day [illegible] Senate chamber [illegible] Presidential desk, asked, and chuckled [illegible] laughter.

[illegible]

The Doors of the Senate

A popular error has extensively obtained to a considerable extent to the effect that the President of the Senate [illegible] between the President [illegible] It excites legitimate interest on the part of the public and the President's proceedings [illegible] humorous [illegible] certain matters [illegible] consideration of his nominees by the Senate that only sits with open doors, is received with almost universal approbation. And what is true with respect to this particular matter is true to a greater or less degree, with respect to everything the Senate does. In short, there is a just demand that secret sessions shall be abolished altogether.

There is a prevailing impression, though it does not often find expression, that the Senate possesses too much power, and it would be wise to modify such a sentiment as much as possible by discontinuing a practice that jars unpleasantly on the national sensibilities. The "Upper" House is the least democratic of our institutions. Senators do not come directly from the people, are not truly representative with reference to population, are elected for terms of six years, and hence have less regard for their constituents' wishes than the members of the Lower House. They have special powers of confirming appointments, making treaties and of trying the high officers of the Government on impeachment. And one of the principal reasons for the creation of their body was to act as a check upon what was feared would be the too democratic character of the representative branch. They have a maximum of power and a minimum of accountability. And this is not a situation to be intensified by secret sessions.

Liberty is founded on publicity and the greatest feasible amount of accountability on the part of public men. Secrecy in governmental processes is almost invariably in an inverse ratio to the freedom of the people concerned. We want none of it. We want access to public places and public things. We want to understand public affairs and discuss them. As Sydney Smith says, there are no political discussions in Turkey, no criticisms on the Government, but it is a land full of revolts and insurrections. Railroad directors hold secret sessions; so do the guardians of Mormonism. But there is nothing in the history of men of these descriptions or in governmental secrecy of any kind to warrant the closing of the doors of the American Senate.—*N. Y. World.*

Hydrophobia—Can It be Prevented? Pasteur's Discoveries.

The history of hydrophobia is that of a malady, with which human skill has heretofore been utterly powerless to cope. The most learned physicians have seen their most powerful drugs and applications insufficient in the presence of the potent poison, which pervades the blood, racks the frame, thrills with indescribable pain the nervous system, and crazes the intellect of the patient, to whom the friends and physicians can only give deep sympathy, whether he be human or brute. The wonderful series of observations, which have been conducted for many years by the French physicist, Pasteur, and more recently by many others, who are free to acknowledge their indebtedness to him, indicate that a remedy may perhaps have finally been found. It would be premature to say, that Mons. Pasteur is probably about to decipherhydrophobia in every case, and yet we have every reason to believe that he thinks he can do so if the patient is taken in time. He has experimented largely with animals, and finds that he can inoculate them with virus taken from the spinal marrow of a rabid dog, first by inoculating other animals, rabbits, with the virus of these, the period of incubation of the disease and was shortened, and the violence of the symptoms decreased, until finally, after repeating this many times, he obtained a virus which produced the disease in a form which was not fatal, even to rabbits. Moreover, he found that the animals which had had a mild form of the disease, could be inoculated, though more [illegible] with the powerful virus direct [illegible] that had died of the [illegible] Pasteur's experiments upon [illegible] to others so far as [illegible] who have applied to him [illegible] has had the disease. [illegible] who have applied [illegible] successfully inoculated, for [illegible] hardly possible but that [illegible] should have shielded from the [illegible] of the disease. Still [illegible] which is often mistaken [illegible] years in the [illegible] that a great many in [illegible] bitten by dogs [illegible] and besides [illegible] disease is so contracted [illegible] and the most [illegible] with the same simple [illegible] Lyssophobia [illegible] proved not [illegible] by dogs [illegible] these unwarlike attitudes.

Monte Cristo's Prison.

Across the beautiful bay from the city of Marseilles is the famous Isle d'If, on which is the prison which Dumas made famous by his immortal romance of Monte Cristo. As everywhere else, the people now in charge of the island and the disused prison have made the most of the celebrity that Dumas's great work gave the place. They have selected two dungeons as the identical ones occupied by the *abbe* and Dantes. They dug the hole between them, and you are shown the cells and the opening as though the great novel were a historical fact instead of a revelation of the most wonderful romance that France has yet produced. However, it might have happened. The island is simply a rock in the sea, its summit crowned with a prison as horrible as one could imagine. There are cells below cells, and dungeons into which the rays of the sun never penetrate. There are others through which all the light there ever is is what may come through a narrow slit in the thick walls, and it is so situated that escape any other way than that suggested by Dumas would be impossible. As it was used as a garrison of State during the old *regime*, and by the republic afterwards, a great many tragedies have taken place within its walls, which still show mementos. Mirabeau was confined here for a long time; a brother of the King of Poland was here for twenty years till death relieved him, "detained," as the records say, "by request of the king." The brother was probably troublesome, and kings were in the habit of obliging each other in this way. He was safe enough here. Now it is entirely unused, the place being in the guardianship of a dozen invalid soldiers and an old woman with a handsome daughter, who make a living by exhibiting the place. They have cut the great story of Dumas down to a very fine point, and they have photographs of the good old *abbe* and Dantes, and an engraving of the escape, all of which you are urged to purchase. Whether you invest in illustrations of the battle brains of Dumas or not, you must drink a bottle of very bad wine or beer, and you must likewise disburse a franc for their services.

Treatment of the Walls of our Dwellings.

When walls are to remain simply lime washed, or kalsomined, they are much more effective and prettier if left with what the masons term a rough finish. On this, the tint of the wall shows bright and clear, with effective shadows and it has nothing of the cold hard look of a very smooth surface, or of hard finish. No doubt, the healthiest surface that living and sleeping-rooms can have, is whitewash or a tinted lime wash, often renewed. We cannot all conveniently whitewash the walls oftener than once a year, though many, in fact, of our old fashioned farmer folks adhere to the old custom of regularly cleaning house twice, and, as the special healthful effect of the lime lasts only a few weeks at most, we should not regard this feature to the exclusion of others. If one has a mason to do it, only the pictures and decorations need be taken from the walls, and the carpet or floor covered near them. Rough-finished walls are treated with thin lime-washes, tinted of any desirable color. The masons, now-a-days, have ways of preparing these washes, using dry colors in them. They slake the lime very smooth, and thicken it with smooth flour paste, and add salt, and perhaps other things to it. It does not rub off, nor peel, like kalsomine, nor does it perceptibly alter the rough surface of the wall. When kalsomine is used, the wall, if an old one, must have all the loose lime well scraped off, and be sized thoroughly with glue water, before the wash is applied. Kalsomine is made of glue, Paris white, and dry color for tinting. In selecting tints for parlor, sitting-room, and bedrooms, delicate or warm neutral tints should be preferred; especially avoid grays, which are cold colors.—*American Agriculturist.*

Cheap.

A rural justice of the peace is usually a man of good sense and judgment. He may not know much law, but the community trusts him to do substantial justice between man and man, even if he violates legal technicalities. Uncle Johnny Woodman, of Sumner county, West Virginia, knew more about farming than he did about books, but he was honest and shrewd, and his common sense never failed him. His neighbors elected him Justice of the Peace, and not long after his appointment he gave them an illustration of the fact that a bad name will make a man suspected when appearances are never so slightly against him.

One day, a noted "hard case" was brought before Uncle Johnny, charged with stealing a horse. The evidence against the man was pretty strong, and his lawyer, Gen. Bently, insisted that his client should be dismissed. But Uncle Johnny decided to commit him to jail, to await the action of the grand jury.

Gen. Bently then moved the court to release the prisoner on bail, and offered good security for his appearance at the upper court. Uncle Johnny adjusted his spectacles, examined the "code," and said, with great dignity,—

"The court declines to bail the prisoner."

"On what grounds do you decline?" demanded the attorney.

"Well, general," said Uncle Johnny, "if you must know, the court is afraid he'll steal another horse."

"You had better be careful," replied the lawyer. "My client will sue you for his character."

"You needn't put yourself to the trouble," rejoined the magistrate, with provoking coolness. "Just get two or three disinterested men to say what his character is worth, and I'll pay for it on the spot."

A STREET DUEL IN NEW ORLEANS.—A duel took place in the gambling district between two touchful sports named Feehan and Clements. They had a quarrel at a recent gaming table and coming suddenly together in Royal street, drew their revolvers and dodged behind two iron pillars. Feehan fired without hitting Clements or anybody else, and then plunged, headlong through the lower part of the glass door of an adjoining saloon. He found himself awkwardly suspended across the sash, half in doors and half out, offering a fine target to Clements had he dared to leave his pillar. The youths were arrested in these unwarlike attitudes.

Pelletier's Mill Items

A few items from our community would not be amiss now and then we thought, as a great many of the JOURNAL readers, perhaps, don't know of such a place as Pelletier's Mill, a store, postoffice, a saw and grist mill, run by water power, owned by the heirs of the late J. J. Pelletier, from which the place derived its name. With the large and comfortable dwelling and out houses in which the widow and two sons reside, is a very desirable and beautiful place, and attached to same is a pretty farm, all in Carteret county. In the neighborhood are several other good farms, owned and worked by good people, among these are C. Parker, Jere Watson, J. P., W. P. Weeks, Frank Morse, G. K. Dixon, B. H. Irvin, D. S. Weeks, Dr. P. Koonce and others living around and about, form a good neighborhood for farming, all make plenty to live on and some to spare, the waters of Hadnots and Pettifoots creeks give us plenty fish, oysters and clams, have two good churches close by one near the mill, called Hadnots or the Primitive Baptist denomination, the other a Methodist church, from which Rev. Mr. Puckett, our circuit preacher gives us some good preaching. Mr. Elijah S. Bell another once prominent citizen, lives near here. This gentleman is very old, about 80 years, and has been confined to his bed for over two years with paralysis and rheumatism. He was once or twice a member of the Legislature from this county.

The farmers are somewhat behind on account of bad weather; last week we had a sure cold snap interspersed with rain, sleet and snow, a good time, as is the old saying for ducking and hunting deer and wild turkeys. Mr. Buck said this morning he was somewhat out of fresh, and must kill a turkey, so off he started. We heard his gun and guess he killed one or two.

Jere Watson killed four fine porkers, six months old, this week, that weighed 140 lbs. each. He has a clock, 9 feet high, old time kind, that has been running over seventy years and looks good for as many more.

We have two good schools within five miles of each other, one taught by E. B. Sanders, the other by G. W. Ward, both from Onslow county. Both have full schools, the former 27, the latter 31 scholars.

We have among us a good brick mason, a good watch and clock maker, a good boot and shoe maker, doctor, lawyer, surveyor, tailor, merchant and preacher. So you see we are well situated for everybody, besides school teachers and millers thrown in. We have some pretty girls, too, you bet, and we want some nice young men or some good-looking young widowers to come along and see them, if only to see them.

The other night a party of young ladies and gents stormed Mr. Frank Morse, and such a time as we had. Well, we danced till you couldn't rest. Now, Mr. M— was a little against such amusement, but we didn't ask him or his good wife a cent's worth about it, and before long cousin Frank was as jovial as a pumpkin pie.

Aurora Items.

Mr. Martin, of Norfolk, in town.

Another cold snap—blizzare or some sich thing.

Rev. N. C. Hughes and Rev. Mr. Drane were in town this week.

New attorney in town one J. P. "says he has to of essentials to success."

Two of the doctors of our town are on crutches and the third one hopping.

Novel trial before our J. P. A young man for cussing the United States. The case I understand was submitted; five dollars and cost.

Dr. A. B. Chapin had his foot badly mashed a few days ago. This accounts for one M. D. on crutches. Hope the Doctor will soon be out again.

As we rested on our journey at Beach Grove Academy last week, we start from here this. Beach grove is a very pretty place for a school building in the midst of a thrifty population of farmers. The public school here is being taught by Mrs. Annie G. Luse of Aurora; a good school and teacher.

Next on the right is the homestead of the late Andrew Scott, deceased.

We now cross Cypress Run; first on the left is the little town of tenant houses and also the farm of our worthy townsman, Mr. J. B. Bonner. This is a valuable farm; good gin, store house and dwelling. The store and farm is under the efficient management of Mr. W. M. Hooker.

Next on the left is the farm of Mr. Stheven Lamb, Esq.; nice place this is.

Next adjoining is Mr. E. G. Hays' farm. This is a good farm and a good man with a smart young wife.

Having passed the road known as the Bergeron road we are now to the road leading to the sand hills known as the Bonner road. First on our left is the farm belonging to that whole souled and very clever gentleman Mr. Bryan T. Bonner. This is a large farm and a valuable property.

Next on the left is a model farm owned by a model farmer, Mr. T. G. Sparrow; nice dwelling, out buildings, etc; everything looks new and tidy and shows that the proprietor is a live man. As it is too cold to travel we stop here till next week.

Stitch lots.—We think that the negro called "chenault" in the following anecdote was correct in his suspicions. He said to a friend,—

"Mistah Waggoman, I tink I smell one o' dem mices."

"You think you smell a mouse, Senator?"

"Yes, sah. I done b'lieve I smell a mice, sah."

"How is that, Senator? What unexpected developments have you found now?"

"Squah, does you recommendah dat gal I'se been co'tin' down in de scrubbards of Steubenville?"

"Yes, Senator, I know her very well. What is the matter now? She has not gone back on you, has she?"

"Well, boss, I's mighty afeard dat am des' what she has done. I'se seed two or tree rings dat looks mighty 'specious now, I tele you, an' I'se heard she's done trowed me awah."

"Why, what have you noticed, Senator?"

"De mawnin' bajeh says she done gone and married Sam I. Jeff, yaqui' to Clements had he dared to las' night. Now wouldn't yer think dat a mighty 'specious circumstance, squah?"—*Bloomington Evening Mail.*

Greenville Items.

The last pickings of the cotton crop are coming in and the staple is selling for about 8½ cts.

A new brass band has been started among the white gentlemen with J. C. Lanier as leader.

The fish vender makes you believe that other fellow's fish has been caught just two weeks, and none but his are fresh; but such is life—*sic transit gloria mundi.*

Mr. J. M. King, formerly of Greenville, has bought out the horse and mule business of Mr. Baker, and can be found at the old White stand. What he don't know about horse flesh is hardly worth knowing.

Mr. Wilkins, the clever agent for J. L. Stone's organ house in Raleigh is in town on business. Mr. Wilkins has had shipped to this place about 20 organs, though he has been in the business a short time. He is doing much to arouse the musical talent of the country.

Suggs & Ormand are engaged in erecting a work shop and foundry on College street. Such an enterprise has been long needed here and this one of the heads of such energetic and clever men can but pay a handsome dividend to the others and will also prove to be a great advantage to the community.

The various callings of life are well represented here. We are blest with "many men of many minds." We have everything from the judge on the bench to the man who turns the crank to run the flying jenny. The incorrigible drummer is here with an air of don't care a continental. He approaches with the assurance that a brand new place for making cigars has just been discovered, which discovery he alone represents. That they are inexhaustible, undefiled and fadeth not away. When you buy his goods and brace your feet on the mantel out of the way of the children for a perfect elysian of a smoke, you soon discover a distinct odor of cabbage leaves, tobacco stems and dog tongue. Our sewing machine man can show you at once that if you buy his wares that you will never again be down in the mouth or out at the elbows. The redoubtable insurance agent approaches you with both hands up and eyes extended as if you were not expected to live but two or three hours; he would fain call your attention to every little hazy cloud as if it was the everlasting smoke of somebody's gin on fire.

Knowledge, truth, love, beauty, goodness, faith, alone can give vitality to the mechanism of existence; the laugh of mirth that vibrates through the heart, tears that freshen the dry waste within, the music that brings childhood back, the prayer that calls the future near, the doubt which makes us meditate, the death which startles us with mystery, the hardship which forces us to struggle, the anxiety that ends in trust, are the true nourishment of our natural being.

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Tell-Tale Blunders.

A man is known quite as thoroughly by the words he utters as by the company he keeps. The young lady who wrote to her friend, "Do come over to see me. I want to tell you how well I done in my examination," did not need to answer a list of questions in order to evince the practical value of her knowledge of English. The best that can be said of some betrayals of ignorance is, that they hit so wide of the mark as to be laughable.

The Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette* gives some extracts from a paper used in a recent civil service examination.

To the question, "What is a vacuum?" one of the answers was,—"A vacuum is an empty space, without anything in it."

The questions and answers which follow are even more remarkable in their lack of harmony. For examples, take several selected at random:

Q.—What is the geology of West Virginia?

A.—Rough.

Q.—What is a writ of habeas corpus?

A.—It is an act to take a dead body out of prison. Or, according to another version, it is an act of lunacy.

Q.—Describe the compass and its use.

A.—A compass is a round, circular box standing on a tripod, which always points to the north.

The question, "How far is the sun from the earth?" was found to have been answered thus on an impatient victim's paper:

"I don't know, but it's so far it will never interfere with my performing my duties, if I am appointed."

The conclusion of the last aspirant was certainly sound.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

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