THE

COMMONWEALTH

Thursday, Sept. 6 1883.

GEO. M. CARR, - - EDITOR.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

☞ WE DESIRE A CORRESPONDENT IN EVERY SECTION OF OUR COUNTY, AND WE WOULD BE GLAD TO RECEIVE ANY ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ANY ONE DISPOSED TO FAVOR US.

Vol. II. No. 1

WITH this issue the COMMONWEALTH enters upon its second year of publication. As the salutatory of the present editor has been so recently read, we would deem it a waste of space to occupy another half column in giving a prospectus for the ensuing year. Suffice it to say that in the future, as in the past, this paper will be devoted to the agricultural, educational and general development of the Old North State, this portion especially. To the people of Halifax and adjoining counties we look for our patronage, and we promise to publish for them a paper that will do good to their own individual interests and help to boost forward the dear old State of which we are all rightly proud.

THE South has been burdened and cursed with a High Tariff for more than twenty-three years. Is it not high time that the honest and hard working tiller of the soil gets some relief?

THE captain of the steamer which was in the strait of Sunda during the recent volcanic eruption, says that ashes fell on the deck of his vessel to the depth of sixteen inches. He estimates that 10,000 lives were lost at Tjiringin and that the total number of persons killed by typhoons and tidal waves amounted to 30,000.

WE notice from one of our exchanges that O'Hara, the representative elected from this congressional district was recently entertained in fine style at a dinner given by prominent colored citizens in Boston. O'Hara is surely one of the headlights of his race as far as brain-power is concerned.

THE COMMONWEALTH while under its present management, will ever be found fighting that hideous and abominable foter mother of monopolies—the Republican Tariff—which compels the laboring man in the cotton fields of the South and in the grain fields of the west to pay an unjust tribute to the few rich manufacturers of New England.

A Railroad 2000 miles long was recently finished; and yet as great enterprises are so common and occur so frequently, its completion created only a ripple of news in the papers. Portland, Oregon is now connected by a through line from the lakes. The second great railway band, the Northern Pacific Railroad, stretches itself across the continent and furnishes rail facilities to Minnesota, Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Immigrants will now find new territory and our North Western lands will be filled with colonies from the Eastern States, and from the old country. What a nation will this be in a few years!

SAYS the Tarboro 'Southerner':

One of the crying evils of C. towns is the ball pool-playing by boys. A few of the more respectable saloons and billiard rooms will not allow boys to play, but in many of the beer saloons where pool tables are kept 'kids' are permitted, and there is no better school for training up the boy in vice than pool playing. Let the Legislature interfere.

Very sensible remarks these, and we wish that the saloon keepers would realize the great evils that the 'Southerner' speaks of in allowing 'kids' to be trained up to pool playing in their saloons. We do not know to whom the 'Southerner's' remarks apply, but we hope they may be heeded in every necessary case.

THE following from the New York 'World' is too good to go unclipped:

'There is one National Treasury in the world where no stealing goes on, where the treasurer gives no bond where the Government vault is never locked, where there is neither scandal nor suspicion. No unaccountable packages or funds are ever found lying around loose, no compromises are ever made with thieves; the party in power has its honesty proved without defense; the party in opposition cannot hurl defiance at any one for robbing the State. This is the Treasury of the United States of Columbia. The cable gives us the regular report of its condition as follows: "There is not a dollar in the Treasury of Columbia."'

The White Republicans have Warmed a Serpent that Stings.

It has been said that the Southern people are warm blooded and intolerant. The former is true, and it is attributable to natural causes; the latter is untrue, and the saying is attributable to sectional hate and prejudice. The North, since the war, has arrogated to itself superior wisdom, stperior statesmanship, superior learning, superior manners, and superior morals. Like all the claims of arrogance their claimed excellencies only have an existence in the wonderful self-esteem of its people. We have been lectured upon our morals and manners; persecuted for our political convictions and abused for our ideas of a proper social life.

The South was out-numbered upon the battle field, and her people with God-like heroism have endeavored to please the victors. We have been patient, when we were maligned and persecuted; magnanimous, when we were reviled and traduced; and generous and merciful and kind, when we were slandered, condemned and misrepresented.

As an astute lawyer endeavors to engage the attention of the jury and divert it from the weak points in his case, so the Northern politicians and writers have steadily sought to divert the attention of the world from the real issue involved in the war between the States and to have it recorded in history that slavery was the cause of the unhappy struggle. And even blatant demagogues, born and reared among us, succumbing to the evil inspiration of the moment, join in the same hue and cry. The Southern people fought for the right of local self-government—that dearest of all rights guaranteed by the constitution. And many were the brave men who never owned a slave who fell a martyr to there principles which they had imbibed with the milk from their mothers' breast and which grew as they grew and strengthened as they strengthened. If slavery had been the issue, few would have been the battles fought, and long before the battle of Malvern Hill demonstrated to the world of what stuff the Southern soldier was made, the wounds would have been healed, and many brave men that now sleep in unmarked graves would be living and pursuing peaceful vocations.

The very wealth that the North has accumulated by an unjust principle of taxation—the very wealth that she has extorted from the country in a spirit of greed and avarice, under the guise of a protective tariff has done more to shake Republican Institutions than even the zealous fanaticism of Northern misrepresentation has ever claimed for the South. But the war has ended. A new generation has sprung into being. It is time for both sections to forget the past, and we of the South are content to let the unhappy past rest in oblivion, but the North, as if desirous to ever keep before our eyes the bloody conflict, in a spirit of dictation and haughtiness tells us what our morals are and what they ought to be—whom our associates should be; whom we should receive into our homes and around our firesides; whom we should wed; what relations we should maintain toward the negro. It teaches by precept, but example is far from it. It abuses the South for being solid, as if virtue and integrity and dignity of character did not always stand solidly together. It abuses us for thinking little of our native born white people who have joined the Republican party, as if it expected any good people to think well of those whom they suspected of being actuated by sordid and mercenary motives. This last thought brings us to our subject proper.

The Democratic party South is composed of white men. It represents the virtue, the intelligence, the true manhood, the wealth, the statesmanship, and the morality of the South. The Republican party South is composed of negroes and a few white men. It represents the ignorance, the immorality, the unholy ambition of the South. The ignorance of the land is led by white men who for the sake of an office have left us. We say this because we don't believe there is a native white Republican in the South to-day from pure and unadulterated principle, and because we never heard of one who was not an office holder, a candidate for office, or who had not held an office. As soon as they are turned out of office, their flight from the Republican party is like that of rats from a sinking ship. Then we can see no grand achievements of this party South. It does not cherish one single principle of good that the Democratic party does not advocate and practice. Its pretensions are manifold, but its accomplishments are few.

What is the grand distinguishing difference in the two parties South? What is the difference in the respective tenets of the two? The most notable difference that we now recall is this: The Democratic party believes in *white man* supremacy—it believes that white men were made to rule this country—that it is their birthright—that the negro race is inferior to the white race. It does not believe that the negro ought to come into our schools; it does not tolerate matrimonial alliances between the races. It believes that the negro is incapable of self-government. The Republican party believe in negro supremacy, for it is composed of negroes. It secretly favors mixed schools; it believes in intermarriages; it favors social race equality; it believes in elevating the negro at a grievous expense to the white race.

It is true the white Republican say that there is no such thing as social equality enforced; that a person chooses his associates, but this specious argument only serves to ease a sore and troubled conscience. They know that when they place negroes in office above us, they compel us to respect their official positions. They tell you again that the cardinal virtue of a white Republican teaches him to ignore the negro when offices are to be distributed. This is so, but the negro is waking up; he is demanding office; he says through the press of his race that the white Republicans must go; he says that you are with him for office's sake alone; he proposes to take the office away and to test your party fealty; he abuses you worse than we ever did.

Well, white Republican friends, don't abuse Holden too severely. He is only a little in advance of you. You will come soon. He led you into error, now he is leading you out. Your condition is indeed pitiable. Even the negroes abuse you. Bear the burden with patience. You have warmed a serpent that stings.

SOME time ago there appeared in the columns of the COMMONWEALTH an article depreciating the intense desire of our people to become suddenly rich by fortuitous circumstances. It would surprise us all to know the amount of money annually received by lottery companies from the foolish and unwise all over our land. Young men struggling withpoverty, as well as those in comfortable circumstances, alike expend their spare money with the hope of immediate wealth. They forget the injunction of the wise man to make no haste to be rich if they would prosper. It is probable that only one out of several thousand get the worth of the money invested. It is hard to beat a gambler at his own game.

We commend to our readers the candid expression and good sense of the Kinston 'Free Press' in attempting to open the eyes of the people by putting this matter in its true light before them:

'Whenever some *gambler* gets a few hundred dollars from one of the gambling concerns known as lotteries, every newspaper in the State upholds it through its columns and congratulates the *lucky* man, when they should look down on him as a gambler no better than the man who spends his nights in the gambling dens that infests every town and city. Give things their right name and call such *luck*, *gambling* and condemn it accordingly.

A Good Man Gone.

The Rev. Dr. John M P. Atkinson, late President of Hampden Sidney College died Tuesday of last week. He was a very able and devout divine and a dignified gentleman of the highest order. His declining health necessitated a resignation from the Presidency of the Hampden Sidney about a year ago. The following from the Richmond 'Dispatch' will give an idea of his life and character:

'Dr. Atkinson was the son of Robert Atkinson, Esq., of Mansfield, Dinwiddie county, Va., and was born about the year 1816, His mother's maiden name was Mary Mayo, and he was one of a large family—six sons and five daughters, Three of his brothers also embraced the ministry—Bishop Thomas Atkinson of the Episcopal Church, and Rev. Dr. William M. Atkinson, and Rev. Jos. M. Atkinson, D.D., of the Presbyterian Church. The latter is still alive, and is a highly esteemed pastor in North Carolina. * * * In June, 1861, Dr. Atkinson organized the students of Hampden-Sidney as an infantry company, and being elected their captain, reported to Richmond for service. From Richmond he was sent with his company to West Virginia, and with it taken prisoner at Rich mountain. While awaiting parole in the enemy's camp he frequently discussed the causes that led to the war with the superior Federal officers, and was so bold and outspoken as to incur the bitter personal hostility of the private soldiers and subordinate officers. To such an extent did this feeling obtain that when he was paroled two United States officers were sent with him to the Confederate lines to protect him, as they stated, from the Federal sharp,shooters.

GENERAL NEWS.

...Wil. *Star*: We learn that Rev. F. W. Eason, recently pastor of the Baptist Church at New Berne, has been called to the church at Fayetteville whose pastor, Rev. Mr. Ebeltoft, recently resigned. Rev. Mr. Eason, who was just about taking up his residence at Charleston, was formerly pastor of the church at Fayetteville and was very popular with his people there and the community generally.

...Charlotte *Journal-Observer*: In E. C. Worthen's machine shop yesterday, while a party of workmen were casting the moulds, a pot filled with molten iron was accidentally overturned, and a quantity of the burning matter fell upon the foot of Mr. Harry Plummer, one of the workmen. As a matter of course, it burned through his shoe and into his flesh instantly. A large piece of flesh was burned out of his instep, making a horrible wound. The injured man was taken to his home and medical assistance was summoned. The burn is exceedingly painful, but not dangerous.

Public Debt Statement.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—The public debt statement issued to-day shows the decrease of the public debt during the past month to be $6,671,851.71; cash in the treasury, $251,503,986.22; gold certificates outstanding, $95,651,980; certificates of deposit outstanding, $8,299,274; silver certificates outstanding, $92,651,981; certificates of deposit outstanding, $12,145,000; refunding certificates $334,850; legal tenders outstanding, $346,681,016; fractional currency $6,997,796,631; decrease since June 30, 1883, $14,572,442.39.

...Raleigh *News-Oaserver*: On the Raleigh & Gaston train this morning Gov. T. J, Jarvis leaves for Boston, to be present at the grand exhibition there on the 5th inst., when he makes the response to Gov. B. F. Butler's speech of welcome. Gov. Jarvis goes to Norfolk, thence via Old Dominion steamer to New York. In that city he will arrive Sunday evening and will stay a day, reaching Boston on Tuesday. At Boston he will be either at the hotel Vendome or the Revere house. He will probably be absent three weeks.

Mrs. Jarvis accompanies the Governor, as do also Mrs. 'Stonewall' Jackson and her daughter, Miss Julia Jackson.

Mr. Montford McGehee, commissioner of agriculture, leaves to-day for Boston and will be there several weeks. He will have special charge of the North Carolina exhibition, being aided by Dr. C. W. Dabney, Mr. Bruner and other gentlemen.....At 1:15 this morning fire broke out in the wooden building once used as a kitchen at the penitentiary, but lately in use as a place for making soap. The long row of wooden buildings burned fiercely, though there was no breeze, and about one hundred and fifty feet of them were in two hours nothing but ashes. The double-tank Chemical company made extraordinarily quick time to the fire, thanks to the good driving of Sid. Solomons.

The citizens were present in considerable numbers. All worked splendidly. About 150 convicts were turned out of the cells to fight the fire. They behaved well and worked well. The Chemical company checked the fire, which had attacked the old cells used as stables and saved them. The Rescue did not have enough hose to reach the fire by about 200 feet. At 3:15 the danger was over. The old buildings were situated 300 feet in the rear of the main buildings.

Mr. Hicks desires us to thank specially the Chemical company; also the citizens for their assistance and aid.

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In no way can disease be so surely prevented as by keeping the system in perfect condition. BROWN'S IRON BITTERS ensures perfect health through the changing seasons, it disarms the danger from impure water and miasmatic air, and it prevents Consumption, Kidney and Liver Disease, &c.
H. S. Berlin, Esq., of the well-known firm of H. S. Berlin & Co., Attorneys, Le Droit Building, Washington, D. C., writes, Dec. 5th, 1881:
Gentlemen: I take pleasure in stating that I have used Brown's Iron Bitters for malaria and nervous troubles, caused by overwork, with excellent results.
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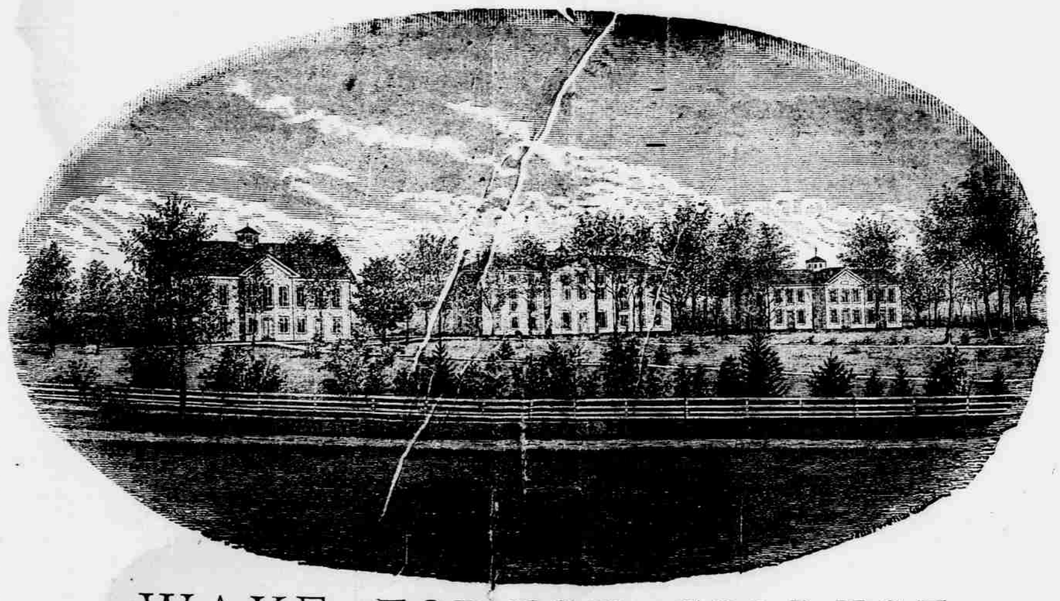

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