

The Commonwealth.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor.

Published Every Thursday.

Entered at the Post-Office at Scotland Neck, N. C., as Second Class Matter.

THURSDAY, JAN. 14, 1897.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The Governor's message to the General Assembly was quite a long document—too long for us to print. He called attention to many things of interest, among which is the fact that the Special Tax Bond case against the State has been settled. Also that there is no statute for declaring and filling a vacancy of the same for any State officer who becomes unable to perform his duties from insanity. He therefore recommended the appointment of more nisi prius judges. He commends the work of the Railroad Commission and stands by the lease of the North Carolina rail-road, and insists on a thorough investigation of the whole matter by the Legislature now in session.

The Governor reviews the condition of agriculture in the State and notes the fact that farmers in bad crop years can not "make both ends meet" and with abundant crops the prices are so low that they can not realize any profit from their products. He says the State government is in no way responsible for this, but that it lies with the National government to free the farmers of the country from their grind between the upper and nether millstones by correcting the evil of monometallicism. He commends the management of the State institutions, but thinks there can be improvement; but does not think it wise to establish a reformatory for juvenile criminals, because the State penitentiary has not yet become self-supporting.

He reviews at length the condition of the University at Chapel Hill and other State educational institutions and urges that the Legislature do nothing that would cripple their interests, but to foster them in every way possible. He urges that if any change be made in appropriations to these schools, they be increased rather than reduced.

The most of the message was prepared, it seems, especially for the instruction of the members of the Legislature concerning the condition of the State's institutions, expenditures, &c. This we think was wise on the part of the Governor.

IT IS GOVERNOR RUSSELL.

Governor D. L. Russell was inaugurated Tuesday. The State of North Carolina is now under Republican administration for the first time in about a quarter of a century.

ELEVEN FOR BRYAN.

The Electoral College met in Raleigh Monday 11th and cast the electoral vote for President and vice-President. The vote was 11 for Bryan for President, 6 for Sewall for vice-President and 5 for Watson.

The speeches were fine and the meeting was an enthusiastic one for silver. Hon. Locke Craig was appointed to carry the vote to Washington and he left Monday night.

WHAT ELSE, PRAY?

As THE COMMONWEALTH observed last week, it seems that many of the State's representatives in the General Assembly think that their first and greatest duty to the State was to join in the great excitement over the election of a United States Senator and count that the chief duty which they were sent to Raleigh to perform.

The Monroe Journal makes some timely remarks along this line. It says: "There has been a great deal of talk about what the legislature will do. Since the late election the atmosphere has been saturated with talk, never ending talk. Before the election the same talk was floating. And it has been and is all about one subject, the great absorbing question of who shall be United States Senator. The campaign was made mostly upon this issue, and since the election nothing else has been heard. Not a word said about the welfare of the State, not a word about internal improvement, not a word about just taxation, not a word about the laws necessary to the peace and prosperity of the State. All, absolutely all, about who shall get one office that will be about as beneficial to the State as a last year's almanac. And mind, nothing of importance will be done before this great officer is elected, if it is then, the likelihood being that the greater part of this session will be taken up with this weighty duty. If the whole aim and object of the legislature of North Carolina is the election of a United States Senator, then it would be cheaper to limit its session to a week instead of two months."

THE LEGISLATURE.

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

HOUSE.—Mr. Sutton introduced the following resolution: "That our senators be instructed and our representatives be requested to use all honorable means and as early as possible to bring about the passage of an act of congress recognizing the independence of the patriots of Cuba who for so long a time have been struggling for life and liberty, the God given heritage of all men."

It was unanimously adopted and sent to the senate. Mr. Lusk introduced the first bill. It is to repeal the notorious chapter 466, acts of 1895, known as the assignment act.

Other bills introduced were: By Mr. Peace, to take the county of Vance out of the eastern criminal circuit.

By Mr. Sutton, to repeal chapter 466, acts of 1895, and also chapter 453, acts of 1893, regarding assignments. The latter requires merchants who assign to close their stores and make no sales in ten days and also practically rewards an informant; also bills regarding actions of co-warrantors and regulating fees of sheriffs of Cumberland in securing special venues.

By Mr. Alexander, to provide for making entirely new list of jurors February 1st in every county in the state.

The speaker announced the following committees:

Finance—Messrs. Johnson, Bryan of Chatham, Whitener, Person of Wayne, Alexander, Young, Aiken, Petree, Nelson, McKenzie, Brown and Peace.

Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Finnix, Spruill, Chapin, Arrington, Parker of Perquimans, Holmes, Price, Carter, Ferguson and Leak.

Railways and Railway Commission—Messrs. Brower, Blackburn, Dockery, Fennix, Ferrell, White of Randolph, Ward, Dickson of Green, McKenzie and Smith.

Corporations—Messrs. Schulken, McBryde, Brown, Alexander, Dockery, Bailey, Walters and Umstead.

Education—Messrs. Dockery, White of Alamance, McRary, Peace, Cox, Young, Abernethy, King, White of Randolph, Rountree, Whitney, Person of Wilson, Dixon of Cleveland, Nelson and Wilfers.

FOURTH DAY.

SENATE.—The senate adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, The election of a United States senator to represent this state in the United States senate is a matter of the very highest concern to the people, and is a duty devolving upon this legislature, and

"Whereas, It is published and openly charged that bribery and corruption in relation to said election have been and are being made to members to influence said election. Now, therefore, to the end that said charges may be duly investigated,

"Resolved, By the senate, the house of representatives concurring, that a special committee of two senators and three representatives be appointed by the president and speaker to investigate and report at the earliest convenience the facts in relation to said charges.

"Resolved, That said special committee be and is hereby authorized and empowered to administer oaths, compel attendance of witnesses and send for persons and papers."

HOUSE.—Mr. Sutton, of Cumberland, submitted the report of the committee on rules of the house. It amends the rules so that on demand of any member or at the suggestion of the speaker the names of members sufficient to make a quorum in the hall of the house who do not vote be recorded in the journal and reported to the speaker, with the names of members voting, and be counted and announced in determining the presence of a quorum to do business.

Mr. Person introduced a bill to increase the duties and powers of the railway commission, "that whenever it shall appear that the facilities of transportation for passengers and property between points without the state and points within the state, are unreasonable, unjust or otherwise prejudicial to individuals or localities within the state, the railway commission shall have authority to bring and maintain proceedings in its own name before the interstate commerce commission."

The bill to repeal the "assignment law" of 1895 was favorably reported and passed.

Bills were introduced as follows: To allow Monroe to construct water works and issue \$30,000 in bonds therefor.

To incorporate the Moore County and Western Railroad Company, from Southern Pines or Aberdeen to Concord. To reduce the salaries of clerks of the legislature to \$4 per day.

By Mr. Sutton—to allow judges to limit the length of speeches of lawyers, save in capital cases.

A. L. Swinson, populist, was elected enrolling clerk, receiving seventy-five votes, while A. D. Raby, democrat, received twenty-six.

The senate bill providing for counting the votes for state officers next Monday and for the inauguration next Tuesday, came over, and under suspension of the rules was taken up and passed unanimously.

Messrs. McRary and Blackburn were added to the judiciary committee.

FIFTH DAY.

SENATE.—There was very little done in the Senate, as that body adjourned for the Electoral College to meet in the chamber.

Senator Anthony made report of tellers that Abbott L. Swinson, of Wayne, had been elected enrolling clerk of the General Assembly. Mr. Swinson received in the House 75 votes, in the Senate 39 votes, making a total of 114 votes.

A. T. Raby received 26 votes in the House and 3 in the Senate, a total of 29.

Mr. Swinson was elected and took the oath of office.

HOUSE.—In the House various bills were introduced among which was one by Mr. Sutton to prohibit the sale of cigarettes in this State, and to prohibit the giving away of the same; the punishment to be fine or imprisonment or both.

Also Mr. Petree introduced the following concerning railroads: "The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

"Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any railroad company to purchase or lease any competing line of railway or to enter into any contract with a competing line of railway calculated to defeat or lessen competition in this State.

"Section 2. That any citizen of the State of North Carolina who will provide for securing the costs as prescribed in other civil actions, shall be authorized on behalf of himself and other taxpayers to institute an action to have declared null and void any agreements entered into by any railway companies, in violation of the foregoing section of this act, or where the State is interested as a stockholder in either of the corporations that are parties to such agreements, whether heretofore made or hereafter to be made, either any citizen, who will provide for securing the costs as aforesaid or the Governor of the State shall be authorized to prosecute on behalf of the people any action for the purpose of having such agreement declared void, and the Governor of the State is hereby authorized to pay out of any money, not otherwise expressly appropriated, the costs incurred in the prosecution on behalf of the State of any such action.

"Section 3. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification."

SPRING HOPE NEWS.

Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH. SPRING HOPE, N. C., Jan. 11, 1897. Christmas has come and gone. It was, upon the whole, a moderately quiet time with us. On Christmas eve Mr. J. L. Hamilton got into a difficulty and had the misfortune to get both his jaw bones broken. Owing to the darkness and the fact that the crowd, generally, participated in the affray it has not been ascertained who did Mr. Hamilton the injury.

W. R. Griffin, a young man about 18 years old, succeeded in blowing off the end of his middle finger and otherwise mutilating his hand with a cannon cracker, but it is now improving.

The New Year has brought some changes in our town. The firm of Upchurch & Earle has changed to Upchurch & Farrior. Mr. Earle sold out on account of his health. He has not entirely recovered from a stroke of paralysis that he had some time last year. He was for a while deprived of the use of his left side entirely, but has so far recovered that he has been for some time enabled to walk by using a stick, also to use his hand a little. He will spend a good part of the year at the Hot Springs.

M. A. Griffin, who has been teacher of the High School here for the last two or three years, has moved with his family to Wendell, his former home, for the purpose of engaging in farming.

W. H. Griffin, who has been living near Finch, in this county, engaged in the mercantile business, has moved to town and occupies the Timberlake store, and his family the dwelling attached. He will do an extensive time business. Woodard & Copeland, who have bought the Wheelless house will open a time store on the 15th of this month. They will also keep horses and mules to sell. S. L. Larim sold his stock of goods to Brantley & Stringfield and rented them the house he occupied to do business in. He has another store which he will open up in with an entirely new stock about the first of February. Ben Fleishman bought out the bar and fixtures of W. A. Stallings & Co. Another new firm, W. H. May & Co., will occupy the new store of A. T. Morgan.

Prof. J. L. Cornwell, the principal of the school, has secured the services of Miss Hamilton of Charlotte as assistant. Our enterprising tobacco men are still paying good prices for tobacco. But little cotton is now coming in. Times are hard and money scarce but Spring Hope is on a live boom.

NOW & THEN.

The Best Way to Cure Disease is to establish health. Pure, rich blood means good health. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the One True Blood Purifier. It tones up the whole system, gives appetite and strength and causes weakness, nervousness and pain disappear. No other medicine has such a record of wonderful cures as Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pill; assist digestion, prevent constipation. 25c.

THE COUNTY'S FINANCES.

Report of Commissioners' Committee.

To the Hon. Board of Commissioners, Halifax County, N. C.

DEAR SIRS:

Your committee appointed at December meeting, 1896, to ascertain and report the financial condition of the county herewith submit the following report:

1st That after a thorough examination of the records, beginning January 1st, 1891, we find as follows:

Unissued orders amounting in the aggregate \$354.90

2nd Orders unissued on record which had been issued, paid and cancelled in amount aggregating \$749.06

3rd That there have been issued to the Pauly Jail and Manufacturing Company orders as follows, on account of Jail:

Table with 2 columns: Order No. and Amount. Includes items like 'Order payable Nov. 1st 1896 \$171.71', 'Order payable Nov. 1st 1897 968.37', etc.

Total \$4,642.37

That on Oct. 5th, 1896, R. G. Reid, jailer, was allowed and paid, for inspecting jail \$31.25

Making total cost of jail \$4,673.62

Order No. 43 paid 171.71

Order to Reid paid 4,501.91

31.25

Bal. due on jail \$4,470.66

4th That there have been issued to the St. Louis Art Manufacturing Company on account of Vault orders as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Order No. and Amount. Includes items like 'No. 11. Order payable when building was accepted 25.00', 'No. 21. Order payable Sept. 3rd 1896 25.00', etc.

Total cost of vault \$4,410.98

5th That orders 1, 2 and 3 aggregating one thousand dollars have been paid together with \$34.38 allowed Commissioner Clark, leaving bal. now due of \$3,376.60

6th That there are now outstanding jury tickets amounting to about \$300.00 County orders now outstanding including \$300.00 allowed at a special Dec. meeting of the Board to Scotland Neck Rifle Company \$1,100.00

7th Aml. due Treas. Parker \$1,307.91

8th. That there have been allowed and paid to N. M. Lockhart on account of transcribing old records in Register's office sums aggregating \$2,120.08

9th That owing to the fact that a large portion of the present levy for county purposes has been collected and exhausted in payment of county indebtedness existing prior to the first Monday of Dec. 1896, and the balance uncollected of the levy and taxes arising from all other sources which can be appropriated for county purposes are inadequate to meet the current expenses and orders issued falling due during the year on account of Vault and Jail, we respectfully suggest the propriety of your taking some steps to meet expenses and liquidate the indebtedness.

RECAPITULATION.

Table with 2 columns: Amt. now due on Vault and payable as aforesaid \$3,376.60, Amt. now due on Jail and payable as aforesaid 4,470.66, Outstanding Jury tickets 300.00, Unissued orders 354.90, Due Treasurer Parker 1307.91, Total \$10,910.07

10th That orders referred to in June 2nd of this report amounting to seven hundred and forty-nine and 6-100 dollars were a standing debt against the county so long as they remained unissued, and upon finding cancelled vouchers for same we checked them from the record.

Respectfully submitted, THOMAS H. HARRISON, EDWARD T. CLARK.

The Tarboro Southerner makes the following observation about granting liquor licenses to those who violate the law:

"The County Commissioners very properly are disposed to refuse to grant license to sell liquor to those who violate the law. Much of the Sunday selling of intoxicants could be stopped if there were an ordinance requiring all curtains to be thrown back and all screens of whatever kind removed so that an unobstructed view of the saloon can be readily had."

The best way to cure disease is to drive it from the system by purifying the blood with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Why will you buy bitter nauseating tonics when Groves' Tasteless Chili Tonic is a pleasant as Lemon Syrup. Your druggist is authorized to refund the money in every case where it fails to cure. Price, 50 cents.

Biliousness

Is caused by torpid liver, which prevents digestion and permits food to ferment and putrify in the stomach. Then follow dizziness, headache,

Hood's Pills

insomnia, nervousness, and, if not relieved, bilious fever or blood poisoning. Hood's Pills stimulate the stomach, rouse the liver, cure headache, dizziness, constipation, etc. 25 cents. Sold by all druggists. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ANOTHER SMART WOMAN.

My husband is poor but proud and he does not want me to work; as I have nothing to do I get restless, and after reading in your paper Mrs. Russell's experience selling self-heating flatirons I concluded I would try it. I wrote to J. F. Casey & Co., St. Louis, Mo., and they treated me so nicely that I felt very much encouraged. As soon as I got my sample iron I started out and sold 8 irons the first day, clearing \$12 I have not sold less than eight any day since, and one day I sold 17. I now have \$224 clear money, and my husband does not know I have been working, but I am afraid he will be mad when I tell him. Have I done right or should I quit work and leave him to struggle alone?

AN ANXIOUS WIFE. You are doing just right, your husband should be proud of you, go right ahead and show the world what an energetic woman can do. That self-heating iron must be a wonderful seller, as we hear of so many that are succeeding selling it.

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that has ever been made. Only a limited number printed. Order at once of the publisher. Price \$5.00. LEVI BRANSON, Raleigh, N. C.

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Sheriff's Sale of Land.

In order to satisfy an execution issued to me from the Superior Court of Halifax County in favor of A. White and against Mike Hardy, I shall sell for cash at auction at the Court House Door in Halifax, on first Monday in February, 1897, being the 8th day of said month, the following described real estate of the said Mike Hardy, lying, being and situate in said county and State, to wit:—That land which was conveyed to said Mike Hardy by K. Leggett by deed of record in said county in Book 67 on page 261 to which reference is made and bounded by the lands of the late David Clark, the Urquhart land, and by Roanoke River and containing three hundred and seventy-five acres, more or less, and known as Buzzard Point and Hawkins land. That land which was conveyed to said Mike Hardy by Burwell and wife by deed of record in Book 66 on page 132, and beginning at a bole gum in Cypress Swamp and running S. 50. W. 122 poles to a stake, thence S. 164 poles by a new made chopped line to Roanoke River, thence David Clark's line to the beginning, and containing one hundred and fifteen acres, more or less. And all that tract of land which was conveyed to said Mike Hardy by Burwell and wife by deed of record in said county in Book 68 on page 289, except that part thereof which has been allotted to said Mike Hardy as a Homestead, and containing forty acres, more or less. This January 4th, 1897. J. T. DAWSON, Sheriff. By C. W. DUNN, Dep. Sheriff. 1-7-97.

See Here!

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All grades are bringing satisfactory prices and especially good Tobacco as the demand is very large for fine Wrappers and Cutters.

We are wide awake and wide open. Load up and drive straight to Boyd's Warehouse, Boyd & Young, Proprietors. We are anxious for Tobacco to fill large orders, and all Tobacco put on our floor will receive our personal attention and shall bring the Highest Market Prices at all times. We are Your friends, Boyd & Young, PROPRIETORS. 9 17 3m

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SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS: Leave Weldon daily at 12:20 p. m. Arrive Roanoke Rapids 1:30 p. m. Leave Roanoke Rapids, 2:00 p. m. Arrive Weldon 3: p. m.

WILL MAKE SPECIAL TRIPS if necessary leaving Weldon at 8:00 a. m. and 4:00 p. m. FARE for the round trip 75c. Fare one way only, 50c. 5 4 3m COMFORTABLE VEHICLES AND GOOD TEAMS.

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New - Year's Announcement.

Having opened with a new stock in the Post office building one door above the Post office, on east side of Main street, I shall be glad to supply my friends and the public generally with

Groceries, FRUITS, CANDIES, Etc.

Five boxes London Layer Raisins at 10c a pound—25 per cent. cheaper than they can be bought elsewhere. GIVE ME A CALL and save money. 1 7 4t A. VAUGHAN, Scotland Neck, N. C.

MECHANICS and INVESTORS UNION,

OF RALEIGH, N. C., J. C. DREWRY, PRES. B. S. JERMAN, TREAS. GEO. ALLEN, Sec'y.

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