

The Commonwealth.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor. Published Every Thursday. Entered at the Post-Office at Scotland Neck, N. C., as Second Class Matter. THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1897.

FOUR MONTHS SCHOOL.

There has been a good deal said through the papers for the past few months about the four months school term to which the children of the State are entitled under the Constitution.

The editor of THE COMMONWEALTH asked to see the books of Mr. W. A. Dunn, chairman of the school committee for Scotland Neck township, and Mr. Dunn cheerfully opened his books.

That this committee has had charge of the white and colored schools for district No. 3 and that the white children have had four months of school every year and the colored children more than four months school every year.

In addition to keeping the schools running four months in the year, they have purchased land and built a new school house for the colored just outside of Scotland Neck at a cost of \$230; and they have bought a lot in town and built a school house for the whites at a cost of \$255.

This is a good record as a school committee, and the fact that we could get this correct and intelligent information from chairman Dunn's books, shows that he has attended to the schools' interest in a business way.

THE COMMONWEALTH is of the opinion that if all the free schools in the State were conducted in a strictly business way, there would be many more districts that could show the four months school term every year.

INCLUDES THE COMMONWEALTH.

The Elizabeth City Economist asks, "Where is our Moses?" It thinks North Carolina needs a great leader, a "speaking trumpet like Vance," it says. Our contemporary mentions some of the papers of the Democratic Press that are doing their work well against the enemies to good government, and is complimentary enough to us to include THE COMMONWEALTH.

DEFENDS THE MEMORY OF VANCE.

Lenoir Topic.

Mr. Bailey, the young man who came 200 miles to preach the gospel of despair to the people of Caldwell, said in a speech at Granite Falls last Saturday that North Carolina had not produced a statesman in forty years.

MR. ROUSS' BENEVOLENCE.

Charles Broadway Rouss of New York, the well known philanthropist towards whatever pertains to the "Lost Cause," has written Gov. Russell that he desires to contribute \$250 towards a memorial shaft over North Carolina soldiers buried in Stonewall Cemetery at Winchester, Va.

You may hunt the world over and you will not find another medicine equal to Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy for bowel complaints. It is pleasant, safe and reliable.

SAYS IT IS A FARCE.

A correspondent to the Charlotte Observer who signs his name "Wood-Chopper", and who says that the best epitaph he could wish would be: "He was a Christian and a friend of Vance," makes the following observations about the August election on the school tax question:

I have been taught, and I believe that equal and exact justice to all and special privileges to none is a fundamental principle of good government, and that any violation of it, even for a good cause, will result in harm to the State.

The commissioners of this county, have levied a tax of ten cents on property and thirty cents on poll, and have ordered the election. The real question presented to the people for their decision is, will they vote for this tax or against it?

Again, the Supreme Court has decided that the Legislature could not give to county commissioners the right to levy a tax sufficient to carry on the public schools four months, as provided in the constitution, if when added to the State and county tax it exceeded 6 2/3 cents on the \$100 worth of property and \$2 on the poll.

TRUCKERS HAPPY.

A New Berne correspondent to the Norfolk Virginian a few days ago gave the following pleasing account of the trucking interest about New Berne:

"Your correspondent, during a recent visit to the truck farms in this vicinity, could readily see the overjoyed glimmering upon the face of every trucker, due to the prosperous season in truck which they have just passed.

"The cabbage and pea crops around here were tremendous in their yield, and the prices held up well, netting the farmers large profits on these crops. The Oaks' Farm, Hackburn & Willett, proprietors, shipped over 25,000 crates of cabbage during the season alone.

"The Irish potato crop was short, and the yield was not quite as large as was expected when the seed were deposited, but nevertheless this crop was a success—the prices for potatoes holding up excellently.

"In fact the truck yield and prices as a whole were a success. Not only has the truck farmer been benefited by the prosperous truck season, but every class of trade here has most sensibly felt the result.

"When the cantaloupe crop is gathered and shipped, the farmers of this vicinity will be through, when they will rest and enjoy their earnings until another season, which, it is hoped, will be a profitable one to them as the one just passed.

"This boom for the farmers cannot be credited to the 'McKinley wave of prosperity,' but to an omnipotent ruler, and to Him, and Him only, the trucker must give thanks for his success this season."

ASKING PARDON.

A petition is being circulated asking President McKinley to pardon J. R. Holland, the cashier of the Merchants and Farmers' National Bank of Charlotte, who was sentenced to eight years of imprisonment for embezzlement.

The Monroe Journal remarks: "Yes, pardon him, of course, for didn't he steal a chicken or a pound of meat. Can anybody wonder that the disrespect for courts and judges increases?"

When a person is losing flesh and wasting away there is cause for alarm. Nothing so worries a physician. Consumptives would never die if they could regain their usual weight. In fact there would be no consumption if there was no wasting of the system.

Every mother hates to make her children take Castor Oil. Laxol is sweet Castor Oil.

STATE GLEANINGS.

SAFE BLOWERS AT WORK.

Wilmington Messenger 9th: Parties who arrived here on the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley railway yesterday afternoon inform us that some time between midnight and yesterday morning safe blowers cracked two safes at Liberty. The safes in the Farmers' Alliance store and in the store of Brown & Pritchett were blown open and robbed. The blowers got about \$300 in money from the two safes.

KILLED NEAR HENDERSON.

Durham Sun: The information reaches Durham of a young man being killed by a freight train on the Seaboard Air Line, two miles below Henderson Wednesday. The young man, whose name was Paul Brown, claiming to hail from Charlottesville, Va., while beating a ride, fell between the cars crushing both legs and receiving internal injuries from which he died several hours later.

GOOD YIELD OF WHEAT.

Roxboro Courier: It is gratifying to hear of such good yields of wheat. The best, considering the quantity, is that of S. C. Humphries, of Bethel Hill. He sowed 19 bushels from which he threshed 384, making 20 1/2 to one sowed.

The annual meeting of the Thomasville Baptist Orphanage is the 21st of July. The annual sermon will be preached by Rev. T. J. Taylor, of Warrenton, N. C., at 11 o'clock a. m. and the address will be delivered by Hon. Locke Craig, of Asheville, N. C., at 2 o'clock p. m.

NO TAX FOR PUBLIC ROADS.

Henderson Gold Leaf: The election last Tuesday on the question of taxation for working the public roads, was defeated throughout the county. Every township voted largely against it with the exception of Nutbush, which gave one majority in favor of the measure.

The result would appear to indicate that the people are in no humor to vote an increased burden of taxation upon themselves just now. And especially so when they do not know how the money is to be appropriated and what benefit will be derived from it after it is expended.

But the fact that this proposition was defeated at the polls Tuesday is not to be taken as indicating that the people of Vance county—both in town as well as country—are not in favor of good roads. It means rather that they do not take kindly to the pig in the bag method of going about getting them.

A GOOD WALKER.

The Suffolk correspondence to the Norfolk Landmark of Saturday wrote: "A gentleman from North Carolina, who went down on the excursion yesterday to Ocean View on the steamer Endeavor, failed to get off the boat at the lower wharf, and on reaching the upper wharf found that the train which he should have taken had moved off before he left the boat.

He walked up town and went to the Suffolk and Carolina depot to find the train gone from there also. Determined not to be outdone he started on foot down the above named road toward his home. After walking about seven miles, and feeling tired, he sat down to rest awhile, but soon fell asleep. How long his slumber was undisturbed no one knows, but after a good nap he awoke and resumed his journey homeward, as he thought, but a seven mile walk proved to be his satisfaction, or dissatisfaction, that he had once more reached the depot at Suffolk. Nothing daunted, he began immediately to retrace his steps homeward, and Captain Rawls, conductor on the Suffolk and Carolina passenger train, says he met him this morning still plodding his weary way homeward. He will doubtless get there, by steady application, a wiser man."

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8. Because it produces no bad results.
9. Because it is pleasant and safe to take.
10. Because it has saved the lives of more people than any other medicine in the world.

HOW PITT STANDS.

Greenville Reflector.

Everybody seems to be the same way of thinking about local taxation in this county. No one favors it. It would be utterly folly to raise more money to put into the present management of public schools. Those who favor local taxation under other circumstances could never be induced to vote for it at present.

SENATOR HARRIS DEAD.

Senator Isham G. Harris from Tennessee died in Washington, Thursday July 8, at 5 o'clock, p. m. He was in his seventy-ninth year. He was a member of the United States Congress before any member of that body now living. He served in public life more than fifty years.

The North Carolina Local Preachers and Lay-workers' Conference will meet with Epworth chapel in Raleigh, August 12-15. This is the 28th Annual session, and is a meeting of preachers and lay-workers for mutual improvement.

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