

# The Commonwealth.

V. E. HILLIARD, - - - Editor.  
Published Every Thursday.

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1898.

## BENT ON RUIN.

From the many disgraceful things that are almost daily transpiring in the official circles of the State, one feels inclined to believe that the crowd now in power are bent on the ruin of our grand old commonwealth. They seem willing to do anything and at any cost just so they can make it a personal gain to themselves.

One is reminded of the wicked spirit that possessed Lady Macbeth when she was about to enter in to slay good king Duncan.

Her invocation was:

".....Come, you spirits  
That tend on mortal thoughts.....  
.....fill me from the crown to the toe  
top-full

Of direst cruelty! make thick my blood;  
Stop up the passage and access to remorse,  
That no compunctious visitings of nature  
Shake my fell purpose, nor keep peace  
between  
The effect and it.....  
.....Come, thick night,  
And pall thee in the dunest smoke of hell,  
That my keen knife see not the wound  
it makes,  
Nor heaven peep through the blanket  
of the dark,  
To cry, 'Hold! Hold!'

A purpose no less diabolical and an invocation to no less wicked spirits seem to possess those who now pretend to direct the interests of North Carolina. Like hungry vultures or ravenous wolves they pull and gnaw at the vitals of the State to satisfy the greed that is as unholy as were the cravings of Lady Macbeth for the results that she thought would follow the taking of the life of the king. But we shall shake them loose, and to this let every good and patriotic citizen bend his best energies.

## WHY SO EMPHATIC?

We sometimes wonder why men who speak in front of a conviction speak with such emphasis as they employ. Well, we cannot understand why a man speaks so until the standpoint of the emphatic speaker is regarded; and then right surely we can, for the most part, understand it. And those who wonder at the following strong paragraph of the Charlotte Observer, must needs see the wreck and ruin which have fallen upon our fair land and State within the past seven years, and see it from the standpoint of our contemporary, before they can appreciate its feelings.

It says:

"The apostles of Populism of to-day are preaching their doctrines in the name of Andrew Jackson and Thomas Jefferson, and the worst of it all is that the people believe them. These men believed in honest trade, honest money, honest men, honest laws, but the charlatans of politics are to-day wrecking the nation in their name. The iteration and re-iteration of the lie has at last brought conviction. It is a sad day for the republic when people can swallow the statement that the mantle of Thomas Jefferson has fallen upon Marion Butler or that Daniel L. Russell has a double portion of the spirit of Andrew Jackson.

"Such things can no more be in reality than a Lie can be Truth or Heaven Hell. But the asses have put on the lion skins, and Populist stink weeds are passing as Jefferson and Jackson flowers. Lookout for counterfeit coin."

## THE CROATANS KEEN-EYED.

The Croatans of Robeson county know which side of their bread is buttered, and who butters it. Through one of their number they recently sent the following to the Lumberton Robesonian:

"To the Robesonian: The Croatan people of Lumberton township, after considering their privileges limited under the rule of the present party, clubbed themselves to apply to Democrats for help and will help them. The Croatan race should all come together and help one another and help those that helped them. Will you give this space?"

"Respectfully,  
"Rev. J. J. Bishaks."

## SAY IT AGAIN.

In North Carolina, the Democratic party was secure so long as its representatives lived up to their political moral obligations, but once these were cast off, the party's overthrow was easy and certain, and only through the correction of such methods or ways as led to its overthrow, can the party hope or expect to return to power.—New Bern Journal.

## CONSERVATIVE SCOTLAND NECK.

Some years ago a good man who meant well in all that he said and did, advised us to be conservative. That good man has been dead for some time and has gone to his reward, which we have reasons to hope and believe is in the "better land."

And while his counsel was prudent and wise, it is just possible for one to make a mistake by adhering to it too long and too far. Conservatism is indeed desirable in all and every business and in every sphere of human activity; but it is worth while to make some distinction between conservatism and fossilism.

Some men think they are wisely and beautifully conservative, when they are all the while becoming fossilized. Some people who are no more than a bump on a log, so far as activity goes, congratulate themselves that they are the balance-wheel that holds other people in proper place. Most of us have seen such cases of delusion. It is just possible for people to make such a mistake and all the time think they are acting very wisely.

THE COMMONWEALTH wishes to make a clear and plain application of all this to Scotland Neck. Time has been when people in almost every community in North Carolina, and in many communities outside of North Carolina, thought Scotland Neck a progressive town; but that opinion has changed during the past year or two.

The town seems to have made a great effort to be conservative during the stringent times, and we give it as our opinion, which all can take at what they think it is worth, that Scotland Neck is on the verge of fossilization. Simply because times are said to be hard is no reason for sitting still and letting the tide of opportunity flow by us. We doubt seriously if, when all things are considered, times are much harder than they have always been. Hard times has been a cry "time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary"—certainly so far as we remember. If the people of many slow towns had had the opportunity in 1776 that the people of Scotland Neck have to-day, we dare say these towns would not be what they are; and we dare say further that they would have done much more with the opportunity than Scotland Neck seems disposed to do now.

This paper has repeatedly pointed out mistakes that Scotland Neck has made as a town, thereby losing some fine opportunities to "lengthen its cords and strengthen its stakes," and many have agreed with us when it was too late.

And, now, let us say to the people of Scotland Neck, among whom we have lived for more than a dozen years, that we think them capable of great things and great development if they will only combine their energies; but we sound the warning, ominously too, that this town is in danger of becoming an oat patch, compared to what it might be, by settling down to an immovable conservatism.

Wake up, gentlemen, or the day is not far ahead of you when you will wish you had "got up at six."

We do not wish to see any wild-cat enthusiasm; but we do say that unless the business men of the town bestir themselves a little more and exhibit a little more unanimity of purpose the tide will recede and leave them "high and dry" on the shore, when they might have floated out on the flood of success.

## COURTEOUS MR. KITCHIN.

The following telegram was sent out from Washington a few days ago, concerning the courtesy of Hon. W. W. Kitchin:

Representative Kitchin can always be depended upon to do the handsome thing. He had ten minutes which were yielded him by Representative Livingston to speak on the Civil Service question, but as Representative Bailey, the Democratic leader, expressed a desire to speak, Mr. Kitchin graciously tendered the time given him by Mr. Livingston, and the result was that Mr. Bailey closed the debate.

"Mr. Kitchin is opposed to the Civil Service law, but is against any modification of it as proposed by the Republicans."

## NO CURE—NO PAY

That is the way all druggists sell GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC for Chills, Fever and all forms of Malaria. It is simply Iron and Quinine in a tasteless form. Children love it. Adults prefer it to bitter nauseating tonics. Price, 5¢

Subscribe to THE COMMONWEALTH.

## "HOLD ROBESON AND SAVE THE STATE."

Dr. B. F. McMillian, of Rowland, Robeson county, was in the city yesterday. He will shortly move to Red Springs to practice his profession and be near the excellent schools that make Red Springs famous.

Dr. McMillian says there is pronounced change of sentiment in Robeson county. The better element in the Populist party are utterly disgusted with the scandals and the bad government that is disgracing the State, and there is coming to be a sentiment among all white folks to come together and redeem the county and the State from the present disgraceful condition that is giving us a bad reputation. Dr. McMillian believes that all patriotic white men ought to be appealed to this year upon grounds of race pride and State pride to restore their government to the hands of white men of virtue and intelligence, and he believes that the dose of so-called government they are now getting will cause them to join all other white men in kicking out the present gang, and cleaning out the stables.—News & Observer.

## JUDGE DICK RESIGNS.

Much has been said about the resignation of Judge Dick of the Federal Court. The following to the Richmond Dispatch from Washington Monday, seems to settle it:

The resignation of Judge Dick, of the Western North Carolina District, was tendered to day, to take effect upon the appointment of his successor. Judge Dick is now at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore.

The appointment of Assistant-Attorney-General Boyd to succeed Judge Dick was suggested to the President to-day. Speaking kindly of Colonel Boyd, and intimating that higher honors awaited him in another direction, Mr. McKinley said he desired to appoint Judge Ewart. He served in the House with Mr. Ewart, and his appointment will be a personal one.

## FRITCHARD WOULD NOT ACCEPT.

Washington, January 17.—Senator Fritchard, in an interview to-day, said that under no consideration would he accept the appointment of District Judge in North Carolina, made vacant by the resignation of Judge Dick.

## KITCHIN'S COMPETITOR.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—In an interview to-day, Dr. James E. Shepherd, chief clerk of the recorder's office, announced his candidacy for Congress in the Fifth District. Mr. Settle is also a candidate. Something interesting is doubtless in store, as in the last campaign Mr. Shepherd was one of Mr. Settle's staunchest supporters. He also stated that he was in the fight to the finish, that the negro has gotten comparatively nothing in the State, though he praised Senator Fritchard for his efforts in their behalf, but stated that some man had to be nominated who was friendly to the negro and not controlled by corporations to keep down the masses.

## WAKE FOREST PROSPEROUS.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)  
WAKE FOREST, N. C., Jan. 18, '98.

The opening of the spring term is better than ever before, within the history of the college; that is, more new men have matriculated than ever before up to this point in the spring term. Many more are expected to come yet. The number of new men will be 25 at least.

We are glad to have Mr. S. B. Alsop of Enfield among our number. He is a son of S. S. Alsop, Esq.

Halifax county has a fine representation at Wake Forest college. Her number is six. It is not too late for students to enter yet. We would be glad to see many more from the eastern section of the State.

Dr. E. W. Sykes has accepted the call to the Chair of History and Political Economy. He completed a course at Johns Hopkins University last June.

The trustees of the college have decided to add a new brick building to the college, in which a gymnasium will be established on the modern style. It is expected to be completed by the opening of the next session.

The widow of the late Dr. Walters of this place has donated his entire library to the college.

Special arrangements have been made in the reading room for the library of Doctor Skinner.

The college library contains seventeen thousand volumes.

Rev. W. R. Gwaltney, the college pastor, has been fortunate in securing Rev. A. C. Baron of Charlotte, to aid him in a series of meetings at this place. The meeting is expected to commence during this month.

It is nearly time for the Anniversary of the Literary Societies. February 11th is the time. W. O. R.

## BUCKLEN'S ARNICA SALVE.

The best salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by E. T. WHITEHEAD & CO.

## LATE NEWS.

News has gone out through the papers that Robert Hancock has been excommunicated from the Baptist church in New Bern because of the scandal that attaches to his name of late.

The Windsor correspondent to the Richmond Dispatch says: "The stables and barn of Edward Beasley, at Colerain, in this county, were burned Friday night. Loss about \$2,000; no insurance."

Elizabeth City Fisherman and Farmer: Subscriptions are being taken for a stock company to operate a large oyster packing house here. This is a move in the right direction. That it will pay is a well assured fact, and we have but to remember a few years back when the oyster industry in this town was such a great factor to business generally. It will be so again.

Greenville Reflector: It is reported in town today that near Haddock's X Roads, Friday night, Mr. Ed. Cox, a young white man, killed a colored man named Asa Graper by cutting the latter's throat. The colored man was found on the road this morning. We could not get any further particulars except that too much whiskey was the cause of the trouble.

## SPEIGHT A LA CADE.

The Raleigh correspondent to Tuesday's Charlotte Observer said: "M. L. Wood brought the news to-day that Rev. T. T. Speight, of Bertie county, has been tendered the position of chaplain of the United States penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, at \$1,600 a year, vice Rev. Baylus Cade, who resigns to go to the Indian Territory to practice law."

Greenville Reflector: The negro, Ben Fields, who gave the man named Keel, at Conetoe, poisoned whiskey, some months ago, and who was tried at December term of Edgecombe Superior court and sentenced to be hanged some time in January, has been given a commutation to life imprisonment. Fields said that a man named Alford hired him to give Keel the poison, and Alford was also tried at the same time with Fields but was acquitted.

A special to the Richmond Dispatch from Washington Monday said: "R. O. Burton acting for J. W. Wilson and S. Otho Wilson in their suit against the State of North Carolina entered a motion in the Supreme Court of the United States for writs of attachment against L. A. Caldwell and John H. Pearson, for violating the supersedeas in the case, and for orders restoring each of the Wilsons to the office of Railroad Commissioner of North Carolina."

The case grows out of the removal by the Governor of the Messrs. Wilson from this office, and the appointment of Messrs. Caldwell and Pearson as their successors.

It was stated on behalf of the State that a motion would soon be entered to dismiss the cases.

## FIRST TRAIN TO ROANOKE RAPIDS.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)  
ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C., Jan. 18, '98.

The first passenger train to make its appearance in Roanoke Rapids was last Tuesday. It was a special of the Seaboard Air Line, with quite a number of its authorities.

All the ladies of the M. E. Church and town also are requested to meet at Mrs. R. W. Brown's on Friday afternoon at three o'clock, for the purpose of organizing a parsonage aid and home mission society.

Miss Maud Watson returned Thursday, after spending two weeks with her mother in Scotland Neck.

Mr. Tom Hardy, foreman of the knitting department of the Roanoke Underwear Co., returned last Friday from a three weeks' trip to New York.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Grizzard, jr., spent Sunday in Halifax.

Mr. W. F. Parker, agent for THE COMMONWEALTH, spent a few hours in town last Wednesday.

Mr. James B. Pugh, treasurer of the Roanoke Underwear Company, came down last Wednesday from New York on a short business trip. He left on the night train for Newport News, where he is interested in a large knitting mill business.

The young ladies of the Baptist Church here, have organized a society as the Twilight Social club. They will give an entertainment in a few weeks for the benefit of the church.

When your stomach begins to trouble you, it needs help. The help it needs, is to digest your food, and until it gets it, you won't have peace. Stomach trouble is very distressing, very obstinate, very dangerous. Many of the most dangerous diseases begin with simple indigestion. The reason is that indigestion (not-digestion, not-nourishment) weakens the system and allows disease germs to attack it. The antidote is Shaker Digestive Cordial, strengthening, nourishing, curative. It cures indigestion and renews strength and health. It does this by strengthening the stomach, by helping it to digest your food. It nourishes you. Shaker Digestive Cordial is made of pure herbs, plants and wine; is perfectly harmless and will certainly cure all genuine stomach trouble. Sold by druggists, price 10 cents to \$1.00 per bottle.

## CAPITAL JOTTINGS.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)  
WILLARD'S HOTEL,  
Washington, Jan. 18, 1898.

The best inside information that can be obtained at this writing is to the effect that the opposition to the Hawaiian annexation treaty is melting away. The opinion is gaining ground that it will finally be ratified and that the debate may close earlier than was indicated by our advices last week. It is true that there is still an influential lobby at work in the interest of the Sugar Trust against annexation; and that efforts have been made to enlist the best sugar interest on that side, but upon sober second thought the representatives of the latter interest are beginning to see that they have nothing in common with the great monopoly and that the limited output of Hawaiian sugar can have no effect upon the price of their product.

It is rather late to discuss the Ohio Senatorial contest, yet that affair and its bearing upon the future of national as well as Ohio politics is a leading topic in Washington. Few politicians of either party doubt that Hanna bought his election, and if the matter comes before the Senate with anything like a substantial showing of the facts the great boss is likely to have more trouble than he has anticipated. There are some Senators of his own party who neither like Hanna or approve of his methods, and if his peculiar manner of obtaining results should be probed on him, his seat would hardly be worth what it cost him. Probably no man now in public life has done more to debauch politics or to strangle patriotism and respect for so-called popular verdicts. His contempt for the common people and belief that all ends can be secured by the use of money—that the interests of the money power must alone prevail—is rapidly becoming the single plank in the platform of the political element he represents. It continues to be accepted by the public we will not need a Daniel or a Solomon to prophesy what is to become of the republic.

The debate on the civil service gave the humorists in the House a chance to exercise their fun-making faculty. Gillett, of Massachusetts, who has a face as finely drawn as a cameo, made a strong argument in favor of the present system, and took occasion to fire one or two hot ones at the "grim old lion of Athens," as Champ Clark calls General Grosvenor. He pictured the gray bearded Ohioan as crying to his young comrades in the House in the words of Henry of Navarre at the battle of Ivry: Press where you see my white plume shine.

Amid the ranks of war, And be your oriflamme to-day The head of Grose-venor.

At another time he described the spoils system in the following verse:

It lies through two swing doors swung to.  
The attendance is always full.  
Some by the door marked, "push" get through,  
And the rest by the door marked, "pull."

But it was left to Representative John Allen, the well-known wit of the House, to tell a story that pleased the civil service advocates immensely. Allen was paying his respects to the crowded galleries and declared that their applause was not a good sign as to the wants of the people. "I will tell you what makes the galleries applaud," he went on. "I will tell you what makes them howl. A friend was telling me the other day about a dog that he had that howled and moaned all night. He didn't want to kill the dog and he didn't want to give him away. He talked to an old darkey about him, and asked what he ought to do with him. The old darkey laughed and said, 'Why, massa, you raised in de country 'mong dogs, and don't know what make dat dog howl dat way? Why, when you hear a dog howl and moan dat way, he smells something and can't locate it. (Great laughter.) Now, my friends, when you hear these howls of applause from the galleries it simply means that the crowd up there smells the pie but can't locate it."

That big-hearted Tennessee Representative, Walter Brownlow, created a good deal of laughter when he declared that President McKinley, in considering the loud protestations of Cleveland for civil service reform should have remembered the negro rhyme:

De bigger dat you see de smoke  
De less de fire will be;  
And de leastest kind of possum  
Climb de biggest kind of tree.

De leader at de ole camp ground,  
Dat kin louddest sing and shout,  
Is gwine to rob some hen roost  
Befo' de week is out.

The average member likes to exhibit his literary knowledge when making a speech on the floor by sprinkling through his remarks some more or less appropriate quotations. This is usually an easy thing to do, as there are a number of well known works on the subject of quotations, that are alphabetically arranged, and the only trouble experienced is in memorizing the selection.

Broasus, of Pennsylvania, has a good reputation for appropriate quotations from standard authors. At one time he was an instructor of elocution, which may account for his familiarity

with poetry. Many times quotations are incorrectly given on the floor, but the wonderful men who report the debates see to it that they are printed correctly, and save the members from humiliating criticism. A person of inquiring turn recently ran through the debates of a late Congress to see which quotation was a favorite with Congressional speakers, and found that the following old couplet led by a handsome majority:

"'Til fares the land to hastening ills a prey,  
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

## Men Will Smoke.

Why do you buy Cigars one at the time and pay 5c. each for them when you can buy them by the box from the manufacturer so much cheaper? I will send by mail or express, prepaid, Cigars as follows: A 10c. Cigar, \$7.00 per 100; a 5c. Cigar, \$4.00, \$3.50, \$3.00 per 100; a 2 1/2c. Cigar, \$2.00 and \$1.75 per 100. Address, R. F. Davis, Winterville, N. C.

OLD NEWSPAPERS FOR SALE.  
40 cents per hundred.

## Horses & Mules.



Our new stables are well filled with good Horses that we offer at Low Prices.

We keep a good lot constantly on hand.

We are doing the business, and ask you to come and see our stock before you purchase. You can get your pick from our fine lot of Mules any day.

Biggs & Johnson,  
Scotland Neck, N. C.

# GO TO BOYD'S WAREHOUSE, ENFIELD, N. C.

For the Highest Market Price.

Which is still strong and active, especially on good wrappers.

We have ample floor space. No crowding, and perfect light.

With Nat. Smith for auctioneer, and a courteous and efficient corps of help, we are determined to leave no stone unturned to please all who call on us.

Very truly, Your friends,  
BOYD & YOUNG.

## SANTA CLAUS

Has made his HEADQUARTERS AS USUAL at MEYER'S.

Opening of TOYS and HOLIDAY NOVELTIES commenced. Children who want to tell Santa Claus what to bring them write to him in care of

S. MEYER, Agt., Enfield, N. C.

and Santa Claus will get it. Call early to avoid the rush later on.

## The Norfolk Dyeing, Cleaning and Repairing Co.

OLD SUITS MADE TO LOOK LIKE NEW.

LADIES' SUITS, GLOVES, ETC., CLEANED AND DYED AT LOWEST RATES. Suits Dyed, \$2. Hats Cleaned, 25c. Suits Cleaned and Pressed, 75c. Boys' Knee Suits Cleaned and Pressed, 40c. Coats Cleaned and Pressed, 50c. Vests, 20c. Pants, 30. Overcoats, 75c.

Write or see us in regard to Club Rates. PANTS PRESSED, 10c. We employ only the best workmen. All work will be guaranteed satisfactory or no pay. Special attention given to all kinds of repairing. 441 Main St., Gladstone Hotel Building, NORFOLK, VA. 9 30 3m. Mention this paper.

## KERN'S

GREAT REMOVAL SALE OF FURNITURE.

On or about the first day of August we move to our new Quarters 113 Old Market Square, and in order to save expense of moving, we offer our entire Stock of FURNITURE and MATTING at prime cost, send us your orders before stock is picked over.

If you want good Furniture cheap, Call at KERN'S, 90 and 92 Old Market Square, Norfolk, Va. 11 26 6m.

## COTTON.

I. P. LEE & CO.

Cotton Factors and Commission Merchants,  
28 ROTHERY'S WHARF, NORFOLK, VA.

Large Warerooms, Ample Storage capacity, Liberal Advances, if desired, on Produce ordered to be held.

Orders for bagging, Ties, Twine, Peanut and Grain Bags and other needed articles, filled at lowest price. Mention this paper. 9 30 6m.

Established 50 Years and Still in the Lead with the Largest Stock of

MONUMENTS, GRAVE-STONES,

—AND—

General Cemetery Work

Finished and Ready for Immediate Delivery, AT LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

Artistic Designs Free by Mail, of Marble and Granite Work. When writing state age of the deceased and limit as to price.

The Couper Marble Works,  
159, 161 and 163 Bank Street, NORFOLK, VA.

Before ordering an Iron Railing, write for our Illustrated Fence Circular. It's free, and tells all about a fence that never disappoints the buyer.