

THE COMMONWEALTH

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor. "EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO. VOL. XV, New Series--Vol. 3. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1899. NO. 2

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THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

North Carolina is to the front all the while in something. While the farmers of Eastern Carolina do not seem to take to wheat raising very much the entire State does not disregard it. The following which we clip from the Southern Farm Magazine, shows a good yield for a ten-acre lot: "On the Bellevue farm in Mitchell county, North Carolina, 467 bushels of wheat were raised last year on ten acres of land. This yield does not include the rakings, which were estimated at fifteen bushels."

Orders at the Virginia Military Institute mean something. The first class, consisting of 35 cadets, were dismissed last week and their connection with the institution ceased. The offense was a disregard of regulations and remonstrances against pyrotechnic displays on New Year's eve. Every effort was made to induce the cadets to abandon their purpose, which the authorities had found out, but to no avail. They smuggled a great quantity of fireworks and made more than a Fourth-of-July demonstration, but the cadets who engaged in it are there no more. They were from twelve different States. They were not dismissed so much for the crime committed as for disturbance and insubordination.

It is going the rounds that leaders of society in Philadelphia and Washington have started a movement to begin and end social occasions at earlier hours. To most of the readers of THE COMMONWEALTH it makes little difference what hours the society people of Washington and Philadelphia keep; but there is a deal of good sense in the suggestion. Young men and young women who have duties to perform every day (and all have them, or ought to have them) are poorly prepared to meet such duties unless they get the proper amount of sleep. "Tired nature's sweet restorer," says Young's Night Thoughts; and truly there is no function of nature more requisite to strong physical life than plenty of sleep. And those who keep late hours do not get it.

The Statesville Landmark makes the following complaint against our language: "The English language is 'fearfully and wonderfully made.' This, for instance, from the Waynesville Courier: 'A baby still holding 4 1/2 gallons was brought in from Pine's Creek Saturday and excited considerable interest.' 'At first glance we wondered what kind of a baby it was that held 4 1/2 gallons and how they gauged the baby's capacity. A second reading disclosed that a 'baby still, holding 4 1/2 gallons,' was a miniature sow-paw plant that had been in operation in the Haywood delts, and which some heartless revenue officer had picked up while its owner was making a Christmas run."

The people of North Carolina are watching with great interest the proceedings of the present Legislature. Much is expected of them by everybody in the State. The Democrats of the State, who sent most of the members of both branches of the Assembly to Raleigh, expect much of them in redemption of the pledges of the Democratic party's representatives on the stump and in newspaper offices during the campaign; and the Republicans are also expecting such legislation as will improve the condition of North Carolina in every way and make possible a continuation of Democratic rule for years and years to come. In all these things let the General Assembly meet present expectations of all.

To the Public!
We are authorized to guarantee every bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be as represented and if not satisfactory after two-thirds of the contents have been used, will refund the money to the purchaser. There is no better medicine made for a grippé, colds and whooping cough. Price, 25 and 50c per bottle. Try it. E. T. Whitehead & Co.

THE LEGISLATURE.

What Our Law Makers Are Doing For North Carolina.

WORK OF THE OPENING DAY.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4—FIRST DAY.
SENATE.—At 12:05, m., Lieutenant Governor Reynolds rapped for order, the floors cleared of visitors and Rev. N. M. Jurney, of Mount Olive, opened the session with a fervent prayer.

THE PRAYER.
"O God, our Father, we recognize our dependence on Thee in all things. We owe our lives to Thy grace, mercy and forbearance. Make us grateful for the past. Grant that we may never fail to follow Thy Law. We beg for wisdom from above to guide our words, thoughts and actions. Bless these men who have been elected to come here. May the Lord camp around and about them. May no sickness bother or sin visit them. Grant that no man may do aught that is shameful or sinful, or that will bring disgrace upon him. Keep them from all wrong. Guard their homes while they are absent that no troubles or disease may visit them. May they have wisdom in making and unmaking our laws. May no partisan feeling lead them to do anything that is wrong. Bless the State and grant that all that can be done may be done for education, industry and religion. We commit ourselves and all that is ours to Thy keeping. Bless the presiding officer of this body. Give to him wisdom and all grace and cause a spirit of kindness to prevail. Guide and lead us." O God, when our work is finished here, may we all have a home in that upper and better world through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Immediately after prayer Hill E. King, clerk of the last Senate, called the roll, all the Senators responding except Senator Colie, of Salisbury, who was ill at his home. The swearing in of the members began and proceeded in the order of the districts, the Senators coming forward in groups of five to present their certificates and take the oath to obey and uphold the Constitution and laws of the State and nation, the Lieutenant Governor, of course, administering the oath. C. C. Daniels, of Wilson, was elected principal clerk. Walter Murphy, of Salisbury, was elected reading clerk. J. B. Smith, of Fayetteville, was elected doorkeeper. Frank A. Cline, of Hickory, was elected engrossing clerk. M. W. White, of Fredell, was elected assistant doorkeeper. E. B. Norvell was appointed engrossing clerk. Senator Fields, of the thirtieth district, sent forward a memorial in the usual form, in behalf of Messrs. Eaves and Lambert, of the 31st district in the matter of the contest. The memorial was read and ordered referred to the Committee on Election when organized.

The memorial of E. P. Jones, of Sampson, was read to the same effect and referred. The chair announced that he had received a letter bearing notice of contest and the evidence in the case of Mr. A. Cannon against Senator Franks, of the thirty-fourth district. At the instance of Senator Justice it was also referred to committee. Senator Brown moved that as the Senate was proceeding without rules, the Senate rules of 1895 be adopted for the guidance of the body until other rules should be adopted. The motion prevailed. Senator Justice moved that a committee of three be appointed to act with a similar committee from the House in notifying the Governor of the State that the Legislature was assembled, organized and ready for business. The motion was adopted and the chair appointed as a committee Messrs. Justice, Glenn and Franks. Mr. Glenn sent forward an amendment entitled an Act to regulate the pay of clerks and other employees of the Legislature. The amendment provided that wherever the word "five" occurred in the present act fixing the compensation of the employees, the word "four" shall be substituted. The act was read, and on motion of Mr. Glenn the rules were suspended and the bill passed its three readings without a dissenting vote. The rules were suspended and the bill ordered sent to the House without being engrossed. The bill, if passed by the House, will have the effect of reducing the pay of the principals—engrossing and reading clerks and their assistants, and of the doorkeepers and assistants from five to four dollars per day.

HOUSE.—As the steel-blue hands on the white-faced clock in the hall of the House of Representatives pointed to the hour of noon, Mr. E. O. Masten, the principal clerk of the House of 1897, on whom devolved the duty of organizing the present House, rapped for order. He announced that Rev. Jesse H. Page would offer prayer. All the Representatives, as well as visitors in the lobby, rose in devout manner while the divine blessing was invoked.

THE PRAYER.
"O Lord, our God, on this bright and auspicious day we come into Thy presence with glad and grateful hearts. Thou art worthy to receive the adoration and praise of all people from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof. We acknowledge Thee to be the creator of all things in heaven and earth, the Sovereign Ruler over all Thy works, and the Giver of every good and perfect gift. Thy tender mercies and loving kindnesses which are over all Thy creatures have especially been with us—the dwellers in this rocky land—this highly favored commonwealth of ours. Truly Thou hast done great things for us, whereof we are glad. "The lines are fallen to us in pleasant places, yea, we have a goodly heritage. We have been kept from the pestilence that walketh in darkness and the destruction that wasteth at noonday. Thou hast helped us in our recent political struggles, choose men to make our laws, who, we believe, are wise, honest and patriotic citizens, no office-seekers, but those who hear and heed the call of their country—men not impelled by any motive of greed or gain. "Now that they have met here for entering upon the performance of these important duties, may every member and the presiding officers of this Legislature be endowed with the wisdom which is from above: which is peaceable, gentle, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and hypocrisy. "God grant that this Legislature may not disappoint the expectations of the people who sent them here, but may the laws which they enact be such as shall promote the best interests of all classes of the people, and set our beloved State on a new career of righteousness, peace and prosperity, which shall extend to all parts of our State. May we as a people never forget the kind hand of our Father which has led us, and sustained us, and give us all our victories. May we show forth our gratitude by walking in obedience to Thy laws, and prove ourselves the people whose God is the Lord." The usual proceeding of appointing the caucus nominees as temporary officers followed the prayer. The roll call was then announced, the Representatives coming forward by counties, in batches of ten, to take and subscribe to the oath, which was administered by Justice Walter Clark, of the Supreme court of North Carolina. A question presented. Representative Cochran, of Montgomery, being the only absentee out of 120 members-elect. The nomination of a Speaker to preside over the deliberations of the House was then declared in order, and Mr. Locke Craig, of Buncombe, was recognized. He said: "I rise for the purpose of naming a man already well known in North Carolina, and beloved by its people from the mountains to the sea. He is the pride of the judiciary of the State; he has filled with distinguished honor every position in which he has been placed. His conservatism and honor will inspire courage and confidence in our people. There is no man in North Carolina better qualified to grapple with the problems that must arise in this House than is Hon. Henry G. Connor, of Wilson. A Democrat of Democrats, his zeal is tempered by conservatism, and his character is above reproach. A ripe scholar, a noble patriot, an experienced legislator, he will preside with ability over this House which must be history-making in the history of North Carolina." This nomination, enthusiastically applauded, was seconded by Mr. Lee S. Overman, of Rowan. He said: "It gives me great pleasure to second the nomination of Judge Connor. He is my friend—the friend of everybody. Of unimpeachable character, a great judge fair, impartial, cool, conservative, just and considerate, the Democrats of this House have acted wisely in choosing him. For it everybody in North Carolina without regard to party, will say, 'Well done, well done, North Carolinians.'" The Republican nominee, Mr. W. W. Hampton, of Surry, was placed in nomination by Mr. A. B. Bryan, of Madison, seconded by Mr. H. S. Williams, of Yadkin. The vote resulted: Connor, 92; Hampton, 22; Johnson, 2; Mitchell, 1. On the announcement of this vote Mr. Masten appointed a committee composed of Messrs. Craig and Hampton to escort the Speaker-elect to the chair. Before taking his seat Judge Connor said: "Gentlemen of the House of Representatives of North Carolina: This body convenes at a period of intense interest to us and to those who shall come after us. We are reminded that we assemble at the close of a century. New questions and conditions stir the hearts and engage the minds of the people. These conditions impose high and most responsible duties. The history of the State for the past few years is known of all men. Whether the record made by us is to be one of honor and to promote welfare of the State will be in a large measure for the present General Assembly to determine. We are called upon to legislate for the best interests of the whole State and its people. "There are questions to be here settled. Grave questions they are and the people of North Carolina expect us to deal with them wisely and with firmness. Times come when conditions demand what appear to be radical

Mr. S. A. Fackler, Editor of the Micanopy (Fla.) Hustler, with his wife and children, suffered terribly from La Grippe. One Minute Cough Cure was the only remedy that helped them. It acted quickly. Thousands of others use this remedy as a specific for La Grippe, and its exhausting after effects. —E. T. Whitehead & Co.

lobbies, rose in devout manner while the divine blessing was invoked.

measures. That time has come in the history of North Carolina. The people are called upon to discharge this duty. Let them not be disappointed. "To preside over this House is an honor at any time, but by us at this time and under such conditions as confront us should gratify the ambition of any citizen. And I assure it does gratify the ambition of him upon whom you have conferred the honor. "In the consideration of the business before this House must conform to the rules and regulations prescribed by the government of legislative bodies. I bespeak your assistance in this respect, and now declare the House ready to proceed with the transaction of the business that has called it together."

On the conclusion of this short speech the oath of office was administered to Judge Connor by Justice Walter Clark and the House proceeded to the election of the other officers named by the Democratic caucus. Brevard Nixon, of Mecklenburg, was elected chief clerk; W. B. Stallcut, of Macon, was elected doorkeeper; Thos. J. Wood, of Randolph, assistant doorkeeper; W. W. Wilson, of Raleigh, reading clerk; J. S. Elmore, of Swain, engrossing clerk. A resolution, offered by Mr. Winston, of Bertie, was passed to the effect that the rules of order used by the General Assembly of 1893 be adopted until further order by the House. On motion of Mr. Moore, of Jackson, the resolution from the Senate appointing a committee to wait on the Governor was concurred in and the Speaker named the following persons to represent the House: Walter E. Moore of Jackson; Lee S. Overman, of Rowan, and R. J. Petree, of Stokes. At this point the first House bill of the session was introduced by Mr. Francis D. Winston, of Bertie. It is an act to repeal the present law in regard to the public printing and was accompanied by a joint resolution.

"The object of this bill and joint resolution," Mr. Winston explained, "is to take the public printing from the present person and give it to others in harmony with the surroundings. But for the lateness of the hour I would ask its immediate consideration." Mr. Overman, of Rowan, wanted to know whether or not there was now a contract between the present printer and the State. Mr. Winston—"There is not." Mr. Overman—"Is there no sort of contract?" "There is one between the printer and Council of State," replied Mr. Winston, "but it contains a wonderful provision whereby either side can kick out whenever it sees fit to do so." "On account of the lateness of the hour I will not ask consideration of bill and resolutions to-day," said Mr. Winston. "Let them go to the calendar." This completed the business of the first day's session of the House.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5—SECOND DAY.
SENATE.—Rev. Levi Bronson offered prayer. Senator Colie, who was absent the first day, came forward and took oath of office. TO INVESTIGATE THE PENITENTIARY. Senator Brown introduced a bill to investigate penitentiary matters. Following is the text of the bill: The General Assembly do enact: Section 1. That a joint committee of five members—two on the part of the Senate and three on the part of the House be appointed to investigate the condition and management of the State penitentiary for the past four years. Section 2. That the said joint committee be authorized, empowered and directed to inquire into the financial condition of the said State penitentiary, with full power and authority to inquire into and investigate any and all charges of fraud, negligence, immorality, incompetency and mismanagement on the part of any officers or employees of said State penitentiary, and the same and institutions in any way connected with or managed by the officers and employees of said State penitentiary. Section 3. That said joint committee be and are hereby empowered to employ competent accountants, stenographers and counsel to aid in said investigation; to elect a chairman and secretary; to subpoena witnesses and compel their attendance; to enforce the production and examination of books, records and papers, under the same forfeitures and penalties as provided by law to compel the production of papers in the Superior Courts of the State. Section 4. That the chairman of said joint committee shall have full power to punish for contempt any officer or employee of said State penitentiary who shall willfully refuse to obey all subpoenas directing his or their appearance before said joint committee, or who shall willfully fail or refuse to produce any books, papers or records relating to the affairs of the said institution. Section 5. That the said joint committee be directed to proceed without delay to make said investigation and report their findings to this General Assembly now in session. Section 6. That the said joint committee be empowered to visit in person the said State penitentiary and all farms in connection therewith, and to make personal investigation and examination of all books and papers therewith. Section 7. That all expenses incurred by the said committee, including the remuneration of accountants, stenographers, counsel, fees and witnesses shall be paid by the Treasurer of the State out of the funds of the State, not oth-

erwise appropriated upon the warrant of the chairman, countersigned by the Secretary of said joint committee. Sec. 8. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act shall be, and the same hereby are repealed. Sec. 9. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification. Sec. 4. is amended by inserting after the word "employees," line 3, the words "or any other person."

On request of Senator Brown the rules were suspended, the bill passed and ordered sent to the House without being engrossed. Senator Travis introduced a bill to change the stock law of Halifax county. On request the rules were suspended, the bill passed its three readings and ordered sent to the House without being engrossed. Senator Glenn, of Forsyth, offered a resolution that a committee be appointed to go carefully over all laws passed by the Legislatures of 1895 and 1897, and recommended such changes as seemed best. Speaking briefly for the resolution, Senator Glenn said a bill for the wholesale repeal of laws passed at the above sessions had been introduced in the House on the ground, he supposed, that no good thing could come out of Nazareth. He thought some good laws had been passed at those sessions, and believed that discrimination should be used in the matter. The rules were suspended, the bill passed and sent to the House without engrossment.

Senate Bill No. 4, by Senator Fields, to repeal the act of 1897 taxing horse dealers, etc., was referred to committee on finance. A bill to repeal Chapter 510, Laws of 1897, creating a State board of equalization, was introduced by Senator Fields and referred. S. B. No. 8, Senator Fields, repealing Chapter 203 of the Public Laws of 1897, relating to the procuring and distribution of dead bodies was referred. S. B. No. 11, To allow contingent remainders to be sold and the proceeds disposed of, was introduced by Senator Fields, of Rockingham, and referred to the judiciary committee. S. B. No. 12, Senator Black, of Moore county, to reduce the disabilities of married women, was referred to the judiciary committee. S. B. No. 13, to repeal Chapter 301 of the stock law as relating to Edgecombe county, was referred. The morning hour having closed, Senator Travis moved that the Senate proceed to elect a president pro tem, as the matter had been overlooked at the first session. Senator Fields did not wish to be understood as opposing it, but thought that under the Constitution it could not be done. Senator Osborne, of Mecklenburg, said that the clause of the Constitution referred to was identical with a clause of the United States Constitution, except that in the latter a word was spelled "choose," whereas the State Constitution spelled it "choose." It had been decided that the United States Senate could elect a president pro tem. Senator Fields withdrew his objection. Senator Jerome nominated Senator R. J. Smith, of Stanley. Senator Fields seconded the nomination. The Republicans made no nominations, and Senator Smith was duly elected.

HOUSE.—Dr. Daniel of the Presbyterian church in Raleigh offered prayer. The order "Introduction of Bills," twenty-three bills and resolutions were introduced. Most of them were referred to proper committees, but a few were immediately put upon their several readings and passed. Among the bills introduced the most important were two providing for Jim Crow Cars—one by Mr. Overman, of Rowan, and one by Mr. McLean, of Harnett; a bill to more equitably divide the school fund between the races, by Mr. Julian, of Rowan; bill to compel railroads to operate air-brakes on all trains, by Mr. Overman; bill to provide for chartering foreign railroad and insurance companies in this State, so as to prevent removal of cases from State to Federal courts, by Mr. Craig, of Buncombe; bill to amend the charter of Wilmington, by Mr. Rountree, of New Hanover; bill to reduce the fees of registers of deeds, by Mr. Leak, of Anson. A message from the Senate announced that S. B. No. 1, an act reducing pay of employees in the Senate from \$3 to \$4 a day, had been passed by that body and sent to the House for concurrence. Mr. Winston moved that the bill be put upon immediate passage on its several readings. On the third reading Mr. Oliver, of Robeson, called for the ayes and noes. The roll call resulted: Ayes, 113; noes, 7. All those who voted in the negative were Republicans. Speaker Connor announced the following committees: Rules—Overman, Craig, Stubbs and Moore. Privileges and Elections—Winston, Leatherwood, White, (Halifax), Bryan, (Granville); Carr, Whitefield, Petrie, Pritchard and Hampton. FRIDAY, JANUARY 6TH—THIRD DAY. SENATE.—The most important bills introduced in the Senate were: The bill of Senator Daniels intended to turn the fees of insurance companies into the State Treasury instead of paying them to the Secretary of State; the bill of Senator Bryan to provide a white government for Craven county; the bill of Senator Jerome to appoint court stenographers; and the bill of Senator Fuller to take the tax off of emigration agents. Senator Miller, of Bayboro, introduced a resolution providing for the removal of the name of Jas. H. Young

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from the corner stone of the white Deaf and Blind Institution. HOUSE.—Among the most important measures was the bill to repeal the act against emigration agents. Mr. Frank Thompson, of Onslow, the author of the bill, said he thought the law of '91, passed to prevent Peg-Leg Williams taking negro laborers from the State, had served its day of usefulness and now ought to be repealed. He thought negroes, like white people, ought to be allowed to go where they liked or could do best. He, for one, was perfectly willing for them all to leave North Carolina. Mr. Ray, of Macon, thought the law a good one. He had voted for it when passed and now he didn't intend to back water simply because the Radicals had charged that it was done to keep the negro here. The law was designed to prevent interference of emigrant agents with farming operations in the eastern part of the State. They always took out of the State the strong, healthy negroes and left the old and weak; often they came in and took them after the crop had been picked and advanced made by the land owner. If it was a good law then it was a good one now. Mr. Curtis, of Buncombe, said this law had been thrown in his face more than any other during the campaign, and he didn't object if all the negroes

[Continued on Second Page.]

La Grippe Successfully Treated.
"I have just recovered from the second attack of a grippé this year," says Mr. Jas. A. Jones, publisher of the Leader, Mexico, Texas. "In the latter case I used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and I think with considerable success, only being in bed a little over two days against ten days for the former attack. The second attack I am satisfied would have been equally as bad as the first but for the use of this remedy as I had to go to bed in about six hours after being 'struck' with it, while in the first case I was able to attend to business about two days before getting 'down.'" For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

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Notice.
By virtue of power conferred upon me by that deed of trust executed to me by Henry Arrington and his wife, Sally Arrington, on the 15th day of February, 1893, and by that deed of trust executed to me by said Arrington and his wife Sally, on the 3rd day of March, 1894, and by that deed of trust executed to me by said Arrington and his wife Sally, on the 2nd day of April, 1895, all duly recorded in the Register's office for said county, I shall sell for cash at auction in Scotland Neck, on the 14th day of June, 1899, the following described land, lying, being and situated in said county, to-wit: That land bounded by the lands of Robert Strickland, Peter Hawkins, J. A. Perry, Mrs. Madry, main run of Deep Creek, and Mrs. Thomas Strickland, and containing one hundred acres, more or less. This December 13th, 1898. 12-15-ts. W. A. DUNN, Trustee.

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