

THE PLOW BOY.

PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TO MEN.

VOL. II

WADESBORO, N. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1895.

NO. 19.

FAIR SHOW FOR ALL.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION TRUE GOVERNMENT.

Those Who Have No Voice in Legislation, Whose Opinions Are Neither Heard Nor Heeded, Must Feel Discontent—The Majority Suffers Also.

If proportional representation is not made an issue in our state and national campaigns next year, it certainly ought to be. Our present method of election is the politicians' stronghold. Adopt proportional representation and he is routed, his power is gone and the curse of party spirit is destroyed. If ours is a representative government, the people who constitute it must be represented; but they are not. If an expression of choice could be given irrespective of party more than four-fifths of the voters would declare for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and yet silver has been denied free coinage, although both the old parties profess to be friends of the white metal. It is the determined purpose of the government to maintain a gold standard.

The great body of the people desire many reforms, but there is no way to reach them by the present method of nominating and electing candidates. We call ours a popular representative government. Every symbol of authority is professedly "from the people," but every election results in the interests of the politicians and the people's interests are ignored and disregarded. It is party control and not the people's control. This is an obvious fact but the public can see it. Such a government is not a people's government; it is a government of the people by the politicians, for the politicians. Any man who favors it is a partisan slave, and any one who tolerates, or is indifferent to it, is unworthy of being an American citizen.

David Dudley Field, an able jurist on whose opinion most people rely in judicial matters, presents the subject under consideration as follows:

Suppose a firm of twenty-five partners. In a conflict of opinion thirteen may rightfully control the twelve. But at the beginning of the year, suppose it were arranged that the parties should be divided into five sections, five of the partners in each. These sections would correspond to five districts in our political partnership. Each section is now to select one to compose a managing committee of five. This committee would correspond to our legislature.

Now who does not see that each one of this managing committee might be chosen by three of the five partners in the section, and thus the whole five of the committee would represent only five members of the firm, ten, or two in each section, having voted against them? But this is not the end. This committee of five representing only three-fifths of the firm are now to legislate for the company. In this legislative body of five, there would be a majority, and they could dictate the whole business.

Finally, as the whole committee of five represented only five members, a majority of said committee, or three, would represent but three-fifths of fifteen, or nine of the whole twenty-five members. Would anything but discontent and dissension, before the end of the year, come of such an arrangement? What would happen in a private partnership upon so frail a system, does happen, and must inevitably happen, in a state where a like faulty system of government is maintained.

The government of a republican country must represent the people or the people will be dissatisfied. (Not if they are strictly partisans, and accept the motto, "To the victors belong the spoils.") Those who have no voice in legislation, whose opinions are not heard or heeded, will be restless under authority; and it is not the minority only who suffer; the majority suffers also from having no proper check, and when at last the scale turns revision is violent and dangerous.

If the anti-slavery minority could have been heard by their representatives, from the beginning, increasing their representatives as their strength increased, not only they, but the pro-slavery majority would have benefited, and who knows but the emancipation of the slaves might have been procured through peaceful legislation at a cost in treasure, to say nothing of the cost in blood, of less than half the expenditure of the war?—Paper read before the American Social Science Association at Lowell Institute, April 5, 1876.

One of the most serious consequences of existing methods of election is the fact of throwing away your vote. Many voters would be glad to support reform, but seeing, or thinking, the reform party has no chance to win, although it may contain several quotas, they, having a prejudice against one or other of the old parties, will cast their votes in order to defeat it; whereas, with proportional representation they could throw their whole strength in the support of their own choice.

Could the principle of proportional representation have been recognized in the composition of the house of representatives twenty years ago, it would have introduced into congress a large number of northern democrats and southern whigs, men out of favor at home, but strong enough, both in numbers and position, to check the violence that led to the last civil war.—American Law Review for January, 1872; volume 6, page 250.

Mr. Garfield said: "In my judgment, the existing electoral system is the weak point in the theory of representative government, as now organized and administered, and that a large proportion of the people are permanently disfranchised. There are about ten thousand democrats in my district, and they have been voting there for the last

forty years without any more hope of having a representative on this floor than of having one in the commons of Great Britain."—Debate in Congress.

If the congressional lines in his state had been erased, and proportional representation adopted there, 10,000 democrats would have been represented in congress. They certainly had as much right to representation as those voters who elected Mr. Garfield.

If we view the facts as they exist, we shall see that a fundamental principle of popular government, that is, the government shall derive its powers from the consent of the governed, has been nullified, defeated and set aside, and the government virtually overthrown. In consequence, this has been brought about by a wrong use of the ballot, by which the people's will has been thwarted, and the weapon for the defense of their liberties has been turned upon them to enslave them.

Is it not time to wake up to this matter? We have been lulled away by our zeal for party, by the false promises of ambitious and designing politicians, by false issues when their real purposes have been concealed.

The sacred trust which has been bequeathed to us has not been guarded. The liberty for which our fathers sacrificed so much of blood and treasure and pledged their lives and fortunes to gain, and transmitted to their children, in all confidence has not been preserved. With the ballot in our hands we have every means necessary to regain the lost treasure and vindicate our honor as American citizens. There is no alternative but defeat or victory.—Industry, Oakland, Calif.

WENDELL PHILLIPS' VOICE.

Labor, the Creator of Wealth, Entitled to All It Creates.

The man who, with his hands, digs claims out of the seashore, or climbing a tree, gathers apples, or one who fashions a hoe out of hard wood, is a pure, simple laborer, and is entitled to what he gets or makes. The man who makes such a hoe one day, and working with it the next day, digs twice as many claims as when he used his hands alone, is capitalist and laborer united. He works a tool, which is capital, the result of past labor. He too is an honest laborer, and entitled to all he gets. A man who works a week and makes ten such hoes, then joins nine less skilled men, with himself, and they, the ten, share fairly the product of his hoes and their toil, introduces co-operation and a just civilization; a system which seems to hold within itself every possibility of safeguard against misuse and to be full of the seeds of all good results.

The man who, in a week, made such a hoe, lets it to another, who shifts rain to dig claims, receiving an equivalent for its use, is a capitalist. Such a system has no inherent, essential injustice in it, and, if it can be properly arranged and guarded, serves civilization. The difficulty is to guard it from degenerating into despotism and fraud.

The man who, getting possession of a thousand such hoes, sits with his hands, and makes ten more banks and floods the land with paper and sells out, retiring after a week of such labor with a fortune, is a thief. Such thieves of the past we propose to leave undisturbed. Our plan is to make such thieves impossible in the future.

WENDELL PHILLIPS.

TWO HUNDRED MILLIONS.

Not Enough Gold Produced Annually to Pay Our Interest on England.

"In his estimate of a \$200,000,000 gold output five years hence the director of the mint is not visionary. This year's yield will probably reach nearly \$200,000,000, and the recent gains have not been far from \$20,000,000 a year. It will be hard after this to get up a scare about 'contraction' in the gold supply. The 'scramble' for gold among the nations will not be desperate enough to cause panics hereafter."—Globe-Democrat.

O, yes; the scramble for gold among the nations will stop—when the millennium comes. The boasted millions of gold produced last year will not be sufficient to pay the regular annual interest tribute to English bond holders and stockholders.

What does \$200,000,000 of gold amount to in this country where the people have to pay interest on \$35,000,000,000 indebtedness? Two hundred million dollars would only pay a little over half the interest for one year at one per cent—and everybody who borrows or loans money knows that the rate will average five times one per cent on all the public and private indebtedness of the country.

The paltry \$200,000,000 of gold would not pay one-eighth part of the interest on our debts for a single year.

Two hundred million dollars looks big on paper—but when it is spread over the surface of the entire United States of America it becomes just an attenuated invisible vapor.

It would require all the gold money on earth and that of eleven more worlds of equal circulation per capita to pay the total debts of the American people alone.

President Cleveland's friendship for monarchy is plainly revealed by his trying to seat a cannibal queen and refusing to recognize the Cubans who are struggling to establish a republic.

COMES FROM THE FARM.

MORE INTEGRITY AMONG TILLERS OF THE SOIL.

Agriculture is the Basis of Everything—And to Legislate Against the Farmer is to Weaken the Foundation of Government and Society.

Rev. Dr. Hawthorne, of Atlanta, preached a sermon to the National Farmers' Congress during its session in that city.

"Text, Phillipsian II-v1 5: 'Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.'"

"Agriculture is, and ever will be, the basis of all other material interests. To foster this industry is to benefit every other industry, and to cripple it is to impair every activity which contributes to the welfare of the people. The race could possibly live without manufacturers, merchants, or dentists, or physicians, or lawyers, or even without politicians, but without the farmer it would soon become extinct. The absolute essential thing for every human being is bread, and the production of it is the vocation of the farmer. To legislate against him is to weaken the very foundation of every lawful and useful industry."

"Nine-tenths of the men who have risen to enviable distinction were born and reared outside of the cities. The majority of them were born in farm houses and had some actual experience in cultivating the soil. Look into the catalogues of our American colleges and you will find nine-tenths of the medalists and first honor graduates were from the country and country villages. Without the new blood that is constantly coming in from the country in less than fifty years the cities would be intellectually impoverished."

INTELLECTUALLY IMPOVERISHED.

Without a constant infusion of men and women from country churches religion would degenerate into the deadliest formalism. Let agriculture flourish, country school houses multiply and country churches continue to be true to the faith and worship of our country fathers and mothers and our NATION WILL BE SAFE, PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY.

"In selecting a subject for this occasion I could think of none that would be more helpful to us than the one presented in the text—'An unselfish and self-denying concern for the welfare of our fellow-man, the only solvent of our social problems.'"

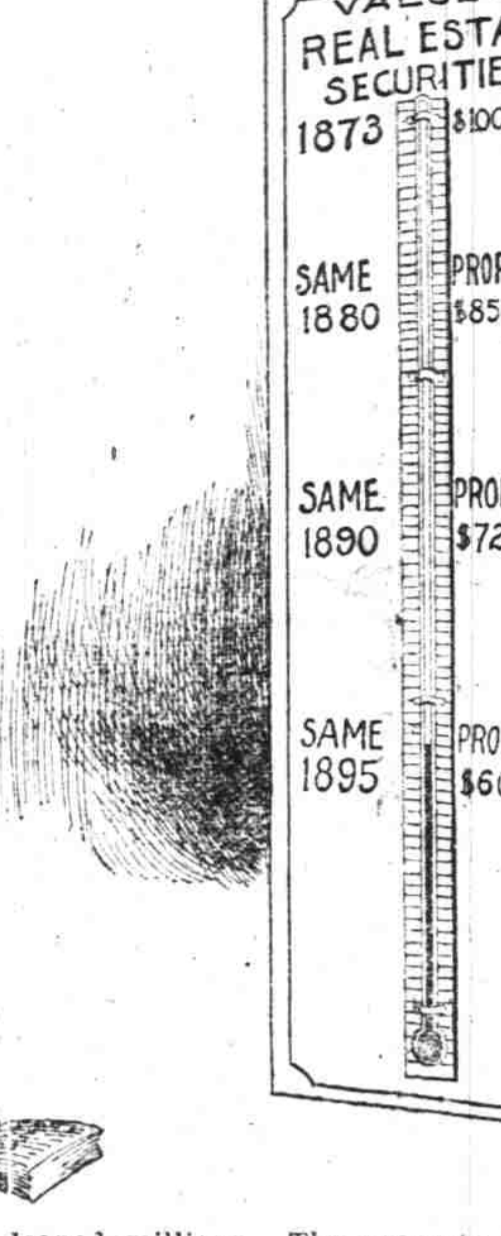
"Society will never get rid of its discord and strife and enter upon a career of abiding peace and prosperity until it is permeated by the spirit and controlled by the principle expressed in this passage. As communities and nations drift away from the great law of benevolence which Christ taught and illustrated in all He said and did and suffered, their depravity increases and their social ills and calamities multiply. Any legislation that contravenes the law of Christ contained in His great Sermon on the Mount will be prolific of nothing but social evil."

"We speak the words of truth and soberness when we say that the power which propels the wheels of our present civilization is not love, but greed, in politics and commerce there is a premium on shrewdness and deception. Unversing honesty and true Christian generosity are sneered at as virtues too sublimated and ethereal to be practiced by creatures who wear earth about them, and who have to grapple with such prosaic questions as 'What shall I eat, what shall I drink, and wherewithal shall I be clothed?'"

"A civilization that is based solely upon self-interest, and that magnifies and rewards men who SUCCEED BY THEIR SUPERIOR CUNNING, has no power withing itself to secure

A NEW ACQUISITION.

(From National Bimetallist.)



Western Banker.—The decline in the price of silver, wheat and other products since 1873 has been followed by a decline in the value of the securities (farms generally) on which we have

TO WEAKEN THE VERY FOUNDATION.

justice. There is nothing that needs saving so much as a civilization that is guided by no great ethical principle, and that marches on without any regard for God and his righteousness. The country that boasts of such a civilization is on the high road to anarchy, nihilism and barbarism.

"Civilization is not a cause, but an effect. It is the product of human character. It expresses the good and evil in the hearts of the people who support it. Any government is just what the people make it. If a state or municipal government legalizes or tolerates such an iniquity as a bull fight or a gambling house, or a bar room, or an indecent theatrical exhibition, it is because the PEOPLE ARE DEPRAVED ENOUGH to deserve it."

"The essence of any civilization is in the character of the people. If the civilization is corrupt, it is because corruption reigns in the hearts of the people. This being true, civilization can be cleansed only by cleansing the people."

"As long as the people have but little moral sensibility and a feeble appreciation of the distinctions which God makes between right and wrong, there will be CLASS LEGISLATION, DESPOTIC MONOPOLIES, political rings, bribery and ballot-box stuffing. A righteous civilization can be secured and maintained only by a people who love and practice righteousness. We are like those foolish Galatians, whom Paul describes as 'bewitched' by false teachers."

"What, then, is our hope? How can society be redeemed? How can our civilization be transformed? How can the state be so reconstructed as to furnish adequate protection to its subjects and to all of their legitimate interests? Our answer to each of these questions is: 'By substituting for the law of self-interest which now dominates our civil life the law of love—the law of self-sacrifice—the law which Christ illustrated when he became poor that we, through His poverty, might be rich—the law which makes each man HIS BROTHER'S KEEPER, and requires us to bear one another's burdens.'"

"Is it your purpose to be useful to your fellow men? If that is not your purpose, and your supreme purpose, you have no claim upon the respect of mankind. If you intend to be a disciple of Cain and repudiate all obligation to care for your brother man, you deserve to be treated as Cain was—BRANDED AS AN OUTLAW. If you will not be your brother's keeper and burden-bearer, you are his enemy. You will seize every opportunity to defraud, oppress and degrade him. The spirit that controls you will make you a MONOPOLIST OR A GAMBLER, or a bank robber, or an anarchist, or a nihilist."

"But if your purpose is to be useful—not only to yourself and your family, but to the whole world—your life must be a sacrificial life. You must look out over the wide world and recognize every man in it as your neighbor, and feel your obligation to help him as far as God gives you the ability and opportunity. To serve your day and generation according to the will of God and make an enduring contribution to THE WELFARE OF THE RACE, you must make an obligation of your possessions and of yourself."

"When men in all vocations who profess to be Christians heartily accept this doctrine and conform their lives to it, we shall see Christianity grow as it has never grown. We shall see society quickly cleansed of its present pollutions. We shall see the state purged of all injustice and favoritism. We shall see STRIFES BETWEEN LABOR AND CAPITAL CEASE, and throughout all our borders a reign of righteousness, contentment and prosperity."

"To redeem society—to remove it from its present basis of selfishness and plant it on the foundation of the golden rule of the gospel will require heroic courage, great sacrifice and martyr-like endurance on the part of men in every calling. In putting your business on the basis of the golden rule you would SUFFER GREAT LOSSES for a time. You could scarcely compete with men of selfish and fraudulent methods. Bankruptcy might overtake you. But in making the sacrifice you would have the fellowship of Christ. You would manifest His spirit, magnify His truth and grace, and extend the conquests of His kingdom. This would compensate you a thousand times for your material losses."

"I am confident that among the men who till the soil of this country there is MORE INCORRUPTIBLE INTEGRITY than can be found in any other element of our population. For more than two-thirds of a century agriculturalists dominated the government and social life of this nation. It is now dominated by monopolists, money lenders and speculators. We need not be told that the change has been PROLIFIC OF ANYTHING BUT GOOD."

either to the material or moral interests of the masses of our people. It requires no prophetic gift to see that a return of the agricultural classes to power would result in a revival of that virtuous simplicity and uncompromising integrity which characterized the American people in the BETTER DAYS OF THE REPUBLIC. 'Gentlemen of the Farmers' National Congress, if you are fighting for the enthronement of truth, purity, fair dealing and Christ-like charity in the government and social life of your country, and are determined to be loyal to your convictions, even to the last extremity, you are knights of a nobler chivalry than ever UNSHEATHED A FLAG OR UNSHEATHED A SWORD."

On the one hand, the heroic battles of the past, and for each of you invisible fingers are weaving an imperishable chaplet."

Money and the Railroads. Olney, the railroad and trust attorney, whose salary in these positions exceeds his salary as attorney general in the president's cabinet, has permitted the Central Pacific railroad to turn a large portion of its \$6,000,000 of a sinking fund to the payment of interest, in violation of the Thurman act, which authorized the formation of a sinking fund to be 25 per cent of the net earnings of the road—this sum to be covered in the United States treasury for the liquidation of the principal of the railroad's debt; the bond aided roads having pledged themselves to pay the interest upon the debt to the government outside of this fund. It will be remembered that Senator Thurman's effort in behalf of the people, as against the railroads killed him politically, but endeared him to the people. This infamous tool of trusts and corporations wanted to stave off government proceedings against the railroads which should have been brought many years ago and which might have been begun upon their recent failure to pay the interest due the government, had they not had an attorney in the president's cabinet to look after their interests. The railroads of the country are in open violation of every measure intended in any wise to bring them to settle with the government. They are enabled to do it just by retaining such consummate rascals as Attorney General Olney.—People's Advocate.

Another Peculiar Clock. The most peculiar clock in the world is that in a tower in the court yard of the palace of Versailles. Upon the death of a king in any portion of Europe the hand is set at the moment of his demise, and remains in that position until another king passes away. This curious custom is said to have originated in the time of Louis XIII.

The old parties are getting together. Reformers must unite.

A VOICE OF WARNING.

AN ENGLISH WRITER MAKES SOME OBSERVATIONS.

And Chief Justice Brown Says that Bribery and Corruption Are So General as to Threaten the Very Structure of Society.

Wealth Makers: "I have watched the rapid evolution of social democracy in England; I have studied autocracy in Russia and theocracy in Rome; and I must say that nowhere, not even in Russia, in the first year of the reaction occasioned by the murder of the czar, have I struck more abject submission to a more soulless despotism than that which prevails among the so-called free American citizens when they are free to face with the omnipotent power of the corporations."

These are the words of an English writer who has recently made a study of our municipal institutions. And Associate Justice Brown of the United States Supreme Court, commenting on the above, says: "Granting this to be overdrawn—for I am unwilling to believe that corporations are solely responsible for municipal misgovernment—the fact remains that bribery and corruption are so general as to threaten the very structure of society."

Justice Brown in his article in the August Forum, from which the above extracts are taken, says, by way of explanation of municipal corruption, that: "The activities of urban life are so intense, the pursuit of wealth or pleasure so absorbing, as upon the one hand to breed an indifference to public affairs; while upon the other, the expenditures are so large, the value of the franchises at the disposal of the cities so great, and the opportunities for illicit gain so manifold, that the municipal legislators, whose standard of honesty is rarely higher than the average of those who elect them, fall an easy prey to the designing and unscrupulous. Franchises which ought to net the treasury a large sum are bartered away for a song; privileges which ought to be freely granted in the interest of the public are withheld till those who are supposed to be most immediately benefited will consent to pay for them; gross favoritism is shown in the assessment of property for taxation; great corporations are permitted to encumber the streets and endanger the lives of citizens, while every form of vice which can be made is secretly tolerated."

Speaking of corporations in general, Justice Brown referred to the fact that "they have a practical monopoly of land transportation, of mining, manufacturing, banking, and insurance." "The case with which charters are secured has produced great abuses." The advantage they offer of limited liability leads men to incorporate in order to avoid paying their obligations, to crush out rivals; charters are secured in one state to do business in another or others, so as to bring litigation into Federal courts. The eminent writer describes the gross frauds of railroad construction companies and the "wrecking" process, and the vast profit, or rather plunder, thus got under cover of law.

Speaking of the trusts he said: "Worse than this, however, is the combination of corporations in so-called trusts to limit production, stifle competition, and monopolize the necessities of life. The extent to which this has already been carried is alarming, the extent to which it may hereafter be carried is revolutionary. Indeed, the evils of aggregated wealth are nowhere seen in more odious form than in a student can light his lamp without paying tribute to one company, if no house-keeper can buy a pound of meat or sugar without swelling the receipts of two or three trusts, what is to prevent the entire productive industry of the country becoming ultimately absorbed by a hundred gigantic corporations? If a railway company originally organized to build 100 miles of road has by fifty years of consolidations and leases become the undisputed master of 10,000 miles of transportation, what is to prevent it in another fifty years from monopolizing half the traffic of a continent?"

When a man sitting on the supreme bench of the United States thus writes the people should be aroused to act. Delays are dangerous. But what can be done with the great corporations, monopolies and trusts? The process of consolidation and the development of the trust is a forward movement in the line of labor saving, of economic service. It cannot be checked, but monopolies should be forced to pay tribute to the government, and they should be bought up by the government as fast as by complete consolidation and single organization they destroy competition. So rapidly are monopolies absorbing the wealth and resources of the people and grasping all power that prompt and radical measures are our only salvation. The danger at present is that monopolistic control of political parties and the press will keep the people ignorant of the danger and partisanly prejudiced until violence and anarchy will follow.

The trusts, the banks and every corporation that has grown rich under the shadow of special legislation passed by the representatives of the two old parties, are fighting the People's party. This is the best evidence that the People's party is the only one that is an inveterate enemy to monopoly.

No doubt Secretary Carlisle tells the truth when he says that "the silver men will fall to control the coming national convention of either the Democratic or Republican party." Too true.

The Democrats are to be congratulated on losing Erice and Goldman—but the country gains nothing.

NORTH STATE CULLINGS.

OCCURRENCES WORTH NOTING FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

Farmers' Institutes.

The State Board of Agriculture has decided that the holding of farmers' institutes shall begin in January and continue during that month and February, so as to reach the farmers at a time when they are not busy on their farms. Just as many institutes as possible will be held within the two months. It is ordered that a new Handbook of the State shall be issued; far more complete than any previous one. It will be prepared by Commissioner Patterson, T. K. Bruner and H. B. Battle. A special vote of thanks was tendered the Seaboard Air Line for its co-operation with the board in furnishing free transportation to the persons who hold farmers' institutes, and also for its hearty co-operation with the board in the furtherance of the immigration work. The work of Commissioner Patterson in holding institutes was heartily applauded.

Death in a Well in Alamance. News has been received of the killing of Mr. Wall P. Summers, a hard-working farmer, in the northwestern part of Alamance county, Wednesday afternoon, by a well's caving in on him. A large chunk of rock and earth fell on him at a depth of about 30 feet, terribly mauling his body. After being rescued he came to consciousness, but lived only a few minutes. He leaves a wife and eight children, the youngest an infant.

Southern Railway Indicted. The Southern Railway Company was defendant in Justice Deaver's court, at Asheville, Wednesday, charged with running freight trains on Sunday, and was bound over to court in a bond of \$1,000. Several employees of the company, charged with working on Sunday, filed a demurrer which was overruled and the defendants appealed.

Cleveland in North Carolina. President Cleveland left Washington Thursday night on the light-house tender, Maple, to recuperate from the strain he has been under in the preparation of his message to Congress and on a hunting trip through the North Carolina sounds. With him were Dr. O'Reilly, Commander George F. Wilde, naval secretary of the light-house board and commander Benjamin P. Lamberon, in charge of the light-house district comprising the sounds.

School Superintendents to Meet. The North Carolina School Superintendent's Association will meet in Raleigh, Thursday evening, December 26, 1895. Superintendent C. W. Toms, of Durham, is President of the Association. There are eighty-one graded school superintendents in North Carolina and the attendance at the approaching meeting promises to be larger than usual. The program will be an interesting one.

STATE NEWS DOTS.

A bank at Washington, N. C., deposited \$5,000 in gold in the U. S. Treasury on Thursday.

The City Board of Tax Equalization of Raleigh reports an increased valuation of \$62,000.

Dr. R. L. Payne, of Lexington, will move to Norfolk, Va., to accept a position with a fine salary attached.

The Sun says sufficient water protection is now a question in Durham. It favors municipal ownership of water and light.

Mayor Fishblade, of Wilmington, has resigned, and the board of aldermen has elected Alderman Harris his successor.

In a nail keg in the store of William Alderman, of Harrison's Creek, Pendler county, was found, a few days ago, \$490 in gold and \$10 in silver.

The Governor orders a special term of Person Superior Court for the trial of civil cases to begin July 6th, Judge Starbuck to preside.

The Tyson & Jones Buggy Company, of Carthage, were awarded the first medal at the Atlanta Exposition last week for the best all-round exhibit of vehicles.

George Costello, whose real name was George Loughlin, and who was noted trapeze performer in Sell's circus, and who was killed by a fall from a train in Georgia, was a resident of Henderson, and was very popular. He was to have been married soon to the "strong woman" of the circus, of New Orleans.

State Treasurer Worth has notified the legislative joint committee to meet December 15th, to inspect the books, vouchers, etc., in his office and in that of the State Auditor. The committee is composed of Senators W. H. Farthing and C. F. Mitchell, and Representatives A. E. Hileman, W. R. Ellis and D. R. Julian.

Governor Carr offers \$200 reward for the apprehension of Sam Newland, of Lenoir, Caldwell county, for the murder of Frank Steelman. He shot the latter dead, about Steelman on his knees prayed for mercy. Newland's friends say Steelman had made threats that he would kill him and several other men.

Robert Watkins, a married man 27 years old, was found frozen to death in his wagon, near Hay Meadow, Wilkes county, Tuesday morning. He had been over the mountains with a load of produce. When found he was sitting in the wagon, his feet on the double tree and his head leaning against the side of the wagon.