

Reporter and Post.

A PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE

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THIS PAPER may be found on file at the Post-office at Danbury, N. C. and at the Post-office at New York.

The Pan Handle counties of West Virginia, Hancock, Brooke, Ohio and Marshall, want to be added to Pennsylvania.

The project of starting a first class paper in this State, with a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars, is being privately discussed. It seems the scheme is as yet too ill defined to render it expedient to make known any particulars, or venture to predict whether the matter will be entertained with that degree of favor which will eventuate in its taking form.

Among a number of contributions to the Hayne-Wilde memorial fund we note that of George W. Childs, of Philadelphia, for \$500. This is a graceful recognition of these Southrons who were not only gentle souls but true poets. The world does not forget the names of its poets, for to quote Emerson's words called out by the death of an estimable character— "Whatever is excellent, As God lives, is permanent."

Thomas Stevens, who is rounding the world with his bicycle, after having caused anxious solicitude for his safety, has turned up in Japan, and is now making his way homeward on a steamer bound for San Francisco. He was stoned by the natives at one point in the interior of China barely escaping with his life and was at another point attacked by a mob of people who broke his bicycle and would have killed him but for some soldiers who rescued him from their fury.

The Charlotte Church Messenger entered upon its ninth year on Jan. 1st, with much enlarged borders. It is well edited and neatly printed on good paper. It should be read by any one with pleasure, and with benefit too, whether he be a member or not of the Episcopal Church of which it is an organ. It should be liberally sustained, and we are glad to see that it is prospering. It is cheap at \$1.50. Specimen copies may be had from the office of publication in Charlotte.

The Erie Express on the Baltimore and Ohio R. R. collided on Jan. 4, with a freight train a mile west of Republic, O. (8 miles from Tifton) and about twenty passengers were crushed and burned to death. The express was running as is supposed, at a speed of not less than 60 miles an hour, and was westbound. The freight eastbound was probably making a rate of speed not less than 30 miles an hour. The two sleeping cars did not leave the track, nor was any of the passengers in them hurt in the least. Mrs. Fish, of Joliet, Ill., sister of Gen. Logan and her son Charles, were among the passengers in the sleepers.

Gen. Logan, who died suddenly in Washington on Sunday, 26th of December, of a cute rheumatism, was one of the most popular leaders of the Republican party. Though his education was defective, he possessed considerable natural ability. His death leaves a vacancy in the Senate which will be filled by an election by the Legislature of Illinois now in session. It is Republican on joint ballot by seven majority. He would have been a prominent candidate for the Presidential nomination in 1888, had not death broken on his career.

IS CRIME INCREASING?

The Wilmington Star in a recent editorial on crime and its causes remarks: "It is a fact that crime is steadily increasing in the South. Prior to the war, in slavery times, murders among negroes were comparatively rare; among the whites they were very rare indeed as compared with the present. In North Carolina, we are pained to say, crime is much more rife and abounding than at any former time. We have but little doubt that in the last five years there have been more murders, or attempts to kill occurring in North Carolina than in the preceding ten years, or in any twenty years before the war." It cannot be doubted that crime has

become alarmingly rampant, but whether it is increasing beyond the ratio in which our population has swollen within the last two decades, we are not prepared to say. But we are inclined to think that it cannot be denied by those who are able and willing to look facts in the face that there are seemingly strong indications of a relapse into a period of social and political disorganization such as has never been witnessed in America. By the optimist this idea would of course be scouted. We copy the opinion of the Raleigh Biblical Recorder with the Star's comment thereon as follows:

"It is probable that more murders were committed in North Carolina during the past year than in any half dozen years since 1865. Nearly every county has had its criminal and its victim. Nearly every community in the State has been shocked by the terrible announcement that some one of its citizens has been murdered.

"The number of these terrible experiences have rapidly increased during the last five or six years. The people are becoming alarmed and are asking not only for the causes that have led to this deplorable and ruinous state of public morals, but an equally interested in discovering some remedy for the evil."

Whatever the causes of this alarming and dreadful increase of crime the fact remains, we take it. We could again discuss the causes as we have done in former editorials, but it would probably do no good. As we look at it the chief causes for increase of crime, aside from natural depravity and widely prevailing tendencies to evil, are the following:

First, defects in the criminal law and the failure of Courts to render speedy verdicts.

Second, a false public sentiment that condones crime and sympathizes with villains. This is seen in numerous applications extensively signed for executive clemency, and in bestowing floral tributes by foolish women upon such red-handed murderers as Cluverius.

Fourth, the one-man power.

Fifth, the failure of prosecuting officers to do their duty.

Sixth, the jury system. The list might be extended, but these constitute the chief causes of crime, and until they are corrected there will be but little abatement of crime. It is simply most deplorable that in a State that has been always so law abiding as North Carolina so many inhumanate devils should despoil and kill and deflower and sow the whirlwind."

It may be questioned whether the ends of justice would not be better served by a professional jury than by the jury as empanelled under the present law. It is not uncommon to see a jury, sitting on the trial of a prisoner, composed in part of unintelligent men who for lack of ability to weigh the points of the evidence are inclined to disagree to a verdict of guilty under the mistaken idea that they are giving the prisoner at the bar the benefit of a reasonable doubt.

FOREIGN.

LONDON, January 1.—The Pall Mall Gazette states that Joseph Chamberlain yesterday made definite overtures to Gladstone for a reunion with the Liberal party.

Salisbury's scheme now is to form a coalition Cabinet, by introducing three of the kicking Liberals. Can such an ill-assorted combination live!—Wilmington Star.

PARIS, Jan. 1.—The statement is made that President Grevy has effected a reconciliation between M. De Freycinet and M. Ferry, who will jointly support the Goblet Ministry during the coming session of the Chambers.

LONDON, January 1.—Gladstone, Cardinal Manning, the Earl of Selborne Duke of Westminster, Cannon Farrar, Professor Fyndall, the Archbishop of Canterbury and others have signed an appeal to the press not to publish details of divorce and criminal trials.

CAIRO, January 1.—Count D'Aulay, French agent here, at a reception given by him to the French residents to-day, said he was authorized to declare that France would not allow her interests in Egypt to be endangered, and had decided to take measures accordingly.

FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

Jan. 4.—Senator Logan's death was announced in both Houses—no business transacted.

Jan. 6.—Pensions for the widows of Gen. Logan and Blaine were considered and the bills passed by the Senate, which gave to each \$2000 a year. The Senate resumed the consideration of the Inter-State Commerce bill. The House went into committee of the whole on the Naval Reorganization bill.

Jan. 7.—Several petitions were presented to the Senate; all of those passed were of a private or local character. Wilmington's Public Building bill was passed by the House.

STATE NEWS.

Durham Recorder: The late Judge Stokes, of Nashville, Tennessee, so distinguished as a lawyer and a judge, was a native of North Carolina. He belonged to the Stokes family of Wilkes county and descended from Governor Montfort Stokes.

Raleigh News-Observer: In a letter to his brother in this city, Mr. Geo. Howard, a deaf mute well known here, says that while on a visit to New York, the authorities suspected him of being Walter L. Bingham, the murderer of Miss Turlington, and that they seized upon him and made him prove his identity before being allowed the freedom of the city.

Webster Herald: A relief train was sent out from Asheville which stuck in the snow about ten miles out from that city. Another was sent the next day and did not reach the first one. A third was started but did not reach the second. A lady at our elbow suggests that the road should send out an old woman with a broom for the next relief.

Fayetteville Observer-Gazette: Some planters in this section have made good tobacco, which brought satisfactory prices on the Fayetteville Warehouse, as follows: R. F. Devane, \$1.75 to \$3.11, average \$18.25; J. Prevatt, of Robeson county, \$5.50 to \$21.50, average \$13.08; John Kirkpatrick, \$9.25 to \$40, average \$24.49. Single lots have sold at from \$15 to \$31 per hundred.

Salem Press: Two prisoners picked the lock of the Iron cage in the new jail one day last week and made their escape.— Messrs. Giersh & Sonsman, have purchased H. W. Fries' stock of goods, and will remove their stock of goods to the well known Fries' stand.— Died; in Schenck, Penn., on the 31st of December, of pneumonia, Mrs. Louisa Amelia Bahson, nee Belo, wife of the late Rt. Rev. Geo. F. Bahson, aged 66 years, 8 months and 26 days. Her remains were brought here accompanied by Rev. Geo. F. Bahson, and interred in God's Acre on Wednesday. Mrs. Bahson was formerly a teacher in Salem Female Academy, where she taught for 22 years.

Mt. Airy News: Out of about \$1,500 we have succeeded in collecting \$7.35 since we commenced making collections three weeks ago.— It will be surprising to many to learn that there is an Indian reservation of 73,000 acres in North Carolina. It is inhabited by the Eastern band of Cherokees, who number 3,929.— John Cardwell, the Wilkes county murderer, must hang. The Supreme Court has confirmed the decision of the lower court. That decision imposed the death penalty. Cardwell was to have been hanged last summer, but was released from jail by friends only a few days before the date set for the execution, and was not recaptured until after that time.

Winston Republican: The following is a list of persons who suffer by Congressman Reid's late financial operations as given to us by a gentleman who has investigated the matter, with the amounts to which each are interested. F. & H. Fries, mortgage, \$2,500; Will Hairson, mortgage, same property as Fries', \$1,800; Neal Ellington, Greensboro, \$3,500; Major Bethel, \$1,200; Luellen, \$1,200; Pannel, \$500; ex-Sheriff Johnson, \$6,000; Mrs. Lewis, \$1,500; Mrs. Johnson, \$500; Col. A. J. Boyd, \$3,000; Fred. Stith, \$1,900; First National Bank, Winston, about \$8,000; Frank Reid, a brother, \$1,000; Fletcher Reid, a brother, \$1,500; Joe Vaughan, of Madison, \$1,200. Total amount \$35,000.

Wilmington Star: A great many people in the city report a strong shock of earthquake January 4th about 7 o'clock. It lasted about twelve seconds and was decided enough to make buildings tremble and windows rattle. Some persons say that lighter shocks were felt about 1 a. m. yesterday and at 11 o'clock Monday night. Our press dispatches report sharp shocks at Summerville and Charleston, S. C., about the same time yesterday morning that the shock was felt in Wilmington. Shocks were also reported from Westminster, Md., at 11.30 Monday night and yesterday morning between 2 and 3 o'clock.

Greensboro News: The election of Mr. Jufus A Gray to the Presidency of the Greensboro National Bank seems to give very general satisfaction to the community. It will not, it is thought, be necessary for him to resign the Presidency of the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway Company.— We learn through one of his counsel, John A. Harringer, Esqr, that Rev. E. J. Garland, who was convicted at the June term of Guilford Court, has been granted a new trial by the Supreme Court.— The following is the report of wild turkey shooting at Summerfield township, since October 10, 1886: Andy Case 20, Henry Fenemer 9, Will Highfield 9, David Wright 9, Will Lane 8, T. M. Anger 4, Thomas Jossup 4, Frank Dogget 24.

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