

**MAY**

Monroe Enquirer.  
W. M. C. WOLFE.  
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W. M. C. WOLFE.  
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# The Monroe Enquirer.

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Monroe Enquirer.  
Office: Second Floor Stewart's Corner Building.  
JOB PRINTING  
POSTERS, HAND-BILLS, LETTER-HEADS, PROGRAMMES, AND IN FACT, EVERYTHING IN THE PRINTING LINE, EXECUTED WITH RAPIDITY, ACCURACY, AND AT VERY LOW PRICES. FAVORABLE WORK A SPECIALTY.

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Veterinary Surgeon.  
Will be at Griffin's Livery Stables to Monroe on every Friday, prepared to treat stock for diseases. Parties living at a distance desiring to correspond in regard to any long standing cases, can do so by addressing him at Monroe, Lock Box 40, and all inquiries will be promptly answered. mch12

SPECIAL ATTENTION  
Is called to the fact that A. Robinson, who prints the Enquirer, is still in Monroe, at his old stand on Shell's corner, always ready and anxious to attend to the wants of his customers. His shop has been thoroughly renovated; he keeps good assistants, sharp razors and scissors, and all may rest assured, he will promptly and properly wait on them. Be sure to call at his shop whenever you want any Barbering done. Monroe, N. C. - mch12 75-2017

REPAIR SHOP.  
THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY INFORMS THE public that he has permanently located at Monroe, N. C., at the shop of Mr. Ernest Smith, and is prepared to do all repairing on Sewing Machines, Strenuous, Musical Boxes, Specialty. He is competent to make all repairs in workmanlike manner, and guarantee satisfaction. Those in need of his services will please bring their work around, and he will take pleasure in waiting on them. Don't forget the place, next door to Post-office. Monroe, N. C. - mch12 75-2017

A. H. CROWELL & S. D. LEWIS,  
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A Full Stock on hand at all times, and the Lowest Prices Guaranteed.

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Will practice in the Superior and Superior Courts of this State and in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States. Will regularly attend the Superior Courts of Custom, Merchandise, Stamps, Admiralty, and the Courts of the District of Columbia. Particular attention paid to collection of claims and settlements of estates. mch12 75-2017

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MONUMENTS, AND GRAVESTONES.  
S. B. BUIE, - MONROE, N. C.  
DESIGNS AND PRICES SENT BY MAIL.

Spring Goods,  
-AT-  
STEVENS & PHIFER'S  
JUST RECEIVED, THE  
Choicest Styles  
Spring Prints,  
-AND-  
OTHER NOVELTIES.  
SHOE WORK.

ALEXANDER OLIVER DESIRES TO inform the public that he is prepared at the Harness Shop of Mr. J. E. Hinson, in Monroe to make or repair Sewed or Pegged Boots and Shoes in a workmanlike manner, and at Reduced Prices!  
All work warranted to NOT RIP. Give him a trial. mch12,3817

Miscellaneous.  
ADDRESS  
ROBERT L. McDOWELL,  
BEFORE CAROLINA FAIR ASSOCIATION.  
Saturday, April 10, 1880.

It is not my purpose to go into a history of the development and extension of the cotton culture, which was so fully done in an Essay, read before this Association, a few weeks ago. My remarks will be confined to a description of the lands best adapted to its growth and maturity, and the belt of country in which it can be cultivated to any profit.

1. How the lands should be prepared for planting.  
2. When should the seed be put in the ground; how deep it should be covered.  
3. When should the cultivation begin, and when reduced to a stand.  
4. How thick it should stand in the drill.  
5. What kind of implements should be used in its cultivation.  
6. When its cultivation should end.  
7. What kind of fertilizers should be used, and how applied.  
8. Is topping cotton beneficial.

Cotton has generally been classed with tropical plants; yet it is found by experience to make the highest yield and the best lint in that belt of country lying between 36 and 28 north latitude, where it is killed by the frost, embracing a region of some 400 miles in extent, all above the tropics. That would indicate that lands adapted to its profitable culture are quite limited in the United States, as it does not extend westward beyond the Colorado in Texas, as experience has proven, it cannot be made profitable beyond that point, owing to the uncertainty of rains during the fruiting season in California, for the same reason it is not cultivated at all, wheat being the principal crop relied on for profits on their farms. The cotton plant will grow in the tropics to a large size, from 10 to 16 feet in height, but will yield but little fruit, and that, too, of a coarse and harsh fiber, unfit to be manufactured into fine fabrics. When the supply was diminished by the late war, the English factories had to mix the India cotton with ours, and make alterations in their machinery, in order to work it up. Some Egyptian seed was sent, by Mr. V. C. Barringer, to his friends, which made a large stock, but little fruit. The bolls were small and sharp pointed, and did not open well. In Brazil, in South America, it grows, making a large bush, as it is never killed by the frost, yet its bolls are few, opening so imperfectly as to require them to be pressed open by the fingers to get the cotton out. An experiment of making cotton in the East was made by the English, in order to be independent of the United States for their supplies, under the supervision of Mr. Davis, who took with him, the most improved seed and implements of culture, made a fair trial, and abandoned the project, on the grounds of the unfitness of the climate. So we need have no fears an over-production from abroad, but it might be reduced to cultivation, as Texas alone would make 4,000,000 bales. The section in which we live, is located nearly on the North line of its production, whose soil has the fertility suited to its successful cultivation, but the time for its maturity is so short it proves a great obstacle to our ability to compete with more favored localities; yet, the staple is found to be equal to that produced in the best cotton belts, especially since the introduction of commercial fertilizers, which by its heating action remedy in some measure the want of suitable climate. But there is more or less land on most tracts that will not mature the plant, to make it profitable, especially the deep heavy loams, which is indicated by its timber growth. If the white, black and red oaks abound, especially if they grow to a great height the cotton on such will run too much to weed, and will not mature its fruit in time to avoid the October frost. Such lands should be chiefly cultivated in grain and the grasses, for even the fertilizers will not make it mature in time.

I once tried a quarter of an acre of such land. The cotton was planted in rows six feet apart, and three feet in the drill, yet it made but little fruit, though each stock had over 100 bolls. The lands best adapted to its culture, are such as have timber of a short height or small growth, which indicates a hard soil that checks its growth as soon as its tap root begins to penetrate the hard pan. Such lands are called gray lands, the trees of which are generally the pine, post oak, black jack, hickory and dogwood. This soil has a large per cent of sand, so favorable to the maturity of cotton, by its heating power. On some plantations are found fields covered with rock pebbles, that make a high yield without any fertilizer, which proves the quality of the soil is for cotton, the rocks being warmed by the sun, overcomes the want of climate.

There is a kind of soil known as mulatto lands with a growth of pine, oak, hickory and poplar, on the waters of McAlpine's Creek, in Providence and Steel Creek, which produce cotton equal to any land, as 1,000 to 2,000 lbs. of seed cotton is frequently made, while they are the most easily worked, the soil being light and open, abounding in vegetable matter. In pitching a crop every planter should consider the character of his land. Some should plant their crops almost entirely in cotton, while others should cultivate mostly grain and grasses. There is, on most places sufficient variety to make a mixed culture.

The preparation of the ground is an important consideration. There is no necessity of breaking up the lands for cotton, unless it has been followed, or seeded in small grains. One trow should be made six inches deep, followed by a subsoil plow, which is improved by being composted with the acids. I need not discuss the question of commercial fertilizers, as their universal use has put that question to rest, for practical farmers who have used them for years still continue their application. It should, for cotton, be put in the water furrow, run some 6 or 8 inches deep and then covered with the turning plow so that it will be under the cotton, for if planted or drilled with the seed, is liable to be cut out with the hoe, thus taking one-half of it away from the plant. By being deep in the ground its soluble condition is better preserved and will never injure the plant in dry times by its heating power.

It is difficult to satisfy many, that such a small quantity should have so great effect, while they see so little from loads of barn-yard manure. Experience proves the fact, though not well understood in its operation. The chemical ingredients may act on the dormant materials in the soil, making them soluble so the roots of the plants, can appropriate that which was inert in the soil, giving a fertility to the soil entirely beyond its intrinsic value in itself. Lime is known to exist in our soils from its rock formation in quantities enough for all crops, yet being sometimes in the form of silicates and carbonates, answers but little purpose without a dissolvent agent, as it cannot be appropriated by the plants in that state. Some of the fertilizers may dissolve their inert or dead materials and make the land productive at once. More knowledge can be obtained by accurate field experiments by which the different brands can be tested, for different soils require different materials. Old phosphate fields requires the acid phosphate, which will make a fine yield the first year, without which it would not cover the cost of cultivation. As a general rule fertilizers make the best return on lands in good condition, for on the gauged spots in the fields, its effects are not visible, when fine results are made on the other parts, as any observant man will readily see. To apply it to such lands is money thrown away, till they are restored by some vegetable crop being plowed in. The pea is the best with its long tap roots, for it will grow on land so poor as will produce nothing else but poverty grass. Red clover or anything that makes a luxuriant growth will answer the purpose with the acids, but will not supply the mineral constituent unless it has tap roots that reach into the subsoil below the lateral roots of other plants.

The working should commence as soon as the cotton is up, or if the ground has been run together by rains should be harrowed as soon as the seed sprouts to break the crust. It should first be cut in to chops with the hoe, leaving three to four stalks in a bunch. It should not be reduced to a stand till the heart leaf puts out, and the danger of dying out is over. Then commences the most difficult and important operation of its cultivation. The young grass must then be taken out to insure its rapid growth, but is done frequently so unskillfully as to retard it growth, by breaking the young rootlets now so tender and imperfectly set. Some hands will cut away the earth leaving as much as one inch of the roots exposed which will cause them to bend over or fall on their side. That will put the plant back five or ten days in its growth. A negro was once put to attend a young boar pig, who broke out some of his teeth, as he was disposed to be vicious. The master complained that the hog was not thriving. "Yes, Massa, it is true, but as soon as his teeth grows out, he will soon recover." It is just so with the young cotton, it will recover the effects of its broken roots as soon as new ones are put out to absorb the nutriment in the soil. Young hands, in fact, all should be watched or they will do more harm than good, as they are apt not only to leave its roots exposed, but out out the cotton with the grass, thus destroying the stand, for which there is no remedy and a high yield is then impossible. If the first working is perfectly done the chief trouble is then over, as the after cultivation can be chiefly done with the plows and sweeps. The best implements to expedite its cultivation are barrows, scrapers and sweeps, yet the hoe cannot be set aside, as no instrument has yet been invented to thin out cotton or separate the young grass or weeds. Advancements have been made in facilitating the cultivation of all crops except young cotton. All cotton choppers put on the market have proven utter failures. The old practice of the hand with the hoe must still be used. It is that alone that puts a check on a speedy over-production for the

amount put under cultivation will be limited by the labor at command which is limited at the South, and it cannot well be brought from abroad for various reasons. So its increased production will be controlled by the labor questions now so unsettled. So but little reliance can be put in the reports about an increased area, as all generally put in every year as much as they can work, and sometimes more.

There is a difference in the practice of planters as to the time when the cultivation should end. Some stop early in July, others continue up till August, while in latitudes further South, it is continued after picking begins. It may be laid down as a safe rule, its working should be continued till the weeds and grass are all eradicated. The damage done to cotton by late plowing or working is breaking its lateral roots, which will, if not interrupted, stretch out in search of food from three to four feet, which I found to be the case by examination where the last plowing was performed by the sweep. Cotton, at that stage of its growth, needs all its roots to supply material to perfect its fruit, the most critical period of its existence. It is well known that corn cannot be plowed with its roots at the sowing stage, as too many of its lateral roots are broken causing it to die or turn yellow. Cotton may not be injured to the same extent as it has tap roots, but still every root broken retards its growth. My experience is that the turning plow should not be used in its cultivation but once and that the first plowing, that nothing should interfere with its rapid development in this climate where the chief growth must be made in July and August. Nature in her operations show that much accumulation of earth about the roots of a tree after obtaining a certain size will prove its death, as one set of roots perish before a new set can be put forth, being covered deeper than the nature of the tree requires. So covering the roots of plants by the turning plow or their breakage will amount to the same thing, checks their growth temporarily at least.

The question is frequently asked, is topping cotton beneficial? I have made many experiments on that subject. No general rule can be laid down, for sometimes beneficial effects result by checking its weed and putting its strength into the lateral branches and the forming fruit, while at other times, no good can be seen. If the cotton is well loaded with fruit by the middle of August with a fair size of weed, topping will answer but little purpose, as its growth will be checked by its fruit appropriating all its nourishment, and if the season should be a little dry the growth will be then stopped. I have topped with great advantage, and if done in the middle of August when the cotton is in a growing condition and not loaded with fruit, will do no harm even though it may effect no good. So it is a question of labor after all.

I need not go into the question of rust or the boll worm, as neither ever injures our cotton to excite any anxiety. I have had a little rust on fresh lands which was checked by rains, and on lands disposed to be spouting or too wet.

Cotton was styled king of commerce before the war, but as the North seemed to prosper without it, its title to kingship was greatly impaired. That can easily be explained. If peace had prevailed during such a dearth of cotton, there would have been a howl of distress among those who are directly and indirectly sustained by the manufacture of cotton, giving life and action to so many branches of industry. The war supplied that deficiency by giving employment to that class in manufacturing arms, clothing and feeding the soldiers, being paid by the government by greenback money made out of paper to that end, which was the same thing as borrowing money to sustain her people. There was during that whole period no material wealth made. Hence their delusion, they did not feel the death of cotton as they prospered without it by that artificial creation of money. If the war had lasted a few years longer their accumulated debt would have bankrupted the nation. That debt, great as it is, has been carried chiefly by the cotton of the South, giving activity to railroads and the shipping interest and infusing new life into so many branches of industry.

of grains and edible vegetables, as will supply all your wants. Let the cotton alone be the cash consideration, as there is no money in anything else in this section. This is not a wheat climate and though you may make potatoes, onions and other produce, yet they are too perishable to keep and must be consumed at home. Those who have tried them, though raised in great abundance, find no market for them and have failed to keep them.

Neither the onion nor Irish potatoes can be kept in this climate if dug in the summer unless spread out under a shed only one deep, which requires too much room if made as an article of commerce. If left in the ground till cold weather is liable to become watery, unfit for table use. Pay no attention to political writers, or retired politicians, who advise you to plant less cotton. The planter ought to know what will make him the best return. Some lands will make 1,000 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, which would yield about 10 bushels of corn. The one at present prices would bring \$40, the other about \$7 each. Would it not be the height of folly for the owner to plant anything but cotton on such lands? There are lands where the reverse of that practice should be followed. Let each planter be governed accordingly.

It might not be to the interest of every planter to raise all his meat as it might be bought cheaper than he could make it. Corn at 75 cents will make less meat than the money would buy at 7 cents, unless there were other means to feed the hogs than the corn. Every planter should keep a few to consume the waste existing on all plantations. Stock cannot be raised with profit as an article of commerce, with our present arrangement. Our whole system must undergo a radical revolution before that can be done with profit.

In concluding these hasty remarks, I would urge every planter to give his time and thoughts to his farm as much as a merchant to his store, the mechanic to his shop, or the professional man to his office. A farm, though well supplied with mules, plows and wagons, and hands to use them, will not run itself. I have spent upwards of 35 years of my life in agricultural pursuits, and always made it an invariable practice to personally direct all the operations, plan all the work, fix the time and manner of pitching the crop, and if I could not be present, would always afterwards inspect the work. My hands knew, that any slight or imperfect work would be detected. That had its effect, though I did not perform the work, I saw that it was done. Hands, whether hired by standing wages or worked on the share system, must be looked after, and not left to themselves, must be encouraged and directed. Every farmer might become a king as well as cotton if he would follow out the rules here laid down, make all his supplies as far as his lands would warrant, then plant all the cotton he could work, avoid buying on credit as much as possible by close economy and thus become independent of factors commission merchants, pay as he goes, would then be the most independent of all men, having abundant means at command to make himself and family comfortable, and could then truly at the end of the year when his crops were all housed, say, as Robinson Crusoe did, "I am monarch of all I survey."

It is frequently said that the hay, butter and iron made at the North will bring more money than all the cotton of the South. That may be true, but the one is consumed chiefly by her own people while the other would be of limited demand were it not for its requisition to repair railroads and the construction of new ones, depending on cotton, which enters into all the channels of commerce to increase their profits by multiplying its freights of transportation. Even an increase of a few cents on the pound has restored to life all the drooping industries, made the planter, mechanic and merchant, elastic and hopeful as to the future. Cotton is king and will long hold its power, as the world must be clothed, and no article has yet been discovered that can be manufactured so rapidly, made and transported so cheaply at such great distances. So plant all your lands adapted to its production, of which each must be the judge, yet at the same time devote enough to the production

University Normal School.  
To the Teachers of the State and those desiring to teach:  
The fourth session of the University Normal School will begin on the 24th of June and close on the 29th of July, 1880. No efforts have been spared to enlarge the usefulness of the School, and make it possible for the humblest teacher in the State to attend its exercises. The Superintendent and the Professors, as heretofore, will be men of special training and experience in their respective departments, as well as experts in Normal methods. The scheme of instruction will include, besides the common school branches, instruction in Natural Philosophy, Geometry, Algebra, Higher English, Latin, Penmanship, Book-keeping, Physiology, Kindergarten and Vocal Music. KINDERGARTEN.—The Kindergarten Department will be managed by a teacher of national fame and vast experience in Kindergarten work. LECTURES.—This interesting and profitable feature of the School will be continued. Lectures may be expected on topics of special interest to teachers from distinguished educators or public men. EXPENSES.—Good table board may be had in Chapel Hill at \$10 per month, \$12.50 for board and furnished room. Gentlemen can obtain rooms in the University buildings free of cost, except a small sum for the use of the furniture. By forming clubs board may be reduced to \$6 to \$7 per month. Facilities will be provided students whereby they may cook their own food. In this way the cost of living was reduced to \$1.00 per week by students at the last Normal School. RAILROAD FARES.—Arrangements will be made whereby students may travel to and from the School on the several railroads for one fare. Return tickets should always be bought before taking the train. AID TO INDIGENT TEACHERS.—Through the kindness of the Rev. Dr. Sears, Agent of the Peabody Fund, a sum has been given to assist in paying the expenses of teachers whose own means will not enable them to attend the School. This fund will be applied to the payment of traveling expenses, so that all students may reach the School on an equality. All persons desiring aid will apply to President Battle, at Chapel Hill, by mail, before May 20th, so that each may learn in advance what amount he will receive. TEXT-BOOKS.—Text-books will be loaned, free of charge, to all persons attending the School. Thus it will be seen for five or six dollars any teacher in our State may attend the exercises of the Normal School, and secure for himself and his pupils its incalculable blessings. Those wishing, before leaving home, to make arrangements for board will please write to Mr. A. Mickle, Agent of the School, Chapel Hill, N. C. THOMAS J. JARVIS, Governor, Ex-officio Chairman B'd of Education. KEMP P. BATTLE, President of the University, Chapel Hill, N. C. JOHN C. SCARBOROUGH, Sup't. Pub. Inst'n and Sec. B'd Ed'n.

Who Struck Billy Patterson?  
A correspondent of the Carnesville (Ga.) Register, who is writing a series of "Historical Sketches, Reminiscences and Legends," gives the following explanations as to origin of above query: Many persons have heard the question, "Who struck Billy Patterson?" without knowing the origin of it. I propose to enlighten them a little on the subject. William Patterson was a very wealthy tradesman or merchant of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland. In the early days of Franklin county he bought up a great many tracts of land in the county, and spent a good portion of his time in Franklin looking after his interest there. He was said to be as strong as a bear and as brave as a lion; but, like all brave men, he was a lover of peace, and indeed a good, pious man. Nevertheless his wrath could be excited to a fighting pitch. On one occasion he attended a public gathering in the lower part of Franklin county, at some district court ground. During the day the two opposing bullies and their friends raised a row, and a general fight was the consequence. At the beginning of the affray, and before the fighting began, Billy Patterson ran into the crowd to persuade them not to fight, but to make peace and be friends. But his efforts for peace were unavailing, and while making them, some of the crowd in the general melee struck Billy Patterson a severe blow from behind. Billy at once became fighting mad, and cried out at the top of his voice, "Who struck Billy Patterson?" No one could or would tell him who was the guilty party. He then proposed to give any man a \$100 who would tell him "Who struck Billy Patterson?" From \$100 he rose to \$1,000. But not \$1,000 would induce any man to tell him "Who struck Billy Patterson." And years afterward, in his will, he related the above facts, and bequeathed \$1,000 to be paid by his executors to the man that would tell them "Who struck Billy Patterson." His will is recorded in the Ordinary's office at Carnesville, Franklin county, Ga., and any one curious about the matter can there find and verify the preceding statements.

Politeness to Children.  
Scores of times in a day, a child is told, in a short, authoritative way, to do or not to do such little things as we ask at the hands of elder people, as favors, graciously, and with deference to their choice. "Would you be so kind as to close that window?" "May I trouble you for that cricket?" "If you may be as comfortable in this chair as in that, I would like to change places with you." "Oh, excuse me, but your head is between me and the light; could you see as well if you moved a little?" "Would it hinder you too long if you stopped at the store for me? I would be much obliged to you if you would." "Pray do not let me crowd you," etc. In most people's speech, we find as synonyms for these polite phrases: "Shut that window down, this minute." "Bring me that cricket." "I want that chair—get up; you can sit in this." "Don't you see that you are right in light? Move along." "I want you to leave off playing and go right down to the store for me." "Don't crowd so. Can't you see that there is not room enough for two people to sit on here?" and so on.

On the other hand, let a child ask for anything without saying "please," receive anything without saying "thank you," sit still in the most comfortable seat without offering to give it up, or press its own preference for a particular book, chair or apple, to the inconvenience of an elder, and what an outcry we have: "Such rudeness!" "Such an ill-mannered child!" "His parents must have neglected him strangely." Not at all; they have been telling him a great many times every day not to these precise things which you dislike. But they themselves have been all the while doing these very things to him.

—The schoolmaster who sat on a bent pin got off a bright thing.

Monroe Enquirer. W. M. C. WOLFE. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

The Best Candidate.

Do not become frightened at the caption of this editorial. It sounds a little political, but perhaps you will see the moral in it before we get through. Just at this time this State, and in fact this nation, is greatly exercised as to who shall be nominated for this and that office.

Thus Far! Fowle Leading!

Our readers will probably not need to be reminded that in the approaching Democratic State Convention the 94 counties of the State will be allowed one vote for every 100 Democratic votes cast in the last general election.

New and Changed Laws.

What the Legislature Did at the Extra Session.

ROAD LAW.

An Act to Amend Chapter eighty-two of the Laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-nine entitled "An Act to provide for keeping in repair the public roads of the State."

LABORER'S LIENS.

An Act to give to sub-Contractors, Laborers and Material Men a Lien for their Just Dues.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA DO ENACT:

SECTION 1. That the chapter eighty-two of the laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, entitled "an act to provide for keeping in repair the public roads of the State," be amended as follows:

SECTION 2.

That any sub-contractor, laborer or material man, who claim a lien as provided in the preceding section, shall give notice to the owner or lessee of the real estate who makes the contract for such building or improvement at any time before settlement with the contractor, and if the said owner or lessee shall refuse or neglect to retain out of the amount due the said contractor under the contract as much as shall be due or claimed by the sub-contractor, laborer or material man, the sub-contractor, laborer or material man may proceed to enforce his lien as is now provided by law, and after such notice is given no payment to the contractor shall be a credit on or discharge of the lien herein provided for.

SECTION 3.

That the provisions of chapter 53, laws 1876-'77, and the act of which said chapter is amendatory, shall be applicable to the enforcement of the lien herein provided, except wherein the same is herein otherwise provided.

SECTION 4.

This act shall be in force from and after its ratification. Read three times in the General Assembly, and ratified this 29th day of March, A. D. 1880.

THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

At the last regular session of the General Assembly of North Carolina there were passed two proposed amendments to the Constitution. These will have to be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection at our approaching election.

Political Notes.

Both the Lincoln papers favor the nomination of Col. William Johnston for Congress.

The Republican State Convention of South Carolina, held on Wednesday last, declared for Grant.

Gen. R. B. Vance continues invincible in the 8th District, and will probably encounter no serious opposition for the nomination or at the election.

The Editor of the Pee Dee Bee sensibly says: "The evil tendency of the age, will never be arrested, the corruptions will never be purged out, until the better elements of society refuse to vote for and help to put bad men in office."

In the seventh Congressional District the honors will be disputed for by the present incumbent, Hon. R. F. Armfield, and Hon. W. M. Robina. There will probably be no other entries.

Hon. Joseph J. Davis, the present member of the House from the Raleigh Congressional District, says he will not be a candidate for re-nomination, having served three terms and having no business that requires his personal attention.

We see the name of J. S. Carr of Durham, mentioned for Lieut. Governor. The State would honor herself by electing this rising young man and Christian gentleman to the position, for which he is named by some of his friends.—Raleigh Advocate.

A writer in the Washington, N. C. Press says: "What additional stimulus to exertion could we have in old Beaufort, than the enthusiastic cry from the mountains to the seashore, of a preference for our most gifted son, Daniel G. Fowle, for Governor, whose able efforts in our behalf in the past, and whose principles which we advocate, has won for him the confidence of all, and a prominent place in the heart of every North Carolinian."

The Winston Sentinel says: "Winston is a local point for a large number of counties lying north and west of us, and in the course of a few days a person has the opportunity of seeing representative citizens of a dozen different counties. Knowing this fact, we have made it our business to see and talk with quite a number of persons from the different counties, and almost without an exception we have found that Judge Fowle is the preference for Governor."

The Wadesboro Herald seems to be in favor of Judge Fowle. It remarks: "We are for Judge Fowle for Governor of North Carolina against the world, the flesh and the devil. Our reasons for our support of Judge F. is because he is entitled to it; because he is a Statesman; because he is a patriot, and loves his Native State; because we believe he is a stronger man in every way than any of those seeking the nomination, and because we believe and know that, if elected, he would perform the duties of the position in an able and acceptable manner and would so demean himself while in office as to reflect credit and honor upon the State."

The Newbernian says: A meeting of the Democratic voters of Halifax county will be held at Bayboro on the 17th of May next. Our informant thinks that Fowle leads Jarvis in public while L. C. Latham is the choice for Congress.—Capt. Dugger, Rev. C. G. Doolson, Rev. C. H. Wiley, and Rev. N. B. Cobb, are suggested for Superintendent of Public Schools. Mr. Cobb is a Lincoln county man, and has strong support from his Baptist friends.—An Observer correspondent says Perquimans is solid for Jarvis.—Col. Chas. R. Jones, of the Charlotte Observer declares for Jarvis, chiefly on the ground of his wounded arm, and says he will never "go back on one of Bob Lee's boys who did his duty."

ORIGIN OF THE DOLLAR MARK.—There are a number of theories for the origin of the dollar mark. One is, that it is a combination of U. S., the initials for the United States; another, that it is a modification of the figure 8, the dollar being formerly called a "piece of eight," and designated character 8 S. The third theory is that it is a combination of H. S., the mark of the Roman unit, while a fourth is, that it is a combination of P. and S., from the Spanish peso duro, which signifies "hard dollar." In Spanish accounts, peso is contracted by writing the S. over the P., and placing it after the sum. But the origin of the sign is ofered by the editor of the London Weekly Review, who recently pronounced the question at the dinner party in that city, at which the American Consul was present. As no one could tell the editor gave the following explanation: "It is taken from the Spanish dollar, and the sign is to be found, of course, in the associations of the table with books in the course of our researches, but I proved my point in the end. On the reverse of the Spanish dollar is a representation of Pillars of Hercules, and round each pillar is a scroll, with the inscription, "Plus ultra." This device, in course of time, has degenerated into the sign which stands at present for American as well as Spanish dollar.—The scroll around the pillars, I take it, represents the two serpents sent by Juno to destroy Hercules in his cradle.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The contract for the sale of the Western N. C. Road was signed at Raleigh on Wednesday last, and it is now announced that Mr. Best and his associates will take charge of the Road about the middle of May.

General News.

The Philadelphia Times, independently thinks it sees indications that "it will require the greatest effort of Senator Conkling's life to pull the third-term business through the Republican National Convention. A desperate condition of things seems to be coming on and it hadn't been contemplated." It is impossible to gauge the present opposition to the Grant movement until the anti-third term convention is held at St. Louis on the 6th of May.

A STORM IN MISSISSIPPI.—Meridian, Miss., April 27.—The cyclone which wrought destruction of life and property at Macon, Mississippi, last Sunday night, struck the railroad depot and houses in that locality about 8:30 o'clock, and had its origin a short distance from the principal scene of the disaster, extending, as far as has been heard from, ten miles from Macon, and blowing down a number of negro cabins on the Reed place, but injuring no one. The path of the cyclone was one hundred and fifty yards wide. Mrs. Horton was despatched, and her head had not been found at last accounts. One family took refuge in a cellar and escaped, except a negro girl, who was killed before reaching it. A car on the railroad track was blown through the house occupied by S. Blackwell and family, injuring all, but not dangerously. A number of animals were killed.

WAKE FOREST COMMENCEMENT.—Will take place on the 8th, 9th and 10th of June, 1880.

The Sermon before the Graduating Class will be delivered on the evening of the 8th by Rev. Wayland Hoyt, D. D., of Brooklyn, New York.

The Address before the Literary Societies will be delivered on Wednesday, the 9th, at 11 o'clock, A. M., by Dr. R. Wallace, A. M., M. D., LL. D., Wake, N. C.

The Address before the Alumni Association will be delivered on Wednesday evening, by Capt. T. D. Boone, of Hertford North Carolina.

Dr. Wallace is a native of Pitt county, was graduated at Wake Forest in 1850, being the Valedictorian of his class; was Surgeon General of the Confederate forces west of the Mississippi, and recently in charge of the Lunatic Asylum of Texas.

Dr. Hoyt is a man of brilliant talents.

THE KNIGHTS OF HONOR.—The Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Honor of the United States, composed of three delegates from each of the States of the Union, will hold their annual convention in Charleston, between the 8th and 11th of May next.

The Charleston Lodge has made ample arrangements for the accommodation of the delegates at the Charleston Hotel, and have engaged the Steamer St. John for an excursion around the harbor for their enjoyment. The delegates will, many of them, be accompanied by their wives, making a party of nearly three hundred persons.

The convention will be held in the Grand Lodge room in the Masonic Temple, and will remain in session one week. Matters pertaining to the general administration of the order throughout the United States will be discussed. The importance of the convention will be understood when it is stated that the order has throughout the United States \$160,000,000 in insurance upon the lives of its members.

POPULAR HOUSES.—The Newbury (S. C.) Herald has this to say of a well known enterprise in Charlotte, the music establishments of Mr. and Mrs. McSmith, of Charlotte and Greenville, from small proportions have grown into great magnitude under the energetic management of the proprietors. These houses are branches of the great Savannah house of Landon & Bates, and have grown in size so wonderfully that they bid fair to eclipse the parent from which they sprang, thus showing what energy and ability can accomplish. At these stores can be found instruments of all kinds and makes, and all the popular music of the day, and at the very same prices as rule at the Savannah house. It gives us pleasure to note the rise and progress made by Mr. and Mrs. McS. in the profession they have chosen and we commend them heartily to the public who may need anything in their line. Remember that they supply anything from a sheet of music to a grand piano.

Stubby Aurora: One of the largest bolts of electricity ever forged by Jupiter was hurled upon an eminence sixty-five yards from Green Hill post-office. Eight trees were struck in the same instance with a circumference of 200 yards; seven of which were pines, the centre one oak, was completely torn into shreds, and thrown for the distance of 100 yards in every direction. No less than four streams of electricity passed off into the ground in different directions, plowing it into channels for great distances. One of these, and a second entering the earth from a pine busted through the embankment into the road in four places at from two to five feet below the surface of the earth above the embankment on the road side. The orifices are perfectly smooth and from two to three inches in diameter. The shocks were terrific. The quensware was thrown from the shelves of W. B. McEntire's store and broken. It was perceptibly felt for the distance of ten miles. The scene forms, at present, sufficient curiosity to arrest the attention, time and investigation of all who pass that way.

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