North-Carolina Standard

PASSING AWAY.

"Passing away, passing away;"
A bright bird warbled in numbers gay,
Pausing awhile on its quivering wing,
Of its onward flight and its home to sing:
"I joy to leave you, my northern bowers,
Though grateful your shade in the summer hours,
For the cold, rough blasts have destroyed your bloom,
And Winter hath come with his chilling gloom,
And homeward, detained by no captive chain,
I return to my native clime again,
To cloudless skies, to a fairer land,
I haste with a free and a joyful band.
Gladly, I carol my parting lay:
Passing away, passing away."

"Passing away, passing away,"
Murmured a flower in its slow decay,
And it bowed its head to the raging blast,
That its beauteous petals around it cast;
"I rejoice, stern friend, that thou layest me low,
I welcome thy summons, I long to go,
In the earth's warm bosom to sink to rest,
She will guard me safe in her sheltering breast.
When the spring returns, I again shall rise,
And clad in new beauty, unclose mine eyes,
Why should I linger alone 'mid the dead?
The loved and the lovely around me fled.
Calmly I yield to thy pitiless sway,
Passing away, passing away."

"Passing away, passing away,"
Whispered a saint, as he dying lay,
While his pallid brow and his languid eye,
Now spake of the triumph, the glory nigh;
"Gladsome earth, farewell! I am thine no more!
Tempting world thy joys and woes are o'er!
Soon from sin and anguish forever free,
I shall mount on high with my Lord to be!
Heaven's shining portals e'en now appear!
The song of the ransomed, I hear! I hear!
I shall soon be with you, ye blessed band!
Release me, sweet death, with thy mighty hand!
To the land of rest and eternal day,
Passing away, passing away."

"Passing away, passing away."
Sang an angel choir o'er the child of clay;
Unseen their glances of pitying love,
While wafted their song to the courts above:
"It will soon be ended, this fearful strife,
And thou shalt awaken to blissful life.
Then tremble not, mortal, nor fear to die,
O come thou with us, to thy home on high!
The sainted, the loved, for thy coming wait,
To dwell with them in their happy state;
There are mansions fair in that world of light,
Soon, soon will they burst on thy raptured sight!
Gazing upon thee, we joyfully say,
Passing away, passing away!"

Manifesto of the Peace Democracy of the North.

The New York *Herald* of the 19th publishes the address issued by the Democratic Congressional Committee, (appointed by the last Congress,) on the subject of the war and the state of the country. The document is a voluminous one, and treats upon nearly all the political topics of the times in the peculiar Democratic vein. The policy of the opposition in this address is defined to be to oppose the overthrow of the barriers between the black and white races; to retrace the steps that have led to the debasement of the national currency; that troops shall be raised under the agency of State governments, and officered by State authority; that the financial action of the government shall be open to inspection and purged of corruption; that peace and reconstruction shall be secured with the States as they were under the Constitution as it is, that public officers hold office for fixed terms, that amnesty shall be extended to the rebels except for particular offences, and that Unionists who have fled from the revolted country shall be restored to their estates and their wrongs redressed as far as possible. The following extracts will show the nature and temper of this manifesto:

FOREIGN INTERVENTION.

Another danger to be apprehended under our present rulers—one which has been speculated upon often since war began and which is possible hereafter—is the intervention of some foreign nation in the pending struggle. There is an example of such intervention in our history, which deserves contemplation by those who would justly judge our present situation and make provision against future dangers. Our fathers revolted and were sorely chastized therefor by their monarch. The sword smote them in all their coasts, their wealth was dried up, their cities occupied by their foes, their land ravaged. They were pushed to the extremity of endurance; they became spent and exhausted by the conflict. But in their hour of extremest peril France, at the instance of a Pennsylvania diplomatist, extended them her powerful assistance, and they emerged from the struggle triumphant and independent. Is this war to be mismanaged and perverted and protracted, until a foreign power may be induced to assist our antagonist, as France assisted the revolted colonies of the third George?—Unquestionably the feeble, changeful, arbitrary and unwise policy of the administration, begets this danger of intervention, and will produce it if it ever takes place. Nor has its diplomacy abroad been calculated to avert the evil consequences of its action at home. That diplomacy has not been wise, judicious and manly, but feeble, pretentious and offensive. It should therefore be one of the leading objects in selecting an administration for the next four years, to avoid this danger of intervention by the selection of rulers who will not provoke it, and whose policy will command respect at home and abroad.

[The address defines these under the heads of "Oppressive government," "Corrupt government," "Insecurity," and says:]

Unquestionably, under ordinary conditions, that government is most secure which is most free.—But in the hands of a sectional party the future of this country is not secure. Not only is the danger of renewed revolt a possibility of the future, but the dangers of a foreign war are immensely increased. A disaffected population weakens the government in resisting invasion, and if such disaffection be sectional, then the country has a weak part through which a foreign foe may strike its effectual and fearful blow.

POLICY OF THE OPPOSITION.

We hold that all laws duly established and existing shall be kept, and kept as well by persons in official stations as by the mass of the people. Disregard of law and of rights established and guaranteed by it, is one of the great evils of which just complaint must now be made. A change of administration and of party power will secure throughout the whole country, subject to our jurisdiction, a just, faithful and uniform administration of the laws by the courts and by the President and his subordinates, and it it will secure in the Congress of the United fathful obedience to the Constitution, an honest construction of the powers conferred by it upon the legislative authority. The interruption of justice, caused by an unnecessary suspension of the *habeas corpus* in the unrevolted States, will forthwith terminate; arbitrary arrests of persons in civil life will become unknown, and a pretended necessity overriding justice and right, and made the pretext for various forms of oppression, and injustice will disappear before a returning sense of obligation and duty in our rulers.

In the policy of the Federal government there will be no recognition of doctrines which tend to the social debasement and pollution of the people. The profligate and pernicious theories which under the garb of philanthropy and a regard for human rights, would overthrow the natural barriers between different races, and ignore wholly organic laws of difference between them, will not be promoted or favored in the policy of the government of the United States.

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RECONSTRUCTION.

The propositions which should obtain in the reconstruction of the Union are not difficult of statement, and when contrasted with the policy of the administration will appear to peculiar advantage.

The first is that the States shall stand as before the war, except as to changes which may be agreed upon between or among them. The constitution of the United States is the rightful and only bond of union for the States composing the Confederacy; and it is to stand as it is, in its full integrity, until the parties who are bound by it shall change its terms, or add to it new provisions. Any other doctrine is revolutionary and destructive and to be utterly rejected, whether founded upon Presidential proclamations or statutes enacted by Congress.—The powers of the Federal Government in all its branches are confined within the provisions of the Constitution, and cannot transcend them: therefore the Constitution as it is, including its power of regular amendment, is the leading doctrine of the great party which proposes to save the nation in this the day of its sore trial. But if the false and guilty doctrine that the President of the United States by proclamation or the Congress thereof by statute, can prescribe, alter, add to or diminish the condition of union between States, be discarded at once and forever, and most of the difficulties which appear to attend the question of reconstruction will wholly disappear. Those departments of the government are confined to particular legislative and executive duties and cannot touch or determine the relations of the State with each other. That field of power is sacred to the great organized communities by whom the Union was formed and by whom alone it can be subjected to modification or change. We have fought to restore the Union, not to change it, much less to subvert its fundamental principles, and the accomplishment of its restoration is the compensation we propose to ourselves for all the costs and sacrifices of the struggle.

But what is impossible to the President or to Congress it is competent for the States in their sovereign capacity by free mutual consent at the proper time, to perform.

The American States required a compact of union to go through the war of the revolution, and it was made. Subsequently they required an amended compact, creating a more intimate union, to secure to them the fruits of independence. From their deliberations on the latter occasion there resulted that most admirable instrument, the Constitution of the United States, under which the republic has existed and prospered for more than seventy years. And now, under our experience of revolt, and war and misgovernment, we may conclude that additional securities for liberty and union should be established in the fundamental law. But these securities must consist of limitations, rather than of extensions of Federal authority, and must not invade those fields of power which were left sacred to State jurisdiction in the original scheme of union.

The Constitution should provide against the uncontrolled domination of sectional parties, South or North, in the Government of the United States, as the most indispensable and vital regulation possible for our safety and continued existence as a Republic.

We are at war, and blood flows, and wealth is wasted, and fanaticism runs riot, and the Constitution is broken, and we are bowed down by bitter grief and sorrow in all our homes, because a sectional faction rules the Government of the United States free from restraint or cure or limitation of its powers. And it should be made impossible that this condition of things can again exist after we have once extricated ourselves from the grasp of calamity.

There should also be a judicious limitation upon the distribution of Federal patronage. * * A change by which the great body of public officers would hold for fixed terms, and be removable only for lawful cause, would be one of great merit and wisdom, and is among the most desirable objects to be sought in our public policy.

AMNESTY.

Another proposition pertaining to reconstruction is, that as to individuals there shall be amnesty except for particular offences. All the excesses of a state of war cannot be visited with judicial punishment. Both necessity and policy require that, at the conclusion of such a struggle, the mantle of oblivion shall cover the past. A nation torn by civil war demands repose at its conclusion, that society may be re-organized and that the passions and demoralization produced by war may disappear before the renewed action of moral forces. Laws of confiscation and treason may be politic and necessary to prevent insurrection or to check it in the outset; but they become inapplicable when revolt has ripened into public war, and one entire people are organized against another. Penal enactments, when directed against a whole population, are odious and useless, and their tendency is to prolong and intensify war, and to embarrass its just conclusion.—Their office is to chastise individual offenders within Government jurisdiction, and not entire communities contending for independence or other public objects. The laws of war necessarily and properly obtain between the parties to a war pending the contest, and displace or supercede those of municipal enactment. Amnesty, therefore, within the limit of public safety, follows of course the termination of such a contest as that in which we are now engaged.

It may be added that clear justice requires that Unionists who have fled from the revolted country should be restored to their estates, and that the particular wrongs inflicted upon them should as far as possible be redressed.

War in Africa—Amazons in Battle.

The English papers received by the Asia contain accounts of a sanguinary battle in Africa between the troops of the King of Dahomey and the tribe of the Egbas. The Dahomian Amazons fought bravely, but the Egbas won the victory. It is related in the description of the fight that the King of Dahomey marched in person, on the 15th of March, at the head of ten thousand troops (male and female,) and on the 16th attacked the Egbas in their fortified town of Abbeokuta—a place of two hundred thousand inhabitants. The King had three brass field six-pounder pieces, bearing the inscription upon the breech of "Mexico, 1815." He advanced till within fifty yards of the wall of Abbeokuta, then suddenly displayed his flags, extended his lines and marched rapidly towards the wall. The Egbas immediately opened a tremendous fire on the lines, and arrested them at once. In the advancing columns were Amazons who fought bravely and desperately. Many of these furies climbed the wall, which is more than fifteen feet high; but, so soon as they reached the top, the Egbas dragged them over and slew them. One Amazon, who had one of her hands cut off in her efforts to clamber over the wall, discharged her musket with the other hand and shot an Egbas.—She received a severe blow from a sabre, and fell backwards into the trench. The Dahomians were utterly defeated. They lost upwards of one thousand in killed, and the number of prisoners is said to exceed two thousand. The Dahomians fled in two divisions. In front of the division which took first to flight was the doughty King himself. The Egbas pursued both divisions and slaughtered the fugitives without mercy and without a pause. Seeing the discomfiture of the King, the inhabitants of the neighboring crooms turned out and joined heartily in the general massacre. Of his three field pieces, the King had the misfortune to leave two in the keeping of the Egbas.

Another account says of the fighting of the Amazons;

"Some of the desperate Amazons rushed to the wall (on the part defended by the Christian converts and the people of Ijeun) with ferocious resolution, plunging into the trench and endeavoring to scale the wall, others attempting to enter the town by the excavations under the wall; they were shot in the trench or cut down in their mad attempt to scale the wall. Some Amazons gave the defenders no little annoyance, for when in the trench they threw large stones over the wall on the Egbas, and snatched away about six muskets from the hands of the Egbas in the act of firing; by an equal determination on the part of the Egbas they were killed. No fewer than seventy-two dead Dahomians were counted afterwards from the trench at this point. On the Owu side of the walls three ferocious Amazons actually planted their banners along the wall, but were instantly cut down, their heads and hands stuck on poles and exhibited over the wall with a general shout of victory from the Egbas."

A gentleman was seated opposite Coleridge at dinner, with a magnificent forehead and a very fine and venerable bald head. The eye of this patriarch was scintillating apparently, with the fires of genius, and the whole bearing of the man was suggestive of immense capacity laboriously suppressed. "Ah," thought Coleridge, "if he would but speak, what grand things would we hear—what large utterances, worthy of the early dramatists—what poetry, and eloquence, and thought and truth." Suddenly, the gentleman who could boast of a venerable head and great talent for silence, spoke, the oracle delivered its burdening message, and to this effect: "Hand me them dumplins."

[From the Southern Eclectic.—Oct. 1853.]

EDGAR ALLAN POE.

"A few lines will be sufficient to mention the principal events of Poe's short and unhappy life, without entering into those painful minute details to which we have adverted. He was born at Baltimore, in Maryland, in the year 1811. His present editor remarks that the name is not a common one in England, and considers the poet to have been connected, though remotely, with a "highly respectable family of the same name in Ireland." His father, David Poe, it is stated, having "married an enchanting actress of uncertain prospects," adopted the precarious profession of his wife. They both, however, died young, leaving three children—of whom, we believe, Edgar was the oldest—totally unprovided for.

A rich and benevolent gentleman, named Allan, who had no children of his own, adopted the destitute Edgar and brought him to England, where he placed him at school for five years. At the expiration of this period, in the year 1822, he returned to America, and was first sent to the academy at Richmond, and subsequently to the university at Charlottsville. His "eccentricities" (to use the mildest phrase) here commenced, and soon reached such a climax as to exhaust even the patience of his patron, who really acted through the wayward course of his adopted son, with more than the affection and forgiveness of a father. The evil taint in the mind or heart of Poe here became painfully distinct. He satirized his benevolent and indulgent benefactor, wrote him a sharp and ungrateful letter, and then adopted the heroic determination of assisting the Greeks in their effort to shake off the Turkish yoke! He accordingly sailed for Europe; but instead of making his way to the "Isles of Greece," and finding glory or a grave, like Byron, on—

"The sullen, silent shores of Missolonghi"—

the first place we hear of him turning up is at St. Petersburgh. By the assistance of the American minister in that city, he was enabled to return to his native country. He was again received into favor by Mr. Allan, was entered by him as a cadet in the military academy, and terminated a very brief connection with that institution by being "cashiered!"

"It seems to have been about this time," says Mr. Hannay, "that he published, while still a boy, his first volume of poems—those comprised in his later collection as "Poems written in Youth."—There are, of course, obvious traces of imitation—adoptions of the metres of Scott—imitation of Byron; but there is the keenest feeling for the Beautiful, which was the predominant feeling of Poe's whole life; there is the loveliest, easiest, joyfullest flow of music throughout. There is, too, what must have been almost instinctive, and exquisite taste, "a taste which lay at the very centre of his intellect, like a conscience."

These poems had a considerable success, which, however, seemed to have little effect on the conduct or circumstances of the poet, as the next event of any importance which took place in his life, was his enlisting as a private soldier! Coleridge did the same thing in his "hot youth," under the appropriate name of Mr. Comberback or Cumberback; and we do not know whether it was the same incapacity for equestrian evolutions that led to the release of the American as of the English poet, from the service of "the great god of war." After disappearing from the sight of his friends in this way for sometime, he suddenly reappeared, "thin, pale, and ghastly, with the mark of poverty branded upon him;" and being thus trained into an appropriate appearance and condition for the profession he at last adopted, he commenced life regularly at last as "a literary man. Having reached the splendid success of making about one hundred pounds in a year—that tempting bait which literature or "the trade" holds out to men of brilliant minds and cultivated intellects—he conceived himself in a position to marry. He accordingly married his cousin, Virginia Clemm, "as poor as himself"—to use the language of one of his biographers, but who was, we firmly believe, all that his present editor describes her to be, "a most amiable, loveable and loving person."

This was the bright spot that gleamed in the desert of poor Poe's life. We hear of their humble but elegant little home; his assiduous attention to whatever literary periodicals of the place supplied him with; we get a brief respite from the sad catalogue of eccentricities and irregularities, at other times so overloaded—all, we have no doubt, owing to the gentle and refining influence of the dear being by his side. She must have been (to use the language of one who has condescended to verse too seldom)—

"No petted plaything to caress or chide
In sport or strife;
But his best chosen friend, companion, guide,
To walk through life—
Linked hand in hand."

But alas! the clasp of this dear and sustaining hand was soon to be severed by death; and the poet, now left wholly to himself (for they had no children,) and uncontrolled by the unfelt and almost invisible influence of the guardian angel of his home, relapsed into all his former errors; if, indeed, he did not become infected by new. That he was a devoted and attached husband is proved by the fact, that even the death of her daughter did not diminish the affectionate interest, or lessen the active services, which his mother-in-law ever felt for Poe, and continued to offer to him during the remainder of his life. He always called her "his mother," and the beautiful sonnet which he dedicated to her, after the death of his beloved Virginia, shows that to her, at least he was not ungrateful—

"TO MY MOTHER.

"Because I feel that, in the heavens above,
The angels, whispering to one another,
Can find among their burning terms of love,
None so devotional as that of 'Mother,'
Therefore by that dear name I long have called you—
You, who are more than mother unto me,
And fill my heart of hearts, where death install you
In setting my Virginia's spirit free.
My mother—my own mother, who died early,
Was but the mother of myself, but you
Are mother to the one I loved so dearly,
And thus are dearer than the mother I knew
By that infinity with which my wife
Was dearer to my soul than its soul-life."

The loss of his wife, however destructive of the happiness, and injurious in its consequences to the conduct and character of the poet, was, nevertheless, the sad source from which flowed over the world those few sweet, stream like melodious wailings,

"So musical, so melancholy,"

which have rescued the name of the mourner and the minstrel from oblivion. This is the "one fatal remembrance," the "one shadow," that under varying names and differing circumstances, is to be met with in almost all the subsequent poems of Poe, and which give a mournful beauty and interest to the otherwise monotonous brilliancy of his poetry, like cypresses in an Italian cemetry.

Take, for instance, the second stanza of Poe's most celebrated poem, "The Raven":

"Ah, distinctly I remember, it was in the bleak December,
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor,
Eagerly I wished the morrow; vainly I had sought to borrow
From my books surcease of sorrow—sorrow for the lost Lenore—
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore—
Nameless here forever more."

We now terminate our faint outline of the poet's life in the words of the editor of the present edition:

"Poe had been lecturing on the 'Universe' in 1842, and producing his strange great book "Eureka." In the autumn of 1849 he had, after a sad fit of insane debauchery, made one vigorous effort to emerge. He joined a temperance society—he had led a quiet life, and his marriage was talked of. But on the evening of the 6th of October, a Saturday evening, passing through Baltimore to New York, accident threw him among some old acquaintances. He plunged into intoxication, and on Sunday morning he was carried to an hospital, where he died that same evening, at the age of thirty-eight years.—p. 23.

It is a singular coincidence, when we recollect the astonishing resemblance that exists, not only between the entire genius, but alas! some of the misfortunes of Edgar Allan Poe, and with whose name *our* readers are at least familiar—we mean James Clarence Mangan—that death should have visited both these twins of melody and misfortune in a public hospital, in the one year, and with an interval only of about ten weeks—our unfortunate but rarely-endowed countryman having terminated his mortal career on the 20th day of June 1849, in the Meath Hospital in this city.'"

Enormous Cannon.

One Orban, an Hungarian metal founder, having passed over from the Emperor's into the Sultan's service, received so many gifts and such a liberal appointment from his new master, that had he been offered but a fourth part as much by the Greek ministry, he would never have dreamed of quitting the imperial city. Mohammed inquired of him, whether he would cast a cannon capable of crumbling the walls of Constantinople. "It is in my power," replied the Hungarian, "to cast a cannon of any calibre that is desired, and grind the walls of Constantinople and Babylon into powder; I will answer for my science extending thus far; but I cannot pronounce to what extent the shot will range." The Sultan gave him directions to proceed with the casting, but not to trouble himself about the range of the shot which should be subsequently determined.

As a specimen of his skill, Orban cast a cannon for the great tower on the Bosphorean Channel, and a trial of its range was made upon the first vessel which sailed past without hauling in her sails. A Venetian ship, commanded by one Riel, was made use of as a target, and afforded satisfactory evidence of the perfectness of the casting, as well as the range of the shot. It was struck, severed asunder, and sunk. The captain and thirty of his crew escaped the dangers of the turbulent current in a boat, but, on reaching the shore, fell into the hands of the Turkish garrison. They were loaded with fetters, and brought before the Sultan at Didymotichen; by his orders the sailors were beheaded, the captain impaled, and their dead bodies exposed to rot in the open air. This barbarous scene was witnessed by Ducas the historian, who was a resident at Didymotichon at that period.

Mohammed was so perfectly satisfied with the founder's skill, and the result of the trial, that he directed the construction of a prodigious battering piece, twice as large as the first, in fact, the largest which is recorded in the annals of the "tormentorum bellicorum." It vomited stone balls twelve spans in circumference and twelve hundred pounds in weight; was moved with great difficulty by fifty pair of oxen, and was committed to the manipulation of seven hundred men.

When the casting was completed, the piece was transported to the gate of the palace Dechthannuma, (for the spectacle of the world,) a lofty pile which had just been finished at Adrianople; and on this spot it was, for the first time, loaded with infinite trouble.

Notice was then given to the inhabitants that it would be discharged the next morning. It was feared that without such a warning, the terror occasioned by its report might have been attended with the most disastrous consequences. The morning dawned, the piece was fired off, an immense cloud of smoke enveloped the whole city, its thunders were heard for several hours in the distance, and the shot buried itself a fathom deep in the ground, at a distance of a mile from the spot whence it was discharged. By the trepidation which it spread, far and wide, this enormous masterpiece of pyrotechny at least bespoke the gigantic schemes of conquest on which the grasping mind of its owner was intent.

This cannon, together with two smaller pieces, which discharged balls of 160 pounds weight, was subsequently employed at the siege of Constantinople, where it was stationed opposite the gate of St. Roman's, which was afterwards denominated the "Cannongate," a name it has retained to the present day. It consumed two hours in loading, and, on the first day, was discharged seven times, the eight firing was on the second day, when it gave the signal of attack. Though it afterwards bursted, and destroyed its founder, it was speedily repaired, and continued to be used seven times a day, but without producing the effects which had been anticipated from it.—*Von Hammer's History of the Turks.*

[From the London Society Magazine.]

An Hour with a Snake Charmer.

During a professional ride through the station in which I am quartered, I felt somewhat fatigued with the heat of the sun, which was just then excessive, and ventured to call on a friend for a short shelter, despite the full conviction that I should find him indulging in that mid-day "siesta," so common a luxury to the Europeans living in that climate, and yet so fearfully productive of liver congestion, plethora and splenic disease.

I was not mistaken. "Never mind me; come in, old boy," was my friend's salutation, which I answered in person by entering his bedroom, darkened and cooled by artificial means. Making my way to his bedside, I was surprised at seeing two very bright objects glistening in the corner of the room. I advanced towards them, but more quickly retired, on being assailed by a loud and unmistakeable hiss. Involuntarily a scream in duet was performed by my friend and myself, and the native servants were somewhat startled by shrieks of "A snake, a snake! Get a gun!"

A consultation was held—of course outside the room, and I need not say some distance from the door. Various results were arrived at, some suggested shooting, others smoking. One, apparently more courageous than the rest, proposed that the snake should be caught and then destroyed.

However, as the originator of this bright idea did not seem in haste to carry his suggestion into practice, and as none of us wished to deprive him of the honor, it was agreed to send to the native bazaar for an Indian snake-charmer.

He came, a tall, muscular native, a slip of cloth around his waist, his hair long and matted, except in the centre of his head, which was shaved close in a circle, and a turban covering it, bearing over his shoulders two baskets and his musical instrument made out of a gourd, with a single bamboo pipe coming from its upper end, and two smaller ones from its lower, which, being pierced with holes, are played upon like the flute, whilst the breath is blown through the upper and single one.

Before he was allowed to enter the room, he was searched, and his baskets and instruments taken from him.—Nothing could have been concealed, for his clothing was reduced to its minimum, and he only carried a short iron rod.

He was shown the hole in which we supposed the snake to be, for now the reptile's head had disappeared. He laid down on the floor, and placing his face close to the door, exclaimed, "*Burra sap; asbit bahut burra.*"—(Big snake, your honor, very big.) Without any more preparation, he commenced digging around the hole, and removed some of the brick work. In a few minutes he showed us the tail of the reptile, and with sundry incantations in Hindoostanee, and curious contortions of his body, seized hold of the tail, and gradually drew forth the snake. It proved to be a fine specimen of the cobra—a black, shining, wiggling, hissing, deadly cobra, five feet long, at the thickest part eight inches round, with a hood measuring, when extended, five inches across. This reptile he handled freely, whilst it was hissing and darting its tongue out every second. Taking it into the yard, or compound, he released it. The reptile wriggled towards him, and when within a feet or so reared itself up, spread out the enormous hood, and prepared itself to strike at its captor. But the charmer was not to be wounded. He seized his primitive musical instrument, and commenced very low and soft tones, very harmonious, but unconnected. The snake seemed astonished; his hood gradually collapsed, his head and about a foot of his body, that was raised from the ground, commenced to sway from side to side, in perfect harmony with the music, and slower and quicker, as the time was decreased or increased. As the man played louder the snake got more excited, until its rapid and unusual movements had quite exhausted it, and it subsided.

Again the charmer seized it and quick as lightning ran his hand up his body, holding it firmly by the throat.—By pressing on its neck, the cobra's mouth opened, and he disclosed the fangs, poison bags and apparatus complete, thus proving beyond a doubt that it was not a trained or tamed reptile he had been treating like a plaything.

A fowl was now obtained and placed about a foot from the reptile which was again set free. With the same movements it raised itself a foot from the ground, spread out its hood, and with a loud hiss, apparently of satisfaction, darted upon and seized the fowl by the back of the neck. Hanging there for a few seconds, it let go its hold, and the man at the same instant seized it, as he had formerly done, by the head. The fowl, almost instantaneously, became drowsy, its head falling forward and the beak striking with considerable force into the ground.—This convulsive movement lasted ten seconds, and then the bird lay down as if completely overcome and powerless. In fifteen seconds it gave a sudden start and fell back quite dead.

As no deception could have been practiced in this instance, I was most anxious to see the reptile killed; but the charmer said he would not have it destroyed; that if it were injured the power he had over snakes would be interfered with, and the next one would no doubt bite and kill him.

However, we insisted upon seeing him made harmless, or comparatively so, and directed the man to remove his fangs. This he agreed to do, and performed it in this manner: A piece of wood was cut an inch square, and held by the charmer to the head of the snake; the reptile seized it as he had the fowl and with a dexterous twist of his hand the most primitive performance of dentistry was accomplished. The four fangs sticking into the wood were extracted by the roots and given to me. I have them now, and look upon them more suicidally pleasant than a pint of prussic acid or a cask of white arsenic.

A new planet has been discovered between Mercury and Venus, whose annual revolution is about 95 days. It was first discovered in its transit across the sun's disc, and has hitherto been supposed an ordinary speck on the sun's surface.

One man, twelve miles south of La Crosse, Wisconsin, has taken with a net this season 30,000 pigeons. Another man at Sparta has taken $1,800 worth, at four cents each.

TRUE, BUT TREASONABLE.—A religious pamphlet recently published in Philadelphia, says: "The Angle Saxon race kills races of men to get territory to which it has no claim, makes treaties to plunder those who enter into them, breaks them to get lands, then blows the helpless to atoms because they dare to remonstrate and seek self-preservation by force of arms, professes to be the messenger of peace, yet carries a sword ever warm with blood, and often with the blood of its own immediate kindred.—Within the last three years it has slain a million and a half of men in a contest between brothers of one family."

THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD.—These are: 1st. The brass Colossus of Rhodes, 121 feet in height, built by Cores, A. A. 238, occupying twenty years in making. It stood across the harbor of Rhodes sixty-six years, and was cast down by an earthquake. It was bought by a Jew from the Saracens, who loaded 900 camels with the brass.

2nd. The Pyramids of Egypt. The largest one engaged 360,000 workmen, was thirty years in building, and has stood at least 3000 years.

3rd. The Aqueducts of Rome, invented by Appius Claudius, the censor.

4th. The Labyrinth of Psammetichus, on the banks of the Nile, containing, within one continued wall, 1000 houses and twelve royal palaces, all covered with marble, the whole having but one entrance. The building was said to contain 3000 chambers, and a hall built of marble, adorned with statues of the Gods.

5th. The Pharos of Alexander, a tower of Ptolemy Philadelphus, in the year 283 before Christ. It was erected as a lighthouse, and contained magnificent galleries of marble, a large lantern at the top, the light of which was seen nearly a hundred miles off. Mirrors of enormous size were fixed round the galleries, reflecting every thing on the sea. A common tower is now erected in its place.

6th. The walls of Babylon, built by order of Semiramis, or Nebuchadnezzar, and finished in one year, by 200,000 men. They were of immense thickness.

7th. The Temple of Diana at Ephesus, completed in the reign of Servius, the sixth King of Rome. It was 450 feet long, 200 broad, and supported by 216 marble pillars.

LITHOGRAPHY BY STEAM.—Among the new things under the sun is the producing lithographic impressions by steam power. A company has been formed in the city of Boston for this purpose, under the name of "Lithographic Power Press Company," and expected to create a revolution in the art of picture manufacture. It is said that pictures produced by the new presses are of the finest quality, and demonstrate beyond question that a step has been taken and an advance made which is destined to revolutionize the art. With one of these presses from 600 to 1,000 impressions per hour can be struck off, whereas, by the ordinary hand method, it is considered a smart days' work for a competent workman to produce 250 impressions per day.

"PEACE DEVILS."—A Republican paper having applied the epithet to those who do not believe in the doctrine of *Frateonite ou la mort*, the New York Daily News says:

"If peace men are devils, it follows that war men are saints, and we may soon expect to hear the President styled 'his holiness,' and his secretaries 'right reverends.' Gen. Butler will be addressed as Saint Benjamin, and McNeil and Turchin hereafter known as holy fathers. If peace men are to be turned over to his satanic majesty, it would seem that a better destiny awaits the advocates of war; and it may be that this new doctrine is to be preached this summer to reconcile the people to the war, and keep the war party in power. Who knows? We shall soon, at this rate, hear of thievish integrity, truthful lying, affectionate murder, pious wickedness and honest stealing, or, what is very likely, of white black men and black white men. Such is the evident tendency of Black Federalism."

OLD ABE ON CONGRESSMEN.—The other day, as the President and a friend were sitting on the steps of the House of Representatives, the last session closed, and the members filed out in a body. Abraham looked after them with a serious smile. "That reminds me," said he, "of a little incident when I was a boy; my flat-boat lay up at Alton, on the Mississippi, for a day, and I strolled about the town. I saw a large stone building, with massive walls, not so handsome though, as this; and while I was looking at it, the iron gateway opened, and a great body of men came out. "What do you call that?" I asked a bystander. "That," said he, "is the State Prison, and those are all the thieves going home. Their time is up."

A convention has been signed between the French, Portuguese, Italian, Brazilian and Haytian governments for the establishment of telegraphic communication between the continents of Europe and America. A total subscription of about £180,000 will be given jointly by the governments, who guarantee the neutrality of the line.

WANTED.—10 OR 12 THOUSAND OLD Confederate 8 per cent. Bonds, for which the full market price will be paid in new issue.
JAS. M. TOWLES, Agent.
August 11, 1864. 45—

YOUNG NEGRO WOMAN AT AUCTION. Will be sold at Towles' Auction and Commission Store on Monday of Court week, 12th inst., 1 likely Negro woman, 18 years old, with a child 8 months old. A good house servant and spinner, &c.
JAS. M. TOWLES, Auct.
Raleigh, Aug. 11, 1864. 45—

SHERIFFS' NOTICE.—TAKEN UP AND committed to jail by Julius Ramsey, a negro boy about twenty-one years of age, who says his name is Emanual, and belongs to John Hope of Cleaveland county. He had on when put in jail a brown suit of jeans cloth. He is about five feet, eleven inches high, of a dark black color, weighs about 150 pounds. The owner will come for him, pay charges and take him away, otherwise he will be dealt with as the law directs.
WM. A. WALTON,
Sheriff of Rowan Co.
June 13, 1864. 14—w6m.

NOTICE TO ALL CONCERNED.—TO prevent and contradict all false statements as regards my prices for services rendered in my professional capacity, I take this method of informing the citizens and people of Caldwell, Alexander, Catawba, and surrounding Counties, that notwithstanding the enormous prices which I pay for medicines, I have practiced, and will continue to practice medicine at old prices,—such as were common before the war. I do not demand *gold* or *silver*, but any kind of farm produce at old prices. Myself and family must have support, and this is the only way I can accomplish this one thing so necessary while I serve my countrymen in the capacity of a Physician. The families of soldiers shall have my services at half the above rates, and those of them who are indigent and helpless shall *receive them free.*
W. W. GILBERT, M. D.
Caldwell County, July 28, 1864. 20—w3t.

TRINITY COLLEGE.—THE NEXT SESsion will commence on the 7th of September next.—Tuition from $8 to $10, per month *in advance.* Board $100 per month, payable *monthly* in advance, or about $8 per month, if paid in provisions at peace prices. There are small extra charges for washing and room rent.
Students are requested to bring all the Text Books they may be able to procure.
W. T. GANNAWAY, President.
August 1, 1864. 21—w10t.

THE SUBSCRIBER, HAVING AT THE present Term of Wake County Court qualified as Executor of Nancy Ashley, dec'd., gives notice to creditors to present their claims within the time prescribed by law.
May Term. 1864. LYNN ADAMS.
June 13, 1864. 14—w6tpd.

CANE MILLS, SHEET-IRON, PLOWS, &c.
We keep constantly on hand—
Horizontal Cane Mills, 3 Rolls,
Vertical Cane Mills, 2 and 3 Rolls, Single Guard,
" " " " " " Double "
Sheet Iron for Boilers, 30 inches wide, from 6 to 9 feet long,
Cast Iron Plates for Boilers, all sizes,
Sheet Iron Skimmers or Ladles,
Bolts from one inch to thirty inches long,
Plows, one horse, No. 0, No. 11, No. 60 and S. S.,
" two horse, Livingston,
Plow Points, Bars and Bolts,
Ovens, Spiders, Lids, Flat Irons, Wagon Boxes, &c.,
Bar Iron, from three fourths to eight inches wide,
Nail Rods and Horse-Shoe Iron, Round Iron and Shovel Plate,
Mill Irons repaired, Gudgeons, Inks, Gearing, and all kinds of Iron and Brass Castings made on short notice.
WANTED.—Scrap Iron, Brass, Copper and Zinc.
SHAY, WILLIAMSON & CO.,
North State Iron and Brass Works.
Raleigh, June 20, 1864. 15—w17tpd.

HATTER'S BOW STRINGS—A FEW FOR sale at $50 each. Also Lobelia Seed and Rowands' Tonic Mixture, will forward by Express on receipt of money.
J. & C. J. COWLES,
Wilkesboro', N. C.
August 8, 1864. 44—8t.

SCHEDULE OF PRICES IN NORTH-CAROLINA.—The Commissioners of Appraisement for the State of North-Carolina, again present their schedule of prices to govern the purchasing officers of the government for the next sixty days, unless in the interval facts and circumstances should arise to induce an alteration. Every item has been carefully revised and with the valuable aid of Mr. George W. Mordecai, they trust the schedule now presented will prove satisfactory to both the government and the people. They would respectfully urge the people to hasten on with their supplies to maintain and feed our gallant army now assembled just on our borders and in whose gallantry and fortitude under God we alone owe our exemption from the horrors of a revolution of our homes and families by the barbarous inhuman foe, who have constantly shown they only want the power, and not the will to destroy us and take *all* we have.

Apples,	dried good, peeled, per bush. 28 lbs.,	
"	unpeeled, per bushel 28 lbs.,	$5
Axes,	with handles, each	3 50
"	without handles, each	12 50
Bacon,	sides, per pound	12
"	hams, per pound	8
"	shoulders, per pound,	8
"	jowles, per pound	2 75
Beans,	white or cornfield, per bushel 60 lbs.,	1 50
Brandy,	apple, per gallon	10
"	peach, per gallon	20
Beef,	fresh, net, per pound	25
"	salted, per pound	1
Brown stuff,	good, per bushel 28 lbs.,	1 50
Candles,	tallow, per pound	1
"	adamantine, per pound	3
Chains,	trace, per pair	8 75
Cloth,	woolen, for soldiers' clothes, ¾ yard wide, 10 oz. to yard, and *pro rata* as to greater or less weight or width, per yard,	11
Cotton,	raw, per lb.	6
Coffee,	Rio, per pound	1
Corn,	unshelled, per bushel of 70 pounds	4 50
"	shelled, sacks not included per bushel of 56 pounds	6
Corn meal,	sacks not included, per bushel of 50 pounds	6
Drills,	cotton, ⅞ yard wide, ¾ yards to pound, per yard	6
Flour,	extra family, per barrel of 196 pounds	80
"	extra family, per sack of 98 pounds	60
"	superfine, per barrel, of 196 pounds	30
"	superfine, per sack of 98 lbs.	55
"	fine, per barrel of 198 pounds	25
"	fine per sack of 98 lbs.	50
Fodder,	baled, per 100 pounds	25
"	unbaled, per 100 pounds	6
Hats,	wool, each	5 50
Hay,	baled, per 100 lbs.	5
"	unbaled per 100 pounds	6
Hides,	dry, extra, per pound	5 50
"	dry	4
"	green, per pound	3 50
Horses,	artillery, 1st class, per head	1 75
"	artillery, 2d class, per head	1,000
	Extra	800
Iron,	pig, per ton of 2,000 lbs.	180
"	square or round, per ton	700
"	hoop, per ton of 3,000 lbs,	1,000
"	flat or band, per ton of 2,000 lbs.	700
"	boiler plate, per ton of 2,000 lbs.	1,000
"	serviceable railroad, per ton of 2,240 pounds,	
"	castings, per pound	400
Jeans,	wool, domestic, per yard	10 30
Kettles,	camp, iron, per lb.	80
Lumber,	good, per 1,000 feet	30
Lard,	clean, per pound	3
Leather,	sole, per pound	6
"	upper, per pound	7
"	harness, per pound	7
Molasses,	cane, per gallon	10
"	sorghum, per gallon	10
Mules,	1st class, per head	1,000
"	2d class, per head	800
"	3d class, per head	500
"	extra	
Nails,	per keg	$100
Oats,	sheaf, unbaled, per 100 lbs.	7 50
"	sheaf, baled, per 100 lbs	8
"	shelled per bushel	8
Osnaburgs,	cotton, ¾ yard wide, 7 oz. to yard, per yard	1 50
"	cotton, ⅞ yard wide, 8 oz. to yard, per yard	1 75
Onions,	per bushel	10
Peas,	cow, per bushel of 60 lbs.	10
Potatoes,	Irish, per bushel of 60 lbs.	80
"	sweet, per bushel of 60 lbs.	8
Peaches dried,	peeled, per bushel of 38 lbs.	8 50
"	unpeeled, per bushel of 38 lbs.	5
Pork,	fresh, nett, per pound	3
"	salt,	2 50
Pasturage,	1st quality, near town, per head, per month,	10
"	common, near town, per head, per month	7
"	1st quality, in the country, per head, per month,	9
"	common, in the country, per head, per month	6
Quinine,	good, per ounce	60
Rice,	new, per pound	50
"	old, per pound	40
Rye,	good, per bushel of 56 lbs.	10
Sacks,	two bushels, osnaburgs, each	3
Shirting,	cotton, ¾ yard wide, 4½ yards to pound, per yard	1 30
"	cotton, ⅞ yard wide, 3¾ yard to pound, per yard	1 10
Cotton strip's,	3 yards lb., per yard	1 75
Salt,	Coast, per bushel of 50 lbs.	20
"	Liverpool, per bushel of 50 lbs.	35
"	Virginia, per bushel of 50 lb.	25
Steel,	cast, per pound	8
Shoes,	army, per pair	15
Shoe thread,	flax, per pound	10
Socks,	soldiers' wool, per pair	3
Sheep,	fat, per head	40
Sugar,	brown, common, per pound	3
Soap,	hard, per pound	1
"	soft, per pound	75
Shucks,	baled, 100 lbs.	6
Shorts,	good, per bushel of 22 lbs.	1
Ship stuff,	good, per bushel of 37 lbs.	1 75
Tea,	black, per pound	5
"	green, per pound,	8
Tent cloth,	cotton, 10 oz. to yd, per yard	1 60
Tobacco,	No. 1, Extra	3
"	No. 1,	2 50
"	No 2,	1 75
"	Lugs,	1 25
Tallow,	clean, per pound	2 50
Vinegar,	cider, per gallon	2 50
"	manufactured, per gallon,	1 25
Whiskey,	good per gallon	25
Wheat,	first rate white, per bushel of 60 pounds	10
"	fair, per bushel of 60 pounds	8 50
"	ordinary, per bush. of 60 lbs.	8
Wheat straw,	baled, per 10 lbs.	1 50
" "	unbaled per 100 lbs.	1
Wool,	washed, per pound	8
"	unwashed, per pound	6
Wagons,	wood axle 4 horse, new, each	350
"	iron axle, 4 horse, new, each	375
"	wood axle, 2 horse, new, each	280
"	iron axle, 2 horse, new, each	275
Wheat bran,	per bushel of 17 pounds,	70
Yarn,	cotton, per bunch of 5 lbs.	8

HIRE OF LABOR, TEAMS, WAGONS AND HORSES.

Baling large forage, per hundred pounds,	75
Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by government, per bushel	25
Hire of two horses teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day	12
Hire of two horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day	8
Hire of four horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day	22 50
Hire of four horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day	16
Hire of six horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day	25
Hire of six horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day	18
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, per day	3
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by government, per day	1 75
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, per month	75
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by government, per month	45
Hires of horses, per day	1 50

For the information of all persons concerned, we publish the following instructions, with the hope that they will be strictly obeyed.

"No officer, or agent, shall impress the necessary supplies which any person may have for the consumption of himself, his family employees, slaves, or to carry on his ordinary mechanical, manufacturing or agricultural implements."

The next meeting of the Board will be held in the Senate Chamber, in the City of Raleigh, on Friday, the 20th day of September next, unless sooner changed. Impressing agents must furnish good and satisfactory reasons for disapprovals on appeals or the award of local appraisers will be approved. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary of the Board, Raleigh, N. C.

(Signed) H. K. BURGWYN, Garysburg, N. C.
R. V. BLACKSTOCK, Stockville, N. C.
Com's Appraisement for State of N. C.
GEO. W. MORDECAI, Umpire.
Raleigh, July 30. 42—3t.

PURE CIDAR VINEGAR
For sale at
E. A. WHITAKER'S.

BACON AND LARD
For sale at
E. A. WHITAKER'S.

COTTON YARNS
For sale at
E. A. WHITAKER'S.

TOILET SOAP
For sale at
E. A. WHITAKER'S.

BEESWAX AND TALLOW
For sale at
E. A. WHITAKER'S.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS
For sale at
E. A. WHITAKER'S.
Raleigh, August 8, 1864. 44—tf.