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Medical Society of the State of North Carolina.

This body convened in this town on Tuesday last the 11th of May, and adjourned on Thursday evening, after a session of three days. Some forty or fifty Delegates from the various auxiliary societies, and permanent members from different Counties in the State were present. The officers who were elected for this meeting, were, Dr. E. S. Strickland of Orange, Chairman; Dr. S. S. Satchwell of New Hanover, Secretary, and Dr. C. F. Dewey of Wayne, Treasurer. We are informed that it was the largest and most interesting meeting of Physicians that had ever been held in the State. The Society is increasing regularly in numbers, influence, and popularity. The Committee previously appointed to report upon the propriety of establishing a Medical College in North Carolina, reported adversely and their report was adopted. Papers on medical subjects were read before the Society by different members. Dr. J. H. Dickson read a paper on the Topography and Diseases of Wilmington. Dr. S. Satchwell read an essay on the subject of Malaria; these papers were ordered by the Society to be published with its proceedings. The annual orator Dr. W. A. Norwood of Hillsboro' was prevented by sickness from delivering his address. It was read in the Masonic Hall by the Chairman, before a very respectable and intelligent audience of ladies and gentlemen on Wednesday evening. The subject was Hygiene and legislative enactments in reference to health. We have heard it very highly spoken of. It will be published we believe with the proceedings. Dr. J. H. Dickson of Wilmington was selected as the next annual orator of the Society. A committee was appointed to memorialize the next Legislature in favor of the passage of a general registering law of births and deaths throughout the State. A committee was appointed to write an address to the Physicians throughout the State, inviting those who are not attached to the State Society, or to the County Auxiliary Societies, to unite their efforts with these bodies, for the promotion of medical science, and the improvement of the medical profession. Dr. J. H. Dickson made a very instructive and interesting report as Delegate of the Society to the recent meeting in Richmond of the American Medical Association. Delegates were appointed to represent the Society in the next meeting of that body at New York, in May next. Appropriate steps were taken in reference to the death of Dr. Cameron of Fayetteville, one of the officers of the Society. Other business of an important nature was transacted, but as its whole proceedings are to be published in pamphlet form, we omit farther notice.

We believe this Society and its Auxiliary County Societies, to be productive of great good to medical science, to the medical profession, and to the public at large. We hope to see them continue to increase and flourish, and to receive the smiles of popular favor, as we are convinced that it is the duty of the people to second and sustain the efforts for good aimed at by these medical associations. God speed the North Carolina Medical Society, and its numerous County Auxiliaries. The Society adjourned to hold its next annual meeting in Fayetteville, on the third Tuesday of May, 1853.

The following extract from the second article of the Constitution of the Society, will explain its object: "The objects of this Society shall be the advancement of medical knowledge, the elevation of professional character, and the promotion of all measures of a professional nature that are adapted to the wants of suffering humanity, and to improve the health and protect the lives of the community."

The week about to close has been a very busy one in Wilmington and we presume in Raleigh. Here, the meeting of the Grand Lodge, the celebration of the Anniversary of Cape Fear Lodge and the excitement among the Odd Fellows generally has contributed not a little to the liveliness of the place, while the sessions of the N. C. State Medical Society and of the Whig District Convention, have also contributed their quota of strangers and of stir. We are glad that Messrs. Jefferson and Ellsler have been here this week, as it has afforded our visitors an opportunity of amusement and a chance to see some really good playing.

The Democratic State Convention at Raleigh, we learn, is or has been very numerously attended. We presume that it is broken up by this time. We have some little fault to find with the Raleigh papers, in regard to the reports of such things. We have got two or three Raleigh papers bearing date this morning—of course put to press yesterday evening, but they give us no news of the Convention, near as late as that we published yesterday morning. News is one thing we do like.—Daily Journal, 15th.

Democratic National Convention.

It will be seen by advertisement in another column, that the Seaboard & Roanoke Road will issue tickets for the round trip, from Weldon to Baltimore and back, for the three days preceding the meeting of the Convention, at the low rate of \$9.50. This is less than half price, and should form some inducement for persons desirous of attending the interesting sessions of the Convention, to make the excursion. There will undoubtedly be a very general attendance at both the Baltimore Conventions during the coming month, and no pleasanter or cheaper route could be chosen than that over the Seaboard Railroad and up the Bay.

The Washington Union.

The Union of the 12th instant announces the retirement of A. J. Donelson, Esq., from the editorial chair, and the transfer of his interest to his partner Gen. Armstrong. The reason assigned for this movement is that there are obstacles to the harmony of the Democratic party, growing, in some degree, out of alleged differences of opinion respecting the political views which have been maintained by the Washington Union, while under Mr. Donelson's editorial management. He returns to his private pursuits in Tennessee. It is rumored that Hon. Edmund Burke of New Hampshire, who was formerly connected with the Union when owned by Mr. Ritchie, is to renew his connection with that paper.

Godley's Lady's Book for June, is on our table.

Iowa.

The Democratic State Convention of Iowa has elected Delegates to the Baltimore Democratic National Convention, with instructions to vote for Cass as the first choice of the Democracy of that State.

We learn that Gov. Reid has summoned the members of the Council of State, to meet in this city on Tuesday, the 18th of May.—Ral. Standard.

Whig Convention for this District.

held last Friday at Masonic Hall. Jas. Banks, Esq., of Fayetteville, was chosen President; and Messrs. A. A. Brown, of New Hanover, and John P. Morrill, of Onslow, Secretaries. Eighteen delegates were appointed to the Whig National Convention:—John Winslow, E. J. Hale, James Banks, Wm. B. Wright, R. F. Troy, Neill A. McLean, Charles A. Harrison, John F. Morrill, George Davis, R. H. Cowan, Asa A. Brown, Daniel B. Baker, Sam'l Langdon, Daniel L. Russell, Alfred Smith, J. G. McDugald, John A. Richardson, A. J. Jones.

A preamble and resolutions were passed endorsing the course of Mr. Fillmore, and denouncing the attempt being made to set him aside: approving of the holding of the Whig National Convention; nominating Fillmore and Graham; insisting upon the finality of the compromise, and condemning the doctrine of intervention, and the granting of lands to the new States, for purposes of internal improvements. So far as the issues which used to be considered essential elements of the Whig creed are concerned, there was nothing to mark the character of the Convention. These are kept in the background, no doubt, being regarded as rather "obsolete ideas" in these latitudes, just at the present time.

Several gentlemen avowed their determination, in no way words, not to vote for Scott; but none had nerve enough to place a resolution to that effect upon the record. We rather guess Gen. Scott would get the vote of nine men out of ten in his party even in this District. The want of the other tenth of course would defeat him. Mr. Kerr, the nominee of the Whig State Convention, and Hon. George E. Badger, Senator, were endorsed by the meeting. We had the pleasure of hearing very little of the speaking, having only been present for a few moments, just before the adjournment, when a gentleman was eulogizing Mr. Kerr's personal appearance—his boots and bootlegs included.

Baltimore must certainly be crowded next month, if all the delegates appointed by both parties attend. We thought the Democratic Convention had provided an elegant sufficiency of delegates when it appointed fourteen; but our Whig friends have out-Heroded Herod, especially as only one can take a seat. Verily, the Baltimore Conventions will have at least one resemblance to the Kingdom of Heaven—there will be many called, but few chosen; and there, we fear, all Heavenly resemblances will stop.

Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows.

The Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of North Carolina, met in this town on Wednesday last. A greater number of delegates from Subordinate Lodges was in attendance, than on any previous occasion. The sittings of the Lodge have continued from day to day (with the exception of Thursday, which was occupied in a pleasure trip to Smithville, Fort Caswell and the ocean) and it is not certain that the business yet to be transacted, will justify a final adjournment to-day. It is to be hoped that the members have found the occasion a pleasant one, and that their exertions while here may redound to the advancement of its interests.

We are pleased to learn from various sources that the progress of the Order, in this State, during the past year has not been marred by difficulties or disappointments. Odd Fellowship throughout this jurisdiction, is in a harmonious and successful situation. We notice that several new Lodges have been instituted, for which Charters were granted; making the whole number in the State at this time forty-four.

After casting up the semi-annual Returns of the Subordinate Lodges, the State appears to be 1602 contributing members within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. During the period between the 1st January and 31st December, 1851, there have been 377 Initiations, 41 Rejections, 33 Admitted by card, 157 Withdrawn by card, 7 Reinstated, 51 Suspended, 57 Expelled, 18 Deceased. There have been received for Initiations, \$1,765; for Degrees, \$4,255 50; for Dues, \$8,175 13 1/2. Amount received for fines and from other sources, \$661 50. Amount received for Widow and Orphan's Fund, \$1,592 43. Amount received for Education Fund, \$88. The whole amount of Revenue, \$14,913 51 1/2. Amount upon which per centage is to be paid, \$12,205 29 1/2; and the amount due the Grand Lodge thereon, \$1,220 52.

There has been expended for the Relief of 534, for the Education of Orphans, \$70; and for the Relief of Widowed Families, \$356 75. Total amount paid out for Relief, \$2,567 48. The following Officers have been elected for the ensuing year, and installed.

- Mr. G. Warren Winslow, of Fayetteville, G. Master. There have been elected for Deacons, \$8,175 13 1/2. " Paul Repton, of Wilmington, G. Sec'y. " T. M. Gardner, of " G. Treas. " Peter Thurston, of Greensboro', G. Ward'n. " Walter L. Steele, of Richmond co., Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of the United States. " Malcom L. Douglas, of Richmond county, Grand Chaplain. The Grand Master made the following appointments: " Jno. A. Weirman, of Salisbury, G. Conductor.

Mr. Clay Declining.

WASHINGTON, May 13. Mr. Clay's condition has become so much worse as to cause his friends to anticipate his speedy death.

Fire and Loss of Life.

NEW YORK, May 13. French's Hotel was damaged by fire last night to the amount of \$70,000. One woman perished in the flames, and two missing children are supposed to have shared the same fate.

New York Delegation to the Whig National Convention.

NEW YORK, May 13. The primary meetings in this city for the election of delegates to the Whig National Convention have resulted in favor of four Fillmore and two Scott delegates.

Destruction of a Theatre.

BUZZARD, May 11.—The Eagle Street Theatre, in this city, was destroyed by fire this morning. Loss estimated at \$40,000.

ANOTHER TELEGRAPH REDUCTION.—The Northern lines of telegraph are judiciously reducing their charges for the transmission of messages, and we doubt not that increased business will amply remunerate them for making the reduction. We see it stated that the Bain's Merchants' Line between Boston and New York, having been encouraged by the great increase of business since their recent reduction to fifteen cents, have concluded to make still another reduction in their tariff; which will in future be ten cents for the first ten words, and one cent for each additional word, to all stations on their line.

STATE BONDS.—We learn that the Public Treasurer, Mr. Courts, opened on Monday last, the bids for the \$60,000 of State Bonds recently advertised by him, in presence of Mr. Comptroller Clarke, and Messrs. G. W. Ford and E. B. Freeman.

The premiums obtained on these Bonds, which are payable, principal and interest, at the Treasury of the State, averaged between two and a half and two and three-fourths per cent.—the whole premium on the \$60,000 being \$1,512 10. The whole amount bid was nearly \$300,000.

The sale of these bonds affords the most gratifying evidence of the soundness of the State's credit.—Athens Standard.

Pug-Nosed and Hook-Nosed Recruits.

Among the fanatics of the Emperor Nicholas are these two regiments, stationed at St. Petersburg. Every man and officer of the first named has a pug-nose, blue eyes, and sandy hair and whiskers. The hook-nosed have each a nose like a hawk, with eyes, hair and beard black as a raven's wing. The men, too, all make a height, and with their splendid uniforms, make a wry appearance.

A WIFE FOR THE NOVA SCOTIA GIANT.—The Columbus Stationer says that Catherine S. Seaborn, aged 36, born in Pickaway county, Ohio, is the largest woman living—she weighs 611 lbs., and is now exhibited to the curious of that city.

Colonel Crickley's Horse.

I have never been able to ascertain the origin of the quarrel between the Crickley's and the Drake's. They had lived within a mile of each other in Illinois for five years, and from the first of their acquaintance there had been a mutual feeling of dislike between the two families. Then some misunderstanding about the boundary of their respective farms revealed the latent flame, and Col. Crickley having followed a fat buck all one afternoon, and wounded him, came up to him, and found old Drake and his sons cutting him up. This incident added fuel to the fire, and from that time there was nothing the two families did not do to annoy each other. They shot each other's ducks in the river, purposely mistaking them for wild ones, and then by way of retaliation, commenced killing each other's pigs and calves.

One day, Mr. Drake, the elder, was returning home with his "pocket full of rocks" from Chicago, where he had been to dispose of a load of grain. Sam Barston was with him on the wagon, and as they approached the grove which intervened between them and Mr. Drake's house, he observed to his companion:—"What a beautiful mark Colonel Crickley's old roan is over yonder!"

"Hang it!" muttered old Drake, "so it is." The horse was standing under some trees, about twelve rods from the road.

Involuntarily, Drake stepped with his team. He glanced furtively around, then with a queer smile the old hunter took up his rifle, and from the bottom of the wagon, and raising it to his shoulder, drew a sight on the Colonel's horse.

"Beautiful!" muttered Drake, lowering his rifle with the air of a man resisting a powerful temptation. "I could drop old roan so easy!"

"Shoot," suggested Sam Barston, who loved fun in any shape.

"No, no, 't wouldn't do," said the old hunter, glancing cautiously round him again.

"Won't tell," said Sam.

"I won't shoot this time any way, tell or no tell. The horse is too high. If he was fifty rods off instead of twelve, so there'd be a bare possibility of mistaking him for a deer. I'd let fly. As it is, I'd give the Colonel five dollars for a shot."

At that moment, the Colonel himself stepped from behind the horse, and a dozen paces distant, and stood before Mr. Drake.

"Well, why don't you shoot?"

"The old man stammered in some confusion—"that you, Colonel?—I was tempted to, I declare! And, as I said, I'll give a V for one pull."

"Say an X, and it's a bargain!"

"Drake felt of his rifle, and looked at old roan."

"How much is the hoss worth?" he muttered in Sam's ear.

"About fifty."

"Gad, Colonel, I'll do it! Here's your X."

The Colonel pocketed the money muttering—"Hanged if I thought you'd take me up!"

With high glee, the old hunter put a fresh cap on his rifle, stood up in his wagon, and drew a close sight on old roan. Sam Barston chuckled. The Colonel put his hand before his face and chuckled too.

"Crack!" went the rifle. The hunter tore out a horrid oath, which I will not repeat. Sam was astonished. The Colonel laughed. Old roan never stirred. Drake stared at his rifle with a face black as Othello's.

"What's the matter with you, hey! Foe's time you ever served me quite such a trick. I swan!"

And Drake loaded the piece with great wrath and indignation.

"People said you'd lost your neck o' shooting," observed the Colonel, in a cutting tone of satire.

"Who said so? It's a lie!" thundered Drake.

"I can shoot—"

"Drake was ten rods! ha! ha!"

"Look yere, Colonel, I can't stand that!" he began.

"Never mind, the horse can," sneered the Colonel. "I'll risk you."

Grinding his teeth, Drake produced another ten dollar bill.

"I'll risk you," he growled, "I am bound to have another shot any way."

"Crack away!" cried the Colonel, pocketing the note.

Drake did crack away—with deadly aim, too—but the horse did not mind the bullets in the least. To the rage and unutterable astonishment of the hunter, old roan looked him right in the face, as if he were lying in wait to shoot at him.

"Drake," cried Sam, "you're drunk! A horse at a dozen rods—oh! my eyes!"

"Just you shut your mouth or I'll shoot you!" thundered the excited Drake. "The bullet was hollow. I'll swear. The man lies that says 'can't shoot! Last week I cut off a goose's head at fifty rods, and kin dead it again. By the Lord Harry, Colonel, you're lying! I'll show you thirty dollars I can bring old roan at one shot."

The wager was readily accepted—the stakes placed in Sam's hands. Elated with the idea of winning back his two tens and making an X into the bargain, Drake carefully selected a perfect ball and even buckskin patch, and headed his rifle. It was being nearly dark, but the old hunter boasted of being able to shoot a bat on the wing by starlight, and without hesitation he drew a clear sight on old roan's head.

Thackeray the Novelist.

William Makepeace Thackeray, author, was born in India, in 1811. He is of good family, and was originally intended for the bar, which he is now a member of. He kept seven or eight terms at Cambridge but left the university without taking a degree, for the purpose of becoming an artist. After the failure of his attempts in this profession, he devoted himself to literature, abandoning the design of making a position as a painter, and only employed his pictorial talents in illustration of his own writings. For a short time, he conducted a literary and artistic review, similar to the Athenaeum; but the new journal, although characterized by great ability, and unyielding capacity of concealing and controlling their feelings in an extraordinary degree, but distrustful, proud, unforgiving and revengeful. The usual dress of the Japanese is a short upper garment, with wide sleeves, and a complete gown underneath, fastened around the neck, and reaching quite down to the feet.

The rich are clothed in silks, the poor in coarse woolen stuffs. The upper garment is generally black, the under dress is of mixed colors. Every one has his family arms, about the size of a half dollar, wrought into his clothes in different places. In winter they wear five or six dresses over each other. Instead of shoes, they have soles, merely of straw, fastened to the great toe by a loop. They do not use parasols in sunshine, nor umbrellas in rainy weather. Hats, of various kinds, caps, and boots, are commonly used. They pay great attention to the ornamenting and dressing of their hair, which is collected in a tuft on the crown of their head, and they study great cleanliness of person.

MARRIAGE AND FUNERAL CEREMONIES.—Polygamy is allowed in Japan, though in general, all but one female, who is acknowledged a wife, are merely concubines, and are not considered as wives of the higher classes. The women are allowed a higher station in most oriental countries. She is the companion and not the slave of the man. Marriages are solemnized in the open air, in the presence of the priests and relations of the parties, without much pomp or ceremony. The bridegroom and bride ascend to an altar, erected for the purpose, with a torch in their hands, and with the priest reading a form of prayer, and having lighted the brazier at a burning lamp, holds it out to the bridegroom who lights his torch from hers. The guests then congratulate the married couple, and there the ceremony is concluded.

The bodies of persons of distinction at death are burned, while others are interred. The funeral pile is erected in a small house of stone fitted for the purpose and provided with a chimney. The body is brought thither accompanied by men and women, and attended by a numerous train of priests who are continually occupied in singing. Upon reaching the place for burning, one of the priests sings the eulogy of the deceased, and having thrice waved a lighted torch over the body throws it away. It is then picked up by one of the children, or other relatives of the deceased, and applied to the burning pile. The clothes are carried away in a costly vessel, and preserved for some time in the house, but afterwards are buried in the earth. Those who are buried are enclosed in a wooden chest and let down into a grave in the customary manner. Fragrant spices are thrown into the grave, and flowers planted on the earth which covers it.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION.—The established or State religion of Japan is that of Buddha, but it has many varieties, and much superstition prevails among its votaries. The peculiar tenet of the Buddha sect is that the soul of men and beasts are equally immortal, and that the souls of the wicked are condemned to undergo punishment and purification, by passing after death into the bodies of the lower animals, and applying to the doctrine of transmigration. The souls of the virtuous, on the other hand, are believed to be reborn in a higher state of being. The children are stimulated to emulation and worthy achievements by the recital of songs in praise of their deceased heroes. A few of the more studious acquire the Chinese language, and some of the physicians are able to understand the Dutch, and speak the Latin. The Japanese have many of the arts in a perfection not yet attained by their more civilized contemporaries. In those of smelting and refining metals they excel. Their copper, iron and steel, being celebrated for their purity. The finer products of European art are imitated by them, and manufactured at Kanagawa.

GENERAL BUTLER.—Col. Humphrey Marshall, in one of his recent speeches in Congress, speaks in the following generous strain of Col. William O. Butler, a political opponent:—"Though General Butler my continent, and therefore, entitled to my attention upon occasions, I recognize the fact that his interests are in hands more competent than mine to do them justice before the tribunal of democratic opinion. I will remark, however, that a long acquaintance with William O. Butler enables me to say of him—and I afford me pleasure in thus publicly expressing my opinion—that he is a man of a moment that he would be a time and quiet in the hands of any set of men I have never heard dissimulation attributed to him by political foes or personal enemies. I believe him to be a manly, straight-forward and honorable character, conspicuous for the purity of his private life, and his fidelity to every principle of a personal honor, which is not only unshaken by reproach, but above suspicion."

WORMS IN TREES.—In many of our streets, during the summer, the worms that infect certain trees and fall upon passers by, are a great nuisance, and are too late in the season to apply a remedy, but a gentleman of Brooklyn, in a communication to the Journal of Commerce, suggests the following, which is worth trying:—"The most feasible plan, of whose efficacy some good authorities assure us, seems to be (in cases where strong tobacco juice or solutions of potashes cannot be applied to the trunk of the tree) to cut a groove in the bark (under the branches) to bore them in the following way:—Take an inch auger, and bore the tree in three or more places, to the depth of two or three inches; fill up the hole with flower of sulphur, (which any of the large druggists will sell for six cents a pound) and stop the same by a smooth and soft pine plug, exactly fitting, and of course previously prepared; drive home, by a stroke or two of the hammer, and then saw the end off."

Dr. Johnson, an eminent English agriculturist, mentions in his Travels in North America, that within twenty-four hours no worm or insect could live on a tree thus treated, the sulphur penetrating all its fibres. It thus would seem that there is time for doing this in our streets, as it is not so late in the season as to be too late to apply a remedy, but a gentleman of Brooklyn, in a communication to the Journal of Commerce, suggests the following, which is worth trying:—"The most feasible plan, of whose efficacy some good authorities assure us, seems to be (in cases where strong tobacco juice or solutions of potashes cannot be applied to the trunk of the tree) to cut a groove in the bark (under the branches) to bore them in the following way:—Take an inch auger, and bore the tree in three or more places, to the depth of two or three inches; fill up the hole with flower of sulphur, (which any of the large druggists will sell for six cents a pound) and stop the same by a smooth and soft pine plug, exactly fitting, and of course previously prepared; drive home, by a stroke or two of the hammer, and then saw the end off."

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Characteristics and Dress of the Japanese.

The Japanese are a mixed race of Mongol and Malay origin. Their language is polysyllabic, and has an alphabet of 47 letters, which are written in five