

Personal.

We were pleased to meet on Sunday last, Capt. O. D. Cooke, the gallant and gentlemanly Adjutant of the old 24th N. C. Regiment, who is spending the "Holidays" with his friend and former Colonel, Judge W. J. Clarke.

Captain Cooke is looking in fine health, has changed but little since we saw him last at the battle of Plymouth in 1864, at the head of the 24th regiment in the memorable charge made by Ransom's Brigade on the morning of the 20th of April, in which charge, the regiment sustained its well merited reputation for hard fighting, having lost, if we remember aright, 129 men, killed and wounded, in less than 20 minutes.

We hope to lay before our readers at an early day, a full account of the services rendered by the 24th Regiment, in their defence of North Carolina, and the whole South, for he it remembered their services were not confined to the limits of their native State, but wherever the battle raged hottest, there lay the dead and dying of this noble old regiment, whether upon the plains of North Carolina, Virginia, or Maryland, and we know of no one more competent or conversant with the facts than Capt. Cooke, to write up such a history.

Ex-President Davis.

There are certain men in the South who take a special delight in decrying Mr. Davis. This is done generally in such a way as to escape public criticism and thereby avoid the just censure and indignation of the people. It is damned with faint praise and belittled by comparisons that are odious and inapplicable. In a covert way, Mr. Davis is accused of intense egotism, inordinate vanity, implacable hates and strong attachments. His ability is denied and his arbitrary conduct, it is insinuated, hastened the downfall of the Confederacy. In striking contrast to this defamatory of the father leader of Confederacy, we find the following merited eulogium in an article in the Courier-Journal.

With a firmness of execution, indicating an honesty of purpose, he discharged his high duties, and the people appreciated him for it. Fierce charges of favoritism and obstinacy on him with more truth than most assertions he makes. Several instances of that were shown during the war. In the first days of the war, when it was our proud boast that one Southerner could whip five Yankees, and the Unionist with over confidence and nerve, our utterances to fresh recruits, our most outbursts and abusive clamor by the Southern press because he fell back before the advancing foe, and the demand for his removal was ten thousand times repeated. This the President obstinately refused to do and when the news of Sedan was dashed throughout the land, it was met with a wail of woe from an entire people for the loss of a great General and a good man. When General Lee commenced his career as a Confederate officer by retreating across Virginia before Rosecrans, the sage, tumultuous clamor for his being removed or superseded was raised by the valorous stay at home, and again the obstinacy of Mr. Davis saved the country a General that all the world designs to honor. The patient spirit of the incomparable Stonewall Jackson, ere he was known to fame, gave way before the rough assaults of the clamorous-scorer of rebels, and he demanded, peremptorily that he might resign and be saved the humiliation; and once more the peculiar obstinacy and favoritism of the President saved to the country its greatest military genius. Out of sixty thousand appointments how few mistakes did he commit.

Faults he had, but none to obscure his virtues; mistakes he did make, no doubt, but take him all in all, a most noble and gallant fight did he and his people make against fearful odds, and failed to make the "lost cause" a success only because of circumstances which no mortal hand could control.

Captain Fry. The passage of the last letter of Captain Fry, of the Virginians, to his wife in which he speaks of being with her soon after his death, reminds us of a little incident which happened at the Pensacola Navy-yard last year. It was stated there as lieutenant in the United States Navy. He was a firm believer in Spiritualism. Meeting one day in front of his residence in the Navy-yard a gentleman of this city, who was then attached to the yard in a clerical capacity, he asked if he believed in Spiritualism, to which the gentleman replied that he did not know anything about it. Captain Fry then invited him into his house, set him down at a table in the parlor, gave him a pencil and sheet of paper and told him to think about some dear friend or other, and if he had any message he would communicate it. He then took a seat himself in the corner of the room. The gentleman acted as directed, calling to mind a young man in this city who died in the Methodist ministry, and immediately his hand began to move involuntarily, the pencil in the meantime tracing out a sentence; after the writing had ceased, Captain Fry told him to read what he had written, and he found this sentence there: "You and all your father's family will be saved at the last great day." We have heard that the gentleman declare frequently that the writing was wholly involuntary on his part and he did not know what he had written until he had read it.

Owens, the murderer of John Cheek in Gaston county, last September, was captured in Tennessee and brought to this State. Owens is now in jail at Marshal.

STATE NEWS.

Madison county raises excellent tobacco.

Milton is calling for more tobacco factories.

The Cape Fear is in a good boating condition.

Cattle thefts are happening in Iredell county.

Sneak thieves continue to trouble the Wilmington police.

Wilmington shipped 1,500 bales of cotton North on Thursday.

Asheville is proud of the addition of a billiard and reading room.

Col. Fagg takes charge of the Asheville postoffice on the 1st prox.

The hog cholera is raging fearfully along the French Broad River.

A revival is progressing in the Presbyterian church at Salisbury.

Over six hundred bales of cotton were sold in Charlotte on Thursday.

The ladies of the Episcopal Church in Wilson have organized a Sewing Society.

The ladies of Louisburg are preparing a Christmas box for the Oxford Asylum.

Statesville has an exhibition on to-morrow evening for the benefit of her new Academy.

The freaks of a crazy colored man caused some little excitement in Wilmington on Thursday night.

A negro child, at Wm. Woodard's, Wilson county, was so badly burned the other day, that it died the day following.

The ladies of the Methodist church at Asheville, give a Christmas dinner at the Carolina House for parsonage purposes.

The ladies of Milton, who recently gave a tableau and charade, will make the Oxford Orphan Asylum a donation of \$29.

A corps of Engineers connected with the United States Coast Survey, are sounding the waters of Eastern North Carolina.

The Winston Sentinel says: Valentine Hoge, of Davidson county, was burnt to death on Monday night of last week. His clothing caught fire in a state of intoxication.

Mary Jane Johnston, white, was brought to Wilson, on Thursday charged with infanticide. Owing to her feeble condition she was allowed to return home. So says the Advance.

The Milton Chronicle publishes a challenge from Mr. Alphons Atkinson, of that place, offering to match his dog "Botton" for \$500 against any dog in the world of the same weight and size.

Says the Asheville-Citizen of the 18th: One day last week a woman was found dead near Big Creek, Tennessee six miles below Allen's. The body was covered with stones, and the features so badly mutilated as to render recognition almost impossible. It is supposed she was the mother of a family that were returning to this State from Missouri, whither they had immigrated some years ago. Her husband, an old man, is also missing, and it is the general impression that the aged couple have been murdered because they were a burden.

Says the Wilmington Journal of the 19th inst: Yesterday morning between 7 and 8 o'clock, the boiler of the steam saw mill of Mr. J. E. Eldridge, at Argyle, in Robeson county, on the Carolina Central Railroad, exploded, tearing to pieces and injuring four colored hands, two of whom will probably die. The explosion occurred just as the mill was being started for the day's work, and it is not known as yet, what was the cause. The mill is a perfect wreck and the loss is said to be about \$3,000. The men were injured, it is understood, by the escaping steam, all more or less so.

Mr. Eldridge has been in operation with his mill but a few months and the boiler and all the machinery was said to be perfectly new.

We are interested to learn from a journal devoted to manufacturing interests that ten million dozen bustles are annually made in this country. This gives just three apiece to each man, woman and child. We have, then, three bustles coming to us, and as we never want that many at a time, the other two are at the disposal of any man that wants them. Indeed we are not particularly anxious to retain even one, and if anybody knows of a poor creature upon whom the iron hand of ill-fortune is harshly laid, and who, in the midst of bitter and cruel poverty, sits shivering for the want of a bustle or two to keep out the pitiless cold, that unhappy child of misfortune can have all three of ours.—This kind of general self-sacrifice, we know is rare, but it is a characteristic of us. We could not bear to wear three bustles while the soul of a suffering fellow creature was filled with an intense and hopeless yearning for one. The amount of joy we get out of an adjustable bustle is nothing when compared to the satisfaction we obtain from helping the poor. If we had a bustle as big as a skating rink, we would rather give it to some forlorn and desolate orphan any time than wear it and let the orphan suffer.—[Max Adeler.]

The last sea serpent has come to a lamentable end. It was seen off the coast of Scotland. It was as well authenticated a case as has come before the public. Even the clergyman of the parish certified to the phenomenon, and the celebrated naturalist, Frank Buckland, wrote, in his usual happy style, a description of it. This has gone the rounds of the English press, and now a Scotch paper publishes a letter from Mr. David Gray, of Gaispie, giving an explanation of the "great sea serpent" which Mr. Jonas saw in Lochbeg, and described to Mr. Buckland. The great sea serpent was nothing more than a ridge of sand, upon which sea-weed had drifted.

Timely Topics.

Below we copy two or three items from "Timely Topics" published by Geo. Allen & Co., Newbern, N. C.:

ECONOMY AND INTEREST.

One dollar per day, (working day) saved and invested at 8 per cent. compound interest, will in 45 years amount to \$125,000, of which only \$14,000 was from earnings, and \$111,000 accumulated interest.

SCIENTIFIC FARMING.

The man who produces the largest yield to area cultivated with the least expense, and increases the fertility of the soil is the most scientific, however ignorant of the fact he may be.

CHOOSE THE BEST.

Gladstone says: To comprehend a man's life, it is necessary to know not merely what he does, but also what he purposely leaves undone.

There is a limit to the work that can be got out of a human body or a human brain, and he is a wise man who wastes no energy on pursuits for which he is not fitted; and he is still wiser who from among the things that he can do well, chooses and and resolutely follows the best.

THE BANNER STATE.

Georgia farmers appear to have heeded the counsel so often given farmers in the Cotton States, to grow their own corn.

This year Georgia planted: 1,702,163 acres in cotton.

1,791,468 acres in corn.

1,000,000 acres in other crops.

If she will add a million acres in raising hogs her financial independence will be secured.

Begin nothing without considering what the end may be.

Synopsis of the Address of Dudley W. Adams.

The Grand Master of the National Grange, D. W. Adams, of Iowa, was present by invitation at the Fair of the Carolinas in Charlotte, and delivered an eloquent address in the hall on Thursday.

The following is a synopsis of his remarks from a few hurried notes taken at the time. This synopsis does not do him justice as it is necessarily imperfect.

"Mr. Adams, after a few introductory remarks, spoke of the extravagance of the present system of farming, and the necessity of a more economical system. He believed that one great cause of this loss lies in the remoteness of the producer from the consumer. They must be brought nearer together, so that all the profit may not be absorbed by the exorbitant rates of transportation. The farmers of Carolina ship their cotton at 13 cents a pound. They bring back the manufactured fabric at twenty cents an ounce. Virginia sells her red cedar forests at twelve dollars an acre; and imports cedar buckets at twelve dollars a dozen. Louisiana sells her sugar at eight cents a pound, and buys candles at fifty-nine cents a pound. Texas sends leather to Boston at eight dollars a pair. These are but a few instances of a disease that prevails upon the vital of the country.—Lower lines of communication destroy all profits. The only remedy is to have them shortened. Why are hand-sawing in Pennsylvania for a hundred dollars an acre, and in Carolina for five dollars an acre? Why in Lowell at two hundred dollars a foot, and in Illinois for five dollars an acre? Why can farmers in New York accumulate wealth by tilling lands worth five hundred dollars an acre, while you make nothing on lands worth only one-hundredth that amount? Because in Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts, the producer and consumer are in close proximity.

History shows that no country which exports the raw material, and imports manufactured fabrics, ever becomes prosperous. Prosperity blesses only those lands in which agriculture and manufactures are combined. One could not exist in perfection without the other. The speaker was glad to see this fact recognized at the Fair. Side by side, on exhibition, were the natural products of the soil and the artificial results of human ingenuity. The speaker had seen the cotton of a farmer uttering the words, "I pay for all." This was a fallacy pernicious in its results. The farmer only filled the shore allotted to him in the grand distribution of economy. The miner, delving in the earth for the metals of which are manufactured implements of culture, sees his work in the golden harvest equally with the toiling farmer. He who captures a waterfall, and makes each drop descending, as it flows to the ocean, perform its part in running the busy spindle, is as much a benefactor of the human race as the tiller of the soil. Agriculture and manufactures are mutually dependent. They form the warp and woof of the industrial fabric. Destroy either and the other is worthless. The highest prosperity is reached only by a harmonious development of all pursuits of life.

Carolina is justly proud of her past. She shows a long line of scholars, statesmen and warriors. But having achieved all this glory, she must not, like Alexander, weep because there are no other worlds to conquer. An entirely new world lies before her. Many resources are lying undeveloped in her borders. Every turn of the water-wheel adds to the value of her raw products. Her forests are a mine of wealth. Into these should be carried metals. Her mountains are filled with rich minerals. In her borders, the farmer, the miner and the manufacturer can all find employment. These must unite in setting up a new Carolina. Then the sea will team with sails, forming easy communication with other countries. Her swamps will be covered with rice, and her plains, with maize, cereals and cotton. On every side will be schools, necessary to instruct her sons in performing their duty. Instead of want and distress, will be found peace and plenty.

Nature has given to Carolinians a glorious heritage. Labor, perseverance and economy will be necessary to its perfect development.

The above gives the principal points touched by the speaker. He dwelt on the necessity of factories at home, and of abandonment of the old "one pursuit" system. He said nothing of politics. In private conversation, he deprecated the idea of the Granges as an organization, having anything to do with politics. They were organized to develop the resources of the country.

The address contains capital ideas, well suited to the times, and our people will do well to heed them. The money spent in increasing the extent of agriculture,

could build a factory. And factories are an absolute necessity. Plant less cotton and manufacture what you make, at home.—[Fairfield Herald.]

MISCELLANEOUS.

Abi-el-Kader has come to life again. The report of his death is officially denied by the Algerian papers, and the Emir is said to be to-day well and hearty.

Scotchmen make excellent paper makers and almost invariably get on well and rise to be foremen, both in England and the United States, which is the best proof of their capability. Large numbers of them have emigrated to this country, and are to be found all over the Union.

A man in Connecticut fell from the roof of a five-story building to the sidewalk; but as he struck on the thick soles of his rubber-boots, he bounded back within a quarter of an inch of the roof, and so continued to bounce, the distance decreasing by only a quarter of an inch at each journey. He subsided on his back enclosed in two thousand loaves of bread, and at the end of a month, was stopped and restored to his family.

The largest collection of railway workshops in the world is at Crewe, in England, on the line of the London and North-western Railway. Here are employed six thousand hands at building or repairing the two thousand locomotives used upon that, the longest of the English roads, of which engines it is calculated that at least two are always in the shops for repair.

The Comte de Waldeck recently sent a bouquet to the Empress Eugenie on her birthday, and wrote a little note to her that he was one hundred and nine years old, and was in the world before the founding of the Napoleonic dynasty. Yet M. de Waldeck is laying his plans for taking the direction of a theatre, to be built near the Madeleine, and which cannot be completed in less than four or five years.

Prussia appears to be as well-to-do a country as one could wish for. The year 1872 was unprecedented in its financial results for the largest spring revenues ever known in that country, and Herr Capponen declares that the accounts of 1873, now about closed up, will be equally satisfactory. During the year the public debt has been reduced from 429,022,911 thalers to 349,156,233 thalers, and of this latter sum 150,000,000 thalers have been borrowed since 1870, now profitably invested in railways. The paper money of the State amounts to 18,900,000 thalers.

It is hinted in France that should Marshal MacMahon continue in power five years more, tremendous effort will be made to recover the lost provinces and restore the military prestige of France, and that it was to be free to send his energies to this end that the Marshal wished for more power. Something of this kind appears to have been suspected by the German Cabinet, for the Berlin journals state that the prolongation of President MacMahon's term of office was not viewed with indifference at the Prussian Capital. Inquiries into its significance were at once made by the German Embassy, and assurances returned that the republic meant peace. France has paid her war debt, but she is still under bonds to Germany for good behavior, as the above instance shows.

A valuable collection of articles belonging to, or very closely connected with, the late Emperor Napoleon III was lately sold in London. The collection was formed by M. A. Dumas, Director of Railways, Bussels, a commissariat contractor and member of the Begun Academie, and consisted principally of common notions, class-seats, needles and other trifles—guns, pistols, lances, swords, sabres, bayonets, etc., a multitude, completed and in excellent order; tents, hats, cartridges, coats, helmets, musical instruments, buttons, regimental books, livres des soldats, newspapers, and other articles, besides the medals used by Napoleon III during the campaign of 1870; also, services of china, glass and linen, marked with the imperial initial and crown, plate and plated ware, sporting and other guns, formerly the property of the late Emperor of the French. Most of the five hundred and forty objects enumerated were collected immediately after the battle of Sedan.

Drink, But Remember.

If you think it is your duty to drink intoxicating liquors, by all means do so.—On no account violate your conscientious convictions, but while you raise the cup to your lips, remember that this draught represents the bread of a starving brother for the food of at least six million persons is yearly grasped by the malter and distiller and its nourishment destroyed.

Remember that so long as you are in health, these liquors are unnecessary; two thousand medical men have asserted it, and hundreds of teetotalers have proved it.

Remember that most persons who act as you do injure their health and shorten their lives by so doing.

Remember that not drunkenness alone, but drinking fills our jails and penitentiaries, our poor houses, and our lunatic asylums; employs our carpenters and our hangmen, and works mischief incalculable on all ranks and sexes, of which human institutions take cognizance.

Remember that drinking retards education, industry, and every branch of political and social improvement.

Remember that multitudes yearly die drunkards' deaths and go to meet a drunkards' doom.

Remember that every year multitudes call for your "moderate" rinks to recruit the wasted army of drunkards.

Remember that every drunkard once tried to follow the example you set, and on trial fell that his slippery ground into a whirlpool of interperence.

His residence among us elevated this country in the eyes of the scientific world. Humble, modest, persevering, patient, acute, he built up his particular department of natural history into a solid, enduring body of data and laws. These were capable of that expansion which he hoped to give to them by the founding of his school at Penikese. It was a high and honorable scheme, destined never to be realized under the eye of the master. It is believed to be sufficiently advanced nevertheless for other hands to carry it on according to the original design. Above all, Agassiz was the leader of no sect or clique. Neatulous theories or cloudy hypotheses were not to his taste. He knew where-with he builded, and his work will last.

Christmas.

The New Year's thought and the Christmas thought are very near together. When that thrice blessed day is named, let him be accused who is not of good cheer.—So hear the optimist again: Although in this Year of Grace, when to serve God and believe in Christ, according to this D. D., is to be an unbeliever and seceder, according to that D. D., when to follow out the plain injunction of the Master, in the matter of the Brotherhood, is to be subject to discipline by those who think they are the only exponents of his teachings; in this year of Grace, when the sermon on the Mount is expiated away, and a Christian is laughed to scorn who carries his authority beyond the precincts of his sanctity—in this very Year of Grace the true Christmas toward which the world is agonizing through doubt, delusion, and all that is weak and hampering, persevering and noble in humanity—the second, true full Christmas Day draws more distinctly, more gloriously than ever before, since the morning when the Child was born in Bethlehem of Judah.—[From "The Old Cabinet," Scribner's for January.]

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December 13, 1873-9v

PROSPECTUS OF A NEWWORK

As soon as a sufficient number of subscribers is obtained, I shall publish

Recollections of

NEWBERN FIFTY YEARS AGO,

WITH AN APPENDIX,

Including Letters from JUDGES GASTON, DONNELLY, MANLY and EX-GOV. SWAIN,

By Stephen F. Miller.

The "Recollections" will make a neat volume of about one hundred pages, will be well printed, and handsomely and substantially bound. This annexed

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will give some idea of the variety of topics treated of:

Merchants; Lawyers; Physicians; Schools and Teachers; Churches and Ministers; Roman Catholics; Jews; Quakers; Town Officers; Members of Legislature; County Officers; Banks; Market; Custom House; Apothecaries; Merchant Tailors; Jewellers; Cabinet Makers; Carriage Makers; Master Builders; Brick Masons; House Painters; Gunsmiths; Machinists; Saddlers; Hatters; Boot Makers; Sail Makers; Family Grocers; Boarding Houses; Fruit Shops; Steam Mills; Land Surveyors; Milliners; Theatre; Distilleries; Law Students; Literary Men; Residents in Town; Old Citizens; Passing Remarks; Conclusion.

There are about 300 of the citizens of Newbern at the period embraced in the "Recollections," referred to. Many of these are noticed more or less at length, as position and qualities seemed to authorize.

The writer will be remembered by several of our older citizens, and his reputation as an author has been long established.

From Appleton's Cyclopaedia we make the following extract:

"MILLER, STEPHEN FRANKS, an American author and lawyer, born in North Carolina, Nov. 22nd, 1805. In early youth he removed to Georgia, where he was admitted to the bar in his twenty-second year, soon after which the legislative election elected him Solicitor General of the Southern Circuit. When his term of office expired, he became a citizen of Alabama, where he continued the practice of his profession until a severe bronchial affection compelled him to engage in other pursuits; and from 1850 to 1857 he edited the "Monitor," a whig journal published at Tuscaloosa. In 1848 and 1849 he resided in New Orleans, where he was associated in the management of "The New Review" and the "Daily Commercial Times." His health failing, he removed to Oglethorpe, Georgia. He is the author of the "Bench and Bar of Georgia" (2 vols. 8vo., Philadelphia, 1855); "William W. Miller, or the Successful Man" (1860); and of a "Memoir of the late General David Blacklock."

That the "Recollections" will prove exceedingly interesting to the residents of Newbern and to the descendants of Newbernians now in other localities, we entertain no doubt. That others agree with us, the subjoined certificate, furnished by gentlemen to whom we submitted the author's manuscript, will attest:

NEWBERN, N. C., Sept. 16th, 1873. We have had the pleasure of examining the manuscript of the little work, entitled "Recollections of Newbern Fifty Years Ago," by Stephen F. Miller, of Georgia; and, without committing ourselves to the opinions of persons and character, which are so judiciously expressed, we state that the narrative is a carefully written, and is full of interest to those who wish to be familiarized with the social and business condition of Newbern, at the period referred to.

In our opinion, it is well worthy of publication, and we commend it to the public.

GEO. ALLEN, CHAS. C. CLARK, HENRY R. BRYAN, M. J. GUYTONSON, ALEX. MITCHELL, JOHN HUGHES.

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S. D. POOL.

Newbern, N. C., Sept. 25th, 1873.

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