

Our Living and Our Dead.

NEWBERN, N. C., JULY 2, 1873.

Owing to a press of other matter we were compelled to neglect our local column.

STATE NEWS.

We copy the following items from the Piedmont Press:

CLEM FARR.—This old man of 89 summers was in town with a rattlesnake in a box, of course, Court week, it would not be Court week in Burke without old Clem with a rattlesnake for sale. He is a remarkable old man every way. He is the father of 23 children and has living 102 grandchildren. His father was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Clem is a furious "democrat," and believes old Andrew Jackson is still alive. He was hung by Kink near the close of the war. His friends supposing him dead, were in the act of interring his body when evidences of vitality were discovered. Four years ago when he was 85 years old, he climbed a sick pole here 90 feet high, fastened a Seymour and Blair flag to the top of it, drew a bottle, drank a health to the Democratic candidates and returned safely to the ground. He has been the hero of many "hair breadth" escapes in the climbing line which we may at some future time refer to.

ENCOUNTER WITH A BEAR.—Some time ago Mr. Patterson Coffee, living on Mulberry in Caldwell county, was the hero of a thrilling adventure with a bear. A bear had been chased for some time by dogs and finally took refuge in a cave. Mr. Coffee saw him enter the same and without hesitating, with gun in hand, crawled in after him for thirty or forty yards. It was perfectly dark and Mr. Coffee could not see his hands before him but he depended on seeing the shine of the bear's eye and he was not deceived. He finally saw two bright spots in the darkness and took good aim. With the aid of friends he was enabled to get his bear out. After reading this, one will not be surprised to learn that Patterson Coffee is a bloodrelation of Daniel Boone. Mr. Coffee's great grandmother was a sister of the great pioneer. Our readers will recollect this section was once the home of Boone.

AGED.—There are two people living in this County whose combined ages make up the pretty little sum of 227, one Mr. John Barnes is 114 years old and an old Negro woman formerly the property of Gen. Patterson, 113. How is that for longevity, Mr. Vindicator?

The North Carolina Bonds.

The North Carolina Bonds question is still attracting attention out of the State as well as in it. The Raleigh Sentinel thinks that even after the issuing of the mandamus the bond-holders will have to wait a long time before they will get their money. That paper says:

"We have very much mistaken the complexion of the Legislature of North Carolina if that body shall allow itself to be swerved from the line of duty by the prosecution of any such suits as those now threatened."

"The money that these bondholders are now so greedily after, is no longer in the treasury. It has been long ago expended for other purposes, by order of the Legislature, and it would seem difficult, even if process should be issued, to compel the treasurer to apply the money properly, to get anything by it unless the Legislature shall choose to make good the deficiency by levying a new tax. This the Legislature of North Carolina will never do."

"If there be any authority or any machinery by which a Federal Court can levy and collect taxes in the State of North Carolina without the intervention of the Legislature and other State officers, it is time the fact were known, and in this view of the case we do not object to the vigorous prosecution of the suits now threatened."

"We are opposed to the payment of these fraudulent State bonds, so called, until we shall be forced to make it at the point of the bayonet. If they be obligations, they were contracted by authority imposed upon us at the point of the bayonet, and it is nothing but right and proper that they shall be discharged only at the point of the bayonet."

"When there shall be an order of the Federal Court that the State of North Carolina shall take up and discharge those bonds, and President Grant or his successor shall send Federal troops to execute that order, they will be paid, but not until then."

Why Coal Oil Lamps Explode.

A correspondent at Port Penn, Del., moved thereto by the New Castle Hundred accident, makes the following suggestions in regard to the explosion of coal oil lamps. He says:

"When lamps are filled they cannot explode; but when partially filled if not screwed tight, the space inside the lamp is filled with what is called the fire damp in the coal mines—viz: air and vapor of coal oil or its gas."

It is very remarkable that accidents with the best coal-oil do not more frequently occur, especially when the flame is blown down the chimney in extinguishing a lamp which has been burning all night—and particularly during the evening it burned freely and created a vacuum or space above the oil, which was heated and subsequently cooled during the night when the lamp was turned down, and left to burn with a very small flame. It is manifest that the higher priced oil is more apt to explode under these circumstances."

The burner should be screwed down perfectly tight, and the wick should fill the tube; moreover, he trimmed every day, and lowered before the lamp is blown out. Anthracite coal stoves will explode, or any other fuel, upon throwing sand or dust on top of a fire when freely burning, so that the gas or product of combustion be forced into the ashpit. Every one is familiar with the illustration in what are called 'air-tight stoves' and no anxiety is necessary in using these or coal oil lamps if we recognize the cause of accident, and do not depend on a false security in the use of what are called non-explosive oils."

A live fish has been discovered in one of the boiling springs of California; which died as soon as transferred to cold water. Under what conditions might that fish be cooked.

From the Republic-Concise.

Stockholder's Meeting.

The 19th annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad Company was held at Beaufort, N. C., Thursday June 26th, 1873.

The meeting was called to order at 12 o'clock noon by E. R. Stanly, Esq., President of the Company.

On motion of Geo. W. Nason, Jr., Major J. Turner Morehead was called to the Chair. On motion, Geo. W. Nason, Jr., was elected Secretary, and Seth M. Carpenter Assistant Secretary.

The committee to verify proxies reported progress, and also their ability to make final report at 2 o'clock P. M., after which the meeting adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Major J. Turner Morehead. On motion of B. L. Perry, Esq., the temporary officers were declared permanent officers of the meeting.

The Committee on Proxies reported that 16,648 shares were represented in person and by proxy, which number being a majority of all the stock, the Chairman declared the meeting duly organized and ready for business.

The annual report of the President was then read by the Secretary of the meeting, and unanimously adopted; after which the report of the Finance Committee through its Chairman, Col. J. L. Morehead, was read and adopted.

L. J. Moore, Esq., State's Proxy, announced the following named gentlemen as appointed directors by the Governor on the part of the State:

- Edward R. Stanly, Isaac Ramsey, Chas. R. Thomas, Wm. B. Duncan, Richard W. King, Charles H. Harper, Rob't F. Lehman, Anthony Davis.

On motion of Judge Thomas the meeting proceeded to the election of four directors on the part of the private Stockholders.

The Chair announced Thomas Powers and John Patterson as tellers to receive the vote. Whole number of votes cast 1,301. The election resulted as follows:

- John L. Morehead, 1360 Rob't C. Kehoe, 61 Benj. L. Perry, 1239 Blake Howell, 11 Wm. T. Faircloth, 1257 Benj. F. Parrott, 1 M. F. Arendall, 1301 James M. Parrott, 1

Messrs. Morehead, Perry, Faircloth and Arendall were declared duly elected.

On motion, John Patterson, Thomas Powers and James M. Parrott were re-appointed as a committee on Finance on behalf of the Stockholders for the ensuing year.

Goldshoro, New-Berne, Morehead and Beaufort were suggested as the proper place for holding the next annual meeting. It was decided upon in favor of New-Berne.

On motion, B. F. Parrott, Rob't C. Kehoe and John Hutchinson were appointed a committee to verify proxies at the next annual meeting.

The following resolutions were offered by L. J. Moore, Esq., State's proxy, to wit:

Resolved, That until the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company shall declare a dividend of at least 4 per cent. per annum on the capital stock of said Company it shall not be allowable for any Director or other officer of said Company, except in cases of unmistakable necessity, to give a free pass to any one on said road, and said pass shall not be in force until the name of the President of the Company in his own hand-writing.

Resolved, That if any Conductor on a train belonging to said Company shall pass any person on a free ticket or pass which does not have the President's name endorsed thereon as provided in the foregoing resolution, he shall be forthwith discharged from the service of the Company.

Resolved, That any Conductor who shall pass any person free over said Road upon the verbal order of any Director or other officer of the Company, except the President, shall be subject to dismissal, and shall be dismissed from the service of the Company, as soon as his offense is known to the President of the Company, whose duty it shall be to enforce the penalty.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of each Conductor to keep an accurate statement, or memorandum, in writing, of every free pass presented to and accepted by him, with the name of the person, or party, to whom it is issued, as well as the name of the Director or other officer by whom it has been issued, and to make due return thereof at the end of each month to the office of the Secretary of the Company, whose duty it shall be to publish said statement in the proceedings of the annual meetings of the Stockholders.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be in force from and after the 1st day of July 1873.

Hon. C. R. Thomas moved to strike out all after the word "Resolved" in the first resolution and insert the following words, to wit:

That no person shall pass free over this road unless authorized by the By-Laws of the Company or resolution of the Stockholders in General Meeting, or by a majority of the Board of Directors. Provided that the President may pass the officers and employees of the Company, the officers and employees of certain Railroad Companies, Telegraph, Express and Steamship Companies, which re-locate similar courses with his Company. All free passes shall be signed by the President.

A stock vote having been called for, the substitute in the nature of an amendment was unanimously adopted, and the resolution as amended was also unanimously adopted by a stock vote.

After which the Hon. C. R. Thomas arose and made extended and forcible remarks upon the past, present and future condition of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad; he compared the present condition with what it might be if all world interests and work in harmony for the best interests of the greatest number of our people; he urged upon the Stockholders as well as all others the great necessity and benefits to be derived by the road being extended to Fayetteville, Salisbury and ultimately to the Pacific Coast, and offered the following resolution in relation to the extension of the road, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad Company that their line of road should extend from Goldshoro into and through the State; that such extension is important not only to the future success of the Company but to the section through which it operates and to the State at large; and that they should use every available means and cooperate with the Atlantic North Carolina Railway Company or other Company to secure such extension.

On motion of Dr. Geo. K. Bagby the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That all Stockholders attending this meeting may have on Saturday, 5th of July, to return home.

Col. J. L. Morehead, Chairman of the Committee appointed at the last annual meeting for the purpose of revising the By-Laws submitted a series of By-Laws which had been unanimously recommended by the Board of Directors, which after being read, were adopted by the meeting in lieu of all other By-Laws heretofore in force.

On motion of Mr. Wm. B. Duncan it was ordered that 5000 five hundred copies of the annual reports together with the By-Laws and proceedings of this meeting be printed for the use of the Stockholders.

On motion of R. W. King, Esq., the thanks of this body were tendered to the officers of this meeting for the able manner in which they have conducted its proceedings.

MRS. ROBERT E. LEE.

Her Pedigree and her Interests at Arlington.

The Richmond Dispatch says: This venerable lady, who has been paying a visit to her relative, Mrs. Fitzhugh, in this city for some weeks past, took the south-bound train at the Union street depot this morning for her home at Lexington. During her visit here she has received in a quiet way, every mark of esteem and respect to which her position as the widow of the chief of the lost cause, and her noble and lofty traits of character as a woman, render her so eminently entitled.

(Washington Republican.)

Mrs. Lee, widow of the late General Robert E. Lee, is a great granddaughter of the wife of George Washington, and a daughter of George Washington Parke Custis, whom Washington adopted at the age of six months. Mrs. Lee is apparently about sixty years of age. She is a lady whose noble character and christian graces render her an object of reverence to all who meet her. Her mind is richly stored with the recollections of patriotic, cultivated and distinguished persons who will ever be prominent in our national history as among our Government's wisest statesmen, and some of whom were her nearest kinsmen. In her childhood, the home and family and associates of the great Washington and his beautiful wife were all familiar.

The home of her youth and married life—Arlington—was built by her father, George Washington Parke Custis. To this charming place she was carried when only one month old, and all the associations of her life centre in and cling to this spot. Among the classical localities which our Government claims as its property Arlington is one of the first, and is almost equal to Mount Vernon in its historical memories. Here were entertained all the statesmen and men of letters prominent in our early history. Here all distinguished foreigners were invited in the name of American hospitality, and year after year, as summer rested her beauties to the yards and gardens, and fields of this noble estate, all American visitors were made free guests to enjoy the cool retreats, and free to examine the instructive relics, books and papers there preserved.

Open handed hospitality reigned at Arlington. In 1832 Mary Custis married Rob't E. Lee. Her father, George Washington Parke Custis dying in 1857, gave to Mrs. Lee, by his will, the entire Arlington estate. The terms of the will vested the property in her absolutely. Beyond the simple duties of an executrix, General Lee had no power over the property, and never either before or since, assumed or attempted to assume a single right of ownership.

Mrs. Lee has for many years been a great sufferer from inflammatory rheumatism, and quite unable to move without assistance; but in her age and affliction she has a noble and dignified countenance.

Her features much resemble those of Martha Washington. With her sad but firm expression of face and eyes, beautiful and sparkling with the uncommon intelligence which marks her conversation; with her almost snowy hair, fine, soft, and in waves and curls, framing with her full forehead and covered by her plain widow's cap, she sits before one a grand and lovely picture, combining within itself much of the history and glory of the immortal past with the modern events of our history.

No one can see this much-suffering lady and hear her accounts of her old home, and not feel convinced that on the day our Government shall have remunerated the mistress of Arlington for its loss, and made that settlement with her which is esteemed just and legal by all who fully understood the circumstances of her absolute ownership of the estate, it will add to its repute for just and honorable dealing.

From Mrs. Lee herself it was definitely ascertained that not only was Arlington her unqualified bequest from her father, but that Gen. Lee never participated in its ownership or control, always refusing (from scruples not infrequently with gentlemen in regard to wives' estates) to arbitrate in important matters relating to it, and from the termination of the way to his death he constantly avoided any authority, control, right, or independence relative to the estate, and refused to act concerning it in any way.

When Mrs. Lee's father died he made in his will an obligation that all the slaves belonging to the estate should be set free, after the expiration of five years. The time for their manumission came on in 1863, and right in the very height of the war General Robert E. Lee, as the executor of the will, summoned these slaves together at a convenient point within his lines, and gave them their free papers and passes through the Confederate lines to go whither they would.

Concerning these two great and important facts we have reason to think the community generally have not been quite familiar. They certainly have an important bearing upon the case, Mrs. Lee does not ask to have the estate restored to her. It has become a national cemetery, and as such she presumes, with other citizens, it will ever remain; but she does expect a reasonable remuneration.

There are eleven hundred acres in all, and some two hundred acres of the estate are occupied as soldiers' cemetery. The land at the time of its literal occupation by the Government could not have been worth less than two hundred dollars per acre. Since that time its value, for various reasons, had rapidly appreciated. At the time of its nominal purchase by the Government for the faintest sort of a song, under the operation of a tax-sale, there were several of Mrs. Lee's friends ready to make the purchase for her or pay the taxes. They were not allowed the opportunity to do either, and Mrs. Lee is hardly more serious in calling in question the validity of the present title of the Government to the land, than even high legal authority within the lines of the Government itself.

Neither does Mrs. Lee regard questions as to the validity of the title at all settled. To her mind her property has simply been seized, confiscated, in short, and without the slightest remuneration being granted her. Injustice has been done, and she believes a just and generous Government, sustained by an enlightened public opinion, will repair the wrong.

The pure and lofty womanhood and the true nature of Mrs. Lee's character was revealed in the further fact, that she conversed upon the whole matter without one single expression of shade of bitterness. Of the President and his administration she spoke in the sincerest terms of respect, and seemed entirely calm and patient in the reflection that at the proper time the right would prevail. Like her great

husband, "she recognizes no necessity for the state of things" that existed when the late war commenced, and now she recognizes no necessity for any other state of things than that of profound peace, amity and concord between the North and the South.

THE "CODE" AT THE NORTH.

Two New York Merchants Fight a Duel in Canada.

New York papers give some particulars of a little duelling affair between two bold men of Gotham, which occurred across the border several days ago. The Times says:

H. W. Gray, of the firm of Gray & Avery, No. 26 Broad street, and John A. Heckscher, son of Richard Heckscher, a coal merchant at 111 Broadway, quarreled about a private matter several days ago. The difficulty assumed such a phase that Mr. Gray considered himself bound to seek satisfaction according to the code of the duello; therefore he immediately sent a challenge by a friend to Mr. Heckscher, who accepted the cartel in the spirit it was offered. The laws of this State being stringent against duelling, the belligerents knew that the proposed meeting could not safely take place within the limits of the State of New York. Arrangements were accordingly made by the principals to proceed to Canada by way of Rouse's Point.

On Saturday last the duellists started from this city on the same train, and they reached Rouse's Point on Monday, remaining in that place until Tuesday morning, when the party crossed over in Canada. It is understood that a suitable spot for the encounter was found near the frontier in the edge of a wood, secluded from observation. So earnest were the antagonists in their desire to settle their quarrel on the field that they took precaution of having a surgeon accompany them from this city. The story runs that the morning was bright and clear, and that the meeting took place under the most favorable auspices. One of the seconds, it is alleged, was Mr. Carroll Livingston, but the name of the other has not yet transpired, neither is it known for whom Mr. Livingston acted.

The weapons chosen by the challenged party were pistols, and a pair of hair triggers were duly provided by the seconds, who seem to have carried out the arrangements strictly according to the traditions of duelling in the olden time. The distance was ten paces, and a single exchange of shots was to terminate the affair. As soon as all the preliminaries were settled the principals were duly placed in position by their seconds, and the signal given to fire by dropping a handkerchief in full view of the combatants.

When the signal was given Gray promptly discharged his weapon without effect, though the bullet passed quite close to the person of his opponent. Heckscher did not fire on the signal, but reserved his fire until the smoke from Gray's pistol had cleared away. He kept the muzzle of his weapon pointed towards Gray for a few seconds, then slowly raising his arm finally discharged the bullet in the air. This ended the duel, and the entire party returned to Rouse's Point apparently satisfied.

Cholera Scenes at Nashville.

A dispatch to the Louisville Courier-Journal from Nashville last Friday, thus depicts the situation there:

"To-day has been the gloomiest of the epidemic. People move about with blanched faces and talk of nothing but cholera of which there is ever a reminder in the heaves and expirations with coffins hurrying here and there. A big run has been made upon the undertakers, especially upon R. H. Grooms & Co., contractors for the burial of papers. There were seventy-three deaths to-day in Nashville and vicinity of which twenty four were white and forty nine colored."

Twenty-eight negroes died within a stone's throw of each other at New Bethel a settlement two miles from the city; they are included in the deaths. It is feared that few in the settlement will escape the scourge it being of small wooden shanties having very little breathing space, with small gardens of vegetables attached. The negroes live poorly from hand to mouth, and drink the seeping of limestone water, which physicians say is very pernicious. The scene in the settlement is horrible, dead bodies, shrivelled and pinched up with disease and left as skeletons, with the skin clinging closely to the bare bones, and husbands and wives and orphan children weeping, crying, praying, shouting and preaching. The negroes have grown very superstitious. Their colored advisers tell them that the Lord put them here and gave them vegetables to eat, and they should eat the Lord; that they would not die until the Lord will it; that they should pay no attention to the medicines of the white physicians, because given to make them sleep the long sleep. Efforts are being made to afford them relief.

Three Brilliant Stars.

A brilliant starry triangle is now visible in the early evening. It is made up of the three brightest stars that are ever seen in our latitude with the exception of Mars when in opposition, Venus, Jupiter, and Sirius, form the shining points of the celestial triangle, and make the geometrical marvel easy to recognize. Venus must be looked for in the west, Jupiter toward the zenith in the east, and Sirius in the south. The contrast in color and apparent size between these stars is strongly marked—Venus takes the lead as she hangs like a golden lamp in the glowing west; Jupiter is of a deeper tint, shading toward orange; while Sirius glittering with beaming rays is of a softened white, tinged with a blending of the most delicate shades of green and blue.

The real contrast between the stars is far greater than the seeming one, and in an inverse ratio. Venus is a little globe no larger than ours; Jupiter is a giant planet, fourteen hundred times as large as the earth, while Sirius is a golden sun, twenty billions of miles away, and yet one of our nearest stellar neighbors, although far more powerful and many times exceeding in size the sun, our symbol of omnipotence.

In a few weeks the starry triangle will be broken up, its members taking new positions and forming new combinations, while new stars will take their places upon our field of observation and furnish the never ending variety, which is one of the charms of the science of astronomy.

Asheville is fast filling up with visitors.

Whether I Love Thee

FROM THE GERMAN.

Whether I love thee, ask the stars, To which so oft I breathed my hopes and fears.

Whether I love thee, ask the rose— I sent to thee, bedewed with lover's tears. Whether I love thee, ask the clouds Which off to thee my messengers have been.

Whether I love thee, ask the stream In which thy lovely image I have seen, Whether I love thee, ask thyself, Though I have never told my love to thee. Whether I love thee, ask mine eyes, In them my love forever thou wilt see.

Adventures of a Corpse.

The apparently lifeless body of a man was found in the street, about three years ago, and carried to the police station whence it was transferred, in the dead wagon, to the Morgue. No one having identified or claimed it for interment, it was subsequently placed in a rough, pine coffin for burial in Potters Field. While the charity undertaker was nailing down the lid of the coffin the supposed corpse became suddenly animated, and announcing that it was Christian Schmidt, age 52, a German plasterer, it hobbled away. Two years later the seeming corpse of a man was again found under similar circumstances, and, passing through the same routine of transportation, it was deposited, side by side, with the unknown dead, on a marble slab at the Morgue, to await identification. Small streams of water were permitted to trickle over its surface to prevent rapid decomposition. Scarcely had its involuntary shower-bath begun, however, before it shuddered convulsively, slid from the cold marble slab, and robed itself in its accustomed tattered garb, it feebly proclaimed itself Christian Schmidt, age 54, a German plasterer, and tottered away from the noisome charnel house. A few days ago a drunken vagrant, who described himself as Christian Schmidt, aged 55, a German plasterer, was committed to the Tombs. Diseased and enfeebled by intemperance, he seemingly died on Tuesday night, and coroner Kessler having been requested yesterday morning to hold an inquest ordered the removal of the body for the third time to the morgue; where an autopsy will determine as to the presumed death and its immediate cause.—[N. Y. Tribune.

Nicknames of Cities.

The following is a list of the nicknames of a number of the cities of the Union. New York—Gotham. Boston—The Modern Athens. Philadelphia—The Quaker City. Baltimore—The Monumental City. New Orleans—The Crescent City. Washington—The City of Magnificent Distances. Chicago—The Garden City. Detroit—The City of Straits. Portland—The Forest City. Pittsburgh—The Iron City. New Haven—The City of Elms. Indianapolis—The Railroad City. St. Louis—The City of Monarchs. Keokuk—The Gate City. Louisville—The Falls City. Nashville—The City of Rocks. Newbern—Elm City. Raleigh—The City of Oaks. Quincy—The Modern City. Hannibal—The Bluff City. Alexandria—The Delta City. Newburyport—The Garden of Eden. Salem—The City of Peace.

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The Sixty-third Term of this School will commence on the 29th day of July, 1873.

For a Circular apply to the RECTOR.

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Fall Session Opens 25th of July. For Circular, address, June 14 Maj. ROBERT BINGHAM, Sup't DAVIDSON COLLEGE.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C. Well equipped. Seven Professors. Expenses low. Session begins September 25th, 1873. J. R. BLAKE, Chairman of the Faculty.

OXFORD FEMALE SEMINARY.

OXFORD, N. C. Miss M. E. MITCHELL, Principal. Mrs. E. N. GRANT, Associate Principal. Mrs. W. H. MORROW, Teacher of Music. The exercises of the Institution will be resumed July 30th, 1873.

A limited number of boarders taken. Circulars on application. July 2-3m.

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