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The State Chronicle.

A SOUTHERN FAMILY NEWSPAPER FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY, DEVOTED TO THE WELFARE OF NORTH CAROLINA, AND THE SOUTH.

VOL. XIX. RALEIGH, N. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1889. NO. 26.

The State Chronicle

JOSEPHUS DANIELS, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY THE CHRONICLE PUB. CO.

SUBSCRIPTION: $2.00 Per Annum.

Advertising Rates Low.

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

THE 47TH ANNUAL CONVENTION HELD IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

Some Account of the Interesting and Enjoyable Coming Together of the Editors.

[Editorial Correspondence.]

LENOIR, N. C., July 26, 1889.—The general public is not interested in the full proceedings of the annual meetings of the North Carolina Press Association. But it is interested in the result of the proceedings, if that result is manifested in an improvement of the papers which they read. Mutual help and interchange of opinion are the objects aimed at in these yearly gatherings of the editors, and those who attend usually get new ideas from their fellow workers which are of lasting value to them and also of interest to their readers.

Every good citizen of the State ought to be deeply interested in every endeavor to make the newspapers better and to elevate the tone of journalism. There can be no great improvement which is not preceded by increased support. The people must give this increase and then they must require better and brighter papers from the editors. No close observer has failed to note the great improvement in North Carolina newspapers during the past decade. That improvement has been especially noticable in the past year. Never before in the history of the State were there so many brainy and promising young men at the head of North Carolina newspapers as now. There has been a change in the way editors are made. A quarter of a century ago most editors were men who had tried law, medicine or school-teaching and failed signally. Then, when they had nothing else to do and were not capable of doing any first-class work, they went into journalism "to live by it." There were bright exceptions, but, in the main, this was the way journalists were trained. Of course men who were editors merely because by it they could eke out a miserable existence had no love for their profession and they did not command the high respect of the people which their calling entitled them to receive. Now it is becoming more general that editors are learning journalism like lawyers learn law and doctors learn medicine. It is a profession and to become successful in it one must fit himself for it by, first, obtaining the best education he can secure. Of all men an editor ought to be the most many sided man in his information. No knowledge is unimportant to him. The broadest course of study is essential to the highest career of usefulness. Second—He must fit himself for it by mastering the details, by unremitting labor, by great industry, and by knowing all about it from writing an editorial on a scientific subject up to setting type quickly and accurately. He may succeed without knowing all this, but this is true: The more he knows and the more industrious he is, the larger will be his measure of success.

The difference between a journalist who is trained and who loves his work, and one who goes into it because he has nothing else to do, can always be ascertained by applying this test: Does he use it mechanically to live by, or does he live in it and love it? If the former, he has no place in journalism and he degrades the profession. If the latter, he has an engine of power and of usefulness which contributes daily to the betterment of the people, their enlightenment and elevation. The true editor is a leader, and a bold leader. He is no time-server. He cannot be, but he rises above all petty notions and prejudices and leads the people to a higher life and broader field.

The remuneration in journalism in North Carolina is very small. The people would be surprised if every editor in the State would give a statement of the net yearly profit on his business. It affords only the most economical living for nine-tenths of the editors. The financial inducement is very poor. But poor as it is there is some improvement. Hard work tells better than ever before and no man who is industrious will want for bread. Most any man can make a living running a country newspaper, but it takes a live man who understands the business to make anything over the most economical living. But money is not the chief consideration with the true editor. It is secondary. He loves his calling and is wrapped up in his work. He must have enough money to live on but beyond that he usually cares little. The appropriate epitaph of most of them would read: "He worked hard, lived poor, and died without an estate."

The attendance at the Convention this year numbered 41, I believe. This is not a large number, but I do not think that any other 41 men in the State wield as great or as wholesome an influence as these forty one hard-working, progressive, intelligent men, most of whom are young and just beginning their life-work. The Convention was called to order in the chapel of Davenport Female College Wednesday morning by President THAD R. MANNING, editor of the Henderson Gold Leaf. After the roll had been called and REV. C. F. SHERRILL, (a former editor) pastor of the Methodist church, had offered prayer MR. MANNING read his address to the assembled editors and citizens of Lenoir. It was an admirable address and reflected great credit on the President. It touched upon the questions of greatest interest to editors, and was full of wise suggestions which were afterwards considered by the Convention.

A new constitution which had been prepared with the greatest of care by MR. T. B. ELDRIDGE, of the Lexington Dispatch, was after a few changes and much discussion adopted. Its provisions while interesting to editors would not interest the general reader. The committee on memoirs presented a memoir of the late W. J. YATES, editor of the Charlotte Democrat through MR. W. E. CHRISTIAN, who succeeded as editor of the Democrat, and one of the late COL. CHAS. J. JONES, by MR. ROBT. HAYDN, who succeeded to the editorship of the Charlotte morning daily. Appropriate remarks were made by several editors, among them MR. JOS. P. CALDWELL and MR. W. W. MCDIARMID.

The work of the Immigration Bureau has always been aided largely by the editors of the State and it was a pleasure for them to have with them this year MR. PETER M. WILSON, State Immigration Agent, and MR. J. T. PATRICK, Inter-State Immigration Agent. They were invited to address the Convention and did so, greatly to our pleasure and to the pleasure of the citizens of Lenoir. In the course of his speech, MR. WILSON said:

Whatever is progressive in North Carolina can lean with confidence on its newspapers. By progressive is meant not only what is new, merely because it is new, but the best of what is new; this confidence in the press is derived from experience and not prediction. The subject of immigration has not been so much misunderstood as not to be understood at all. In the minds of many it means the importation of a vast number of foreigners unacquainted with our manners, customs, institutions and even our language; but this is not what immigration means in the eye of the law by which the Bureau of Immigration exists. The Immigration office is one phase of the statutory development of our new life. Although there was provision for such a department in the Constitution of 1868, there might as well not have been as his steps were taken to make it effective; but in 1879, when the people of North Carolina fully recovered their estate, one of the first and most important steps taken by the Legislature was to set on foot a practical plan of introducing new methods, new money, and new men into our business life, and encouraging changes for the better among our own people. Immigration has come to be looked upon as one of the accepted national fashions of increasing wealth, not only by the introduction of population which means greater consumption and thus of course necessitates larger production and more numerous handlers of products in there intermediate stages, but it means also new applications of labor to our home materials and this diversifies labor as well as creates new fields of labor in materials which exist but have to be discovered and developed. Whether our State taste would lead us in this direction naturally, is not the question; we must acquiesce in the fashion in order to keep up with our neighbors.

We are accustomed to say, "How rich is North Carolina!" And she is rich, richer than great riches and more to be preferred, but our wealth if you will carefully consider it consists in that rude abundance which is to be shaped by toil into merchantable forms rather than in the bonanza like concentrates that dazzle imagination, make giddy the judgments of man and lead to the wild speculation, the end of which is disappointment and poverty to all save the fortunate few.

If, for instance, this body of men, in the next issue of their papers, could publish the discovery of a good silver deposit in any of the mountains that surround this village, men would fight for the discomforts of travelling on rough box cars to get their chance at great riches; but if you were to print the fact that there were millions of dollars of silver in these mountains which can be had by very hard labor day by day and by expending large sums of money it would take all the labor of Immigration Agents and the seductive wiles of Railway Iron Clad excursion rates to get a stray New Englander to honor us by even a visit to examine it. But North Carolina is a greater and better country because it requires the sweat of the brow as the dew that will make it blossom, and the toilers will be happier men to enjoy the blessings. It is telling the old story when we say we have in our skys and our water, our soil and our trees enough to make happy homes for good and contented people, but we must by line upon line, never cease to tell the world what North Carolina has. It is positive philanthropy to do so. We have no right to conceal it from our fellows. We have the gentle air from the Eastern shores in winter and the cool breezes that come down from the mountains in the long summer evenings. It takes line upon line to persuade even the willing, how much more to persuade the unwilling. You can see without fatiguing your patience how much the work of the Bureau depends on you. Let a man write an article. If he binds it up in a pamphlet will it do much service? But if it comes fresh from the press with a business-like newspaper air it interests the outside world and promotes enquiry and enquiry is the highway to success. Another duty of the office is to aid in the establishment of new enterprises and this opens new fields of labor and it is nothing but right that our boys and girls shall have a chance as well as others. This leads us naturally to the question of emigration. We want to prevent emigration. We don't want gaps to fill up. To do this we must have as many vocations almost as there are tastes and we must keep up with our neighbors. Our people like others are fast led away by misrepresentation. We cannot avoid this but it need not give us any great disquietude. They know their way back and they are pretty apt to set their toes this way. But what I request of you mostly for the good of the office is patience. If it may sometime seem to you that it is eating dear bread. An examination will show you that this is not the case. The money that has been expended in bringing North Carolina to the notice of the investing world is nothing compared with the amount of money that has been brought into it by this means. In a general way the Atlanta Exposition brought to the State a gentleman whose investments were the beginning of a great line of railway costing millions of dollars which began in North Carolina and thrust one end into Tarborough and another into Norfolk on the sea cost.

Again it is only fair to ask that you be slow to believe that one section of the State is being preferred to another. You must all admit that the strides made in the West have exceeded those in the East. You need never look for the reason of this. It is the presence of the negro. It will not be unequal then for a little more work to be devoted to the East than to the West.

After MR. WILSON'S speech the Convention passed a resolution pledging its co-operation in all endeavors looking to the securing of good immigrants to the State and the investment of capital.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE ROBINSON was introduced to the Convention and spoke briefly as did also MR. J. T. PATRICK.

On Wednesday night MR. VERNON W. LONG, the chosen orator, delivered his oration. His subject was "Why young men leave North Carolina, and a plea for higher education." His oration was the production of a thoughtful mind and his composition was "a well of English undefiled." He delivered the oration with eloquence and grace, and if he did not have the fire of the orator he pleased his hearers by his clear delivery, perfect enunciation, and pleasing style. He is one of the brightest lights in North Carolina journalism and it gratified me to hear the many deserved compliments paid his oration.

I neglected to say in the proper place that before the delivery of the oration an ornate, happy and most appropriate address of welcome was delivered by Mayor W. C. ERVIN, ESQ., of the Lenoir bar. He was once an editor himself and a good one, and he has the fellow feeling that inspired his address. The response for the Convention was made by the editor of the STATE CHRONICLE.

Thursday was a day of much interest. Various topics of great interest were discussed. Among them was the question: What is the duty of an editor in regard to the publication of matters scandalous or in themselves impure: MR. D. F. SINCLAIR, of the Sanford Express, opened the discussion and took the ground that an editor could not ignore news, and that if justice required the people to know it, he must print impure matter such as the GRISSOM trial. He said that NEWS was to-day the chief thing the people wanted and that the newspaper had to furnish it. He spoke against "nasiness" for its own sake and sensationalism for its sake, but for Justice above all. MR. J. D. KERNODLE maintained that a newspaper ought not to print anything unfit to be read in a family circle, and he made a plea for a total exclusion of all impure matter and all sensationalism. There were other remarks upon this question which I take to be the most important one that editors can consider. How to serve it has long been a problem to me. I believe in a clean newspaper, but above that I believe in an honest newspaper. As I have before said in the CHRONICLE, I think that sometimes it is necessary to publish impure matter such as the evidence in the GRISSOM investigation so that the whole people may form a correct verdict. Justice is above the proprieties.

The Influence of the Press in Securing Immigration was discussed by MR. T. B. ELDRIDGE, editor of the Lexington Dispatch, and MR. W. E. CHRISTIAN, of the Charlotte Democrat. MR. ELDRIDGE spoke of the drawbacks and partial failures, but urged continued effort. MR. CHRISTIAN'S speech was the gem of the Convention. Easy, sparkling, bright, witty, it captivated and convinced. All who heard it knew from his editorials that he was a man of ability, but I did not think he was so brainy or so versatile as his speech evidenced. I rejoice that the mantle of the venerable YATES has fallen upon the shoulders of so accomplished a gentleman. MR. CHRISTIAN, by the way, is a native of Raleigh. His father is a prominent Methodist preacher who was President of what is now Peace Institute (then Raleigh Female seminary) when MR. CHRISTIAN was born. His wife is the daughter of the great Southern leader, STONEWALL JACKSON.

The subject of Advertising and Advertising Agents was discussed by several editors. MR. ROBT. HAYDN, the bright and successful editor of the Charlotte Chronicle, opened the discussion in a strong argument in favor of business methods in the conduct of a newspaper. His words were wise and weighty and impressed the Convention. He was one of the leading spirits on the floor and won the admiration of the members at this first Convention. He was followed by the wise editor of the Statesville Landmark, MR. J. P. CALDWELL, who spoke words of truth and soberness. Whatever he says in regard to newspapers is worth hearing. His almost unprecedented success gives his utterances great weight. He makes a paper not surpassed in North Carolina and he is as clever a man as he is an accomplished editor. The Convention delighted to honor him. THAD. R. MANNING, ESQ., C. C. DANIELS, ESQ., and others followed on this topic.

The Cash in Advance question was interestingly discussed by several. MR. JEROME DOWD, the independent, accurate and accomplished editor of the Mecklenburg Times, opened the discussion of the topic in a pertinent speech. He, too, is a new member whom the Convention delighted to honor. He was followed by MR. H. A. LATHAM who gave some rich and rare experience, and read a well prepared paper.

The Convention then went into the election of officers. It resulted as follows:

President—W. W. MCDIARMID, of the Lumberton Robesonian.

1st Vice-President—D. J. WHICHARD, of the Greenville Reflector.

2nd Vice-President—J. D. KERNODLE, of the Alamance Gleaner.

3rd Vice-President—D. F. SINCLAIR, of the Sanford Express.

Secretary and Treasurer—J. B. SHERRILL, of the Concord Times.

Orator—ROBT. HAYDN, of the Charlotte Chronicle.

Statistician—L. L. POLK, of the Progressive Farmer.

Historian—JEROME DOWD, of the Mecklenburg Times.

Poet—W. E. CHRISTIAN, of the Charlotte Democrat.

Executive Committee—JOS. P. CALDWELL, of the Statesville Landmark; T. B. ELDRIDGE, of the Lexington Dispatch; J. A. THOMAS, of the Louisburg Times; W. W. SCOTT, of the Lenoir Topic; and JOSEPHUS DANIELS, of the STATE CHRONICLE.

The Convention then went into the election of three delegates to attend the National Journalists Association to be held in Detroit, August 27th and 28th. The delegates elected are JOSEPHUS DANIELS, W. E. CHRISTIAN, and T. B. ELDRIDGE. The President and Secretary are delegates by virtue of their office. THAD. R. MANNING was elected an alternate. After the Convention an invitation was accepted to go to Blowing Rock. The editors were invited to attend a banquet at the beautiful and modern Hickory Inn, but other engagements prevented an acceptance of the invitation.

The place of the next meeting was left to the Executive Committee.

No place could surpass Lenoir in the genuine, refined and delightful hospitality which we have all enjoyed. Of Lenoir, its people, its institutions and its future I will write in next week's CHRONICLE.

J. D.

THE VOICE OF THE PRESS.

EDITORS EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS UPON THE VERDICT RENDERED.

Some Oppose Dr. Grissom, Some Uphold Him, Some Have No Opinion, But Nearly All Say Resign!

Last week we published extracts from several newspapers on the GRISSOM investigation. The people of North Carolina from one end to the other are deeply interested in everything that is written on this subject. The best index of public opinion and of right is the editorials of the editors of the State. Most of them are against him. We give the gist of their views.

The conflict of testimony was decided in Dr. Grissom's favor. We have carefully read the testimony and the argument of counsel and cannot come to any other conclusion than that the Board has acted right in the acquittal of Dr. Grissom.—Carthage Blade.

The evidence in Dr. Grissom's case has been concluded and it is now being argued. We hope that justice will be meted out to both parties and we believe further that a general removal of the officials in the asylum would be the proper step at this juncture. Surely there is something wrong.—Kernersville News.

Nearly every paper in the State is outspoken in denouncing the verdict of the Board, and we do not see how the Superintendent, if he has an atom of self-respect left, can longer retain his position. In our opinion the only course open to him now is for him to immediately resign his position. Nothing less will satisfy the people of the State.—Wadesboro Intelligencer.

Dr. Jas. M. Caldwell, assistant physician in the insane asylum, Columbia, S. C., assures us that it is not customary in that institution for the Superintendent and physicians to kiss lady visitors, attendants and patients; nor do they find it necessary to stand on the patients' heads, place their feet on their necks or choke them, in order to bring about the best results in restoring persons to their mind.—Gastonia Gazette.

The editors of the State are generally free to express an opinion as to the Grissom investigation, and, so far as we can see, there is a large majority in favor of his resignation. We think the act of resignation, and the repression of all vindictiveness against the large number who differed from the verdict of the majority would help the cause of Dr. Grissom, while his steady and persistent refusal to resign may beget a strength of opposition which will force a resignation.—Greensboro Workman.

The New Berne Journal charges that it was a conspiracy. No, sir; there was no conspiracy on the part of the prosecutors, and although a majority of the Directors have acquitted Dr. Grissom officially, he does not stand cleared in the minds of the majority of the people, (if we may judge from the expressions of opinions) of the charge of immorality.

Mr. Thompson and Dr. Rogers having resigned, the next proceeding in this case should be the resignation of Dr. Grissom.—Winston Sentinel.

The Board tried this case as a jury. They required specific charges to be made as a bill of indictment. Had this been a jury trial no decision could have been rendered upon the vote of the jury as it stood. It would not have amounted to an acquittal, but would have been a mistrial and he would have been held for a new trial.

We do not mean to cast any reflections upon the integrity or honesty of purpose of those five members of the Board who voted against conviction. We only say that they, in our opinion and in the opinion of a large majority of the people, took a very peculiar view of the testimony. We now think the interests of the Asylum demand his resignation.—Durham Tobacco Plant.

It is difficult to arrive at positive knowledge, and therefore the CALL cannot positively say whether or not Dr. Grissom is guilty or innocent; but the evidence adduced in the trial proved him guilty; and on that evidence the Board acted and acquitted him. These are facts that require no proof or elaboration.

The CALL offers no comment on the significance of the resignations of the attaches of the asylum, which immediately followed the decision of the Board. They are amply suggestive to intelligent and unprejudiced minds. To other minds, argument and explanation would be wasted.—Raleigh Daily Call.

The Call writes a long editorial under the head of "An Astounding Verdict." We wish that we could produce it in full.

For man to be bereft of reason, to be robbed of that power that permits him intelligently to commune with his God, and then to place him in an institution designed especially for his care and comfort and there to be neglected or ill-treated, is to say the least barbaric.

While we believe that the Board of Directors of the Insane Asylum have done what they conceived to be their duty, yet it is a fact that their action did not nor cannot restore public confidence in Dr. Grissom. Without it has a superintendent in whom the public have confidence to manage its affairs, it will fall far short of accomplishing that good for which its founders labored.—Twin City Daily.

Col. Fuller and Ex-Gov. Jarvis labored in a prosy, mechanical, illogical sort of way to make the world believe that the necessary thing to do to make an insane person act rational is to chain him, throw water in his face, or kick and stamp him in the face, as Dr. Grissom does the poor creatures under his charge. But it will be very difficult to make sensible people believe in such stupid and inhumane treatment. There was a time when insane people were whipped and tortured for acts done by them, but these barbarous methods were about to be forgotten until they were revived by the champion brute of the present day, Dr. Grissom.

But we are told the directors are of the highest character. Oh, speak not of character! Character without reason and justice, morality and mercy, sympathy and charity, is a misnomer, a nightmare upon every nobler impulse, a demon whose moral sense is blunted and whose vicious vagaries would ride to death virtue and truth. Satan once had character, but exalted station ruined him. He rebelled and was cast out of heaven. Let such be the fate of all who turn their backs upon honor, innocency, virtue and truth.—Salisbury Truth.

Just as sure as the sun shines on us to day there is something rotton somewhere about that institution, and it will out yet. Dr. Grissom had better resign at once.—Burlington News.

But there is another thing which the welfare and usefulness of the Asylum demands—the resignation of Dr. Grissom. It matters not whether he be innocent or guilty he should resign and if he does not do so voluntarily the Board of Directors should request it.—Roanoke News.

The Carolinian has known Dr. Grissom for years. It has been proud of him as an eminent and honored citizen of the State and as a distinguished and widely quoted authority in his chosen profession, and it has always believed him to be a true and worthy man. The ordeal through which his malicious persecutors have just made him pass has in no wise changed its opinion.—North Carolinian (Republican.)

We approve of the course taken by Dr. Rogers, Mr. Thompson and the other attaches, who so promptly resigned on the rendering of the verdict of the Board. They could not afford to stay there under Grissom. The thing for the Board to do, and that without any delay, is to demand the resignation of every attachee of the Asylum, male and female, and elect an entirely new set. Grissom must go!—Newton Enterprise.

We are fully convinced in our own minds that Dr. Grissom is what he professes to be, and that he is justly entitled to the character and reputation he has so long borne in the State. Some brother of the State Press has said the doctor was a radical, and that he should not be retained as Superintendent of the Asylum, now when the fight comes up in that shape count us in. We never hold back in a square political fight.—Elizabeth City Falcon.

Owing to the character of the evidence and the circumstances under which some of it was collected and given in, we did not think that Dr. G. should have been sent into oblivion. At the same time there was a strong suspicion left in the minds of the public which demanded his resignation at once. He missed his opportunity by not letting his resignation precede that of Mr. Thompson.—High Point Enterprise.

Dr. Grissom finds present security in the verdict of these directors, but the verdict of public sentiment is destined to drive him from his lofty position at no very distant day. Mr. Thompson and Dr. Rogers have resigned. Dr. Grissom had better go and do likewise. The admainistration of such positions should be above suspicion, and nothing short of a complete "clean up" of affairs at the Raleigh Asylum is going to satisfy the public mind.—Asheboro Courier.

The Board of Directors of the Insane Asylum saw fit to render a verdict of acquittal in the Grissom case which has been in progress for several weeks. We have been keeping silent on the matter waiting to hear the testimony through. There were some things testified to against Dr. Grissom that we have not been able to get round in our anxiety to find him innocent. The witnesses who testified to his conduct towards some of the female attendants, established characters for truthfulness and honesty that could not well be questioned.—Lincoln Courier.

The impression of the people as a whole seems to be that there is something gravely wrong, and the position of Dr. Grissom is such a responsible one that there must not be a doubt as to his character. The asylum was founded that the unfortunates of the State might be relieved of the hardships, and sometimes cruelty, incident to confinement in jails and other places not specially prepared for the purpose, and be placed where they could have the best opportunities for recovery that science and humanity can afford. The Superintendent of such a place must be like Cæsar's wife—above reproach.—Concord Standard.

Such an acquittal is far from being a vindication, either of Dr. Grissom or the fair name and fame of our State and people. As was stated in the last issue of the Times, the people will not be satisfied with any compromise or whitewashing or half handed verdict. Thorough investigation and a thorough acquittal, or an outspoken and emphatic verdict of guilty, is what the public demanded and had a right to expect.

From the very first there was a painful apprehension, everywhere felt, that there would be a majority for acquittal whatever might be the evidence. From the very nature of the case the Board could not be an impartial tribunal to pass upon the charges preferred. To condemn Grissom on some of the charges would have been a condemnation of some of the Directors—those who have for years been the close friends of Grissom, advising, co-operating and, from time to time, reporting to the Legislature that everything was in the very best possible condition at the Asylum. One member of the Board has been the recipient of Grissom's favors for many years, in the shape of fees as consulting physician, being called on as often as the Superintendent pleases, to visit and prescribe for the numerous patients in the Asylum. He is an eminent physician and a good man, but he would be a bad man if he were indifferent and impartial in any matter so vitally affecting Dr. Grissom.

Another member of the Board was the playmate and schoolmate of Dr. G. and has been his lifelong, bosom friend, defending him in all his past trials and tribulations, in the Legislature and elsewhere, and who, by the way, it is said, had not attended a meeting of the Board for two years, till this trial, and had expressed his determination not to attend another meeting. What brought him to this trial but his zeal for his old friend?

Then again Dr. Grissom was adroit in employing his counsel—one was the son of a member of the Board, another was known as sort of foster-father and guardian of another member, while to ex-Gov. Jarvis, a number of the Board were indebted for their appointments.

Under these circumstances, and in view of the concurring testimony of so many witnesses, leaving very slender basis for the charge of conspiracy, and in view of Dr. Grissom's own admissions, notably as to kissing the young married woman who came to beg him for employment for her husband, and as to cursing and putting his foot, when very angry, upon the neck of a poor demented wretch; throwing a dipper of water in the face of an insane woman, with whom he was angry for something she had said to him, &c., it is not surprising that the verdict is not satisfactory to the public.—Mecklenburg Times.

The popular sentiment is that Dr. Grissom ought to resign. The people are very emphatic on this subject.—Durham Sun.

Dr. G[illegible] has been acquitted, but it would be better for the great charity he has so long served, and perhaps for himself, if he would resign his place.—Press and Caro[illegible]man.

We do not question the integrity of the Board; but at the same time it is a great surprise to the public generally, that they acquitted Dr. Grissom on all the charges. Taking his own evidence we think he is clearly guilty of immorality.—Roxboro Courier.

The Times is clearly of the opinion that Drs. Grissom and Rogers should step down and out, and the sooner the better. At this writing we have heard by telegram from Raleigh that the Board of Directors, or a majority of them have acquitted Dr. Grissom on every charge. We believe that the Board acted conscientiously, but at the same time we are of the opinion that Dr. Grissom is guilty of some of the charges preferred against him, and that if he does not tender it very soon his resignation ought to be asked for by the Board.—Franklin Times.

That he is innocent may be the conclusion of many who have watched the progress of the trial, there are also some who unhesitatingly denounce it. They believe Dr. Grissom is guilty, especially on the charge of immorality, and they as unhesitatingly demand that he should be removed. The sentiment here is adverse to the continuance in the institution of any and all who were in anywise connected with this great scandal. It remains with the Directors to decide what may be done in this direction.—Salisbury Watchman.

But the people, sitting in judgment as a jury over and above all the public servants of the State, as near as we can come at it, are of the opinion that Dr. Grissom is at least guilty of immorality and should lose no time in retiring from the position he holds, and which, for so many years he so worthily filled. For guilty or not guilty his usefulness has been destroyed, and the people, with such singular unanimity demanding his retirement, he should yield to that demand, regardless of his personal feelings and interests.—Spirit of the South.

Mr. J. W. Thompson, steward of the Asylum, has tendered his resignation to the Board, on the ground that he is unwilling to serve under the direction of, or in association with Dr. Grissom, or under appointment of a Board of Directors "who would sustain any man in the face of such evidence as has been produced against him." We believe the public will withdraw all sympathy and confidence from the institution if Dr. Grissom continues in charge. Nothing less than his resignation and withdrawal will eradicate the taint of moral leprosy which now contaminates the Asylum. Dr. Rogers has gone, and Dr. Grissom must follow.—Leaksville Gazette.

Dr. Grissom denies all these charges, but admits that he did kiss another man's wife in his private office through sympathy. This woman was young and beautiful, though in needy circumstances. It seems to us that a $5 bank note would have been a more substantial and proper kind of sympathy in such a case. But the Board of Directors have acquitted the accused, but the higher tribunal to whom we referred last week, the people, has not acquitted and will not.

Yes, the High Priest must step down and out. His usefulness in that position is forever destroyed.—Clinton Caucasian.

Dr. Grissom has been acquitted. That Board of Directors, by a majority of two in one instance and by a majority of three in another declare him innocent. He was in a close place and we are glad to hear of his safety. Nearly all the other officers of the Asylum have resigned. Newspapers whose opinions are contrary to the decision of this Board, should be careful how they express themselves. A body of men combining more honor and high sense of justice and fairness could not be selected in the State of North Carolina. Of course every one is entitled to his opinion on this matter, but this Board made the evidence a special study and are, therefore, better prepared to judge than others; and the whole State should uphold these men in their decision.—Mount Airy News.

The great Democratic party of North Carolina, comprising the wealth and intelligence of the State, with its hundreds of eminent physicians, has been made subservient to what seemed to be the good of this Institution, and Dr. Grissom, though a Republican has been kept there through a half dozen Democratic administrations. But now the tables are turned. It will damage the institution for him to remain there and he must not do it.

It may be necessary also for this Board of Directors to resign. However much they were guided by honesty of conviction in making up their verdict, that verdict is not endorsed by a large number of the people of the State, and if their retention is going to damage the institution as it probably will do, they too must resign, and let the Governor appoint a new Board, and that will restore the confidence of the whole people, and again unite them in support of the institution.—North Carolina Herald.

Dr. Grissom ought to go from the Asylum because the people of North Carolina think he ought to go. We know the sentiment of the people we represent, and we know that not two men in every ten sustain in sentiment the vote of the Board.

Then Dr. Grissom ought to go from the Asylum because he is guilty of the charges, as we see the evidence.

If guilty of the least part of either charge he ought to go. He himself admits of misappropriating the funds—and is guilty. He sent away turkeys and other things to ministers and others, which he ought to have charged to himself, but did not. His own counsel admits that he ought not to have put his foot on Upchurch's neck—and so he is guilty of cruelty.

He himself admits of immoral advances. He kissed another man's wife privately and through "sympathy," which is a direct violation of the moral code of Christian civilization which reads at the opening of the first chapter:

"It shall forever be unlawful for any man, whether married or single, to kiss another man's wife except under circumstances that would admit of any and every body's seeing it. Any one so offending shall be guilty of a moral misdemeanor, and shall be ostracised forever from the society of decent people."—Scotland Neck Democrat.

Finally if the Insane Asylum cannot be freed from the stigma that now rests upon its management, every functionary connected with it in anywise should either remove himself or be removed.—Alamance Gleaner.

Grissom must go; of this there can be no mistake. If he doesn't resign the good people of North Carolina will very likely be heard from, and those five members of the Board of Trustees who voted "not guilty" will find it their duty to ask for his resignation.—Troy Vidette.

Whether he is guilty or not, there are a great many people in North Carolina who believe him to be, and if he has any self respect he should no longer occupy his responsible position in defiance of so strong a sentiment against him among the people.

There is a growing conviction among the people that a man who has plenty of money and influential friends cannot be convicted of any crime, no matter what the evidence may be. That the efforts made to whitewash the character of prominent men justify this belief, to some extent at least, cannot be denied. No one regrets to see a man who has acquired honor, distinction and influence, become disgraced more than we do, but the interest of the people should not be allowed to suffer to save the reputation of any one man. Let equal and exact justice be done to all men, rich or poor, high or low.—Southern Planter.

We do not believe any dishonest intent was proved in the charge of misappropriation, nor does it appear that any great loss has come to the State. But we do believe that Dr. Grissom has been guilty both of immorality and of cruelty to the patients. We know none of the parties in this case, and speak only for the interest of this State when we say that the verdict was astonishing and not representative of the better judgment of the whole people. Dr. Rogers and Mr. Thompson immediately resigned. Dr. Rogers was evidently not a fit man for the place, though there seems to have been nothing against Mr. Thompson. We trust and believe that Dr. Grissom, by his resignation, will relieve the people of his presence at the head of the Asylum. In the meantime the Board has shown itself—that is five of their number—to be unsafe guardians of their charge. Dr. Grissom is a man lacking greatly in self-control, and lacking too in proper dignity for his high and responsible place. Superintendents of Asylums should not lose their temper with wretches whose reason is gone; nor yet should they, with propriety, bestow "fatherly" kisses upon women employees.—Charlotte Democrat.

From the standpoint that we have viewed the evidence Dr. Grissom is guilty—not of all the charges against him, for those relative to the turkeys and asparagus only served to weaken the prosecution, in our judgment. But considering the testimony against Dr. Grissom, and by whom it was given, for immorality and ill-treatment of the patients, being largely by parties who had either been attendants or inmates of the institution and who proved good characters and whose statements were in many instances corroborated by subsequent events, while the preponderance of testimony in favor of Dr. Grissom was made by parties residing outside of Raleigh, or at least away from the asylum, where they only saw Dr. Grissom in his "Sunday clothes," or in a happy mood with "all sails set and the breezes fair." Taking these and many other things into consideration connected directly and indirectly with the case, and the Doctor's own acknowledgment of his imprudence, and a verdict of guilty is our solution of the case, sufficient at least to necessitate his removal. * * * That Dr. Rogers is as deep in the mud as Dr. Grissom is in the mire, admits of no doubt in this writer's mind; but we are not dissecting the body of Dr. Rogers, but that of Dr. Grissom; hence the above. * * * The evidence, however, by no means establishes his innocence, and we see no reason for changing our position on this mooted question. Moreover, he owes it to the State and to the success of the institution over which he has so long presided to tender his resignation as superintendent without delay.—Fayetteville Observer.

But there was one fact elicited that the people should not forget. That was the liberal use which officers make of the public funds. The prosecution, it is true, abandoned the charge of misappropriation, but still the evidence showed that Grissom and the matron who is appointed upon his recommendation, were both liberal and generous with supplies belonging to the State.

If the Asylum Superintendent's salary is not sufficient to keep him out of the pantry of the institution, it should be made larger, and it is the duty of the Board to teach him that he must keep his hands out of the pantry and poultry yard unless he is permitted to do so by law.

The best way to cure extravagance in the public service is to hold the officers to a strict accountability.

Grissom ought to go.

The more one examines the testimony in the Grissom investigation, the stronger becomes the conviction of his guilt.

Not on one charge, but on all, severally and collectively.

Immorality, misappropriation and cruelty are all proven by Grissom and his own witnesses.

The majority of the Board of trustees we will assume, decided as they thought right. We concede and admit the honesty of their intentions; though we cannot admire the process of ratiocination by which they came to the conclusion that the charges were not sustained.

We not only have no admiration for it but confess our want of comprehension.

Now Grissom is either guilty or not guilty. If the Board had found him guilty, as it should, ought the prosecution of him to have been allowed to stop there?

We think not.

If guilty he has violated the law of the State and that law should be vindicated.

Let him be made to atone to that law now. Let the Wake county Grand Jury examine into his conduct, inquire into the number of pies and poultry that went to his table, paid for by the State but never charged.

Let them inquire into the quantity of whiskey and other light diet charged to the institution, but consumed by Grissom and his family.

Let them inquire into his treatment of Upchurch and Mrs. Lowther and his inhuman methods of punishment.

It is not indignation meetings that will satisfy the people, but a fair trial by twelve of his peers.

The next Wake county Grand Jury should indict Eugene Grissom for misappropriation and assault and battery.—Tarboro Southerner.

As the whole State from the mountains to the sands, is discussing the Grissom investigation, perhaps we can say something too. We read slips of the testimony, and from what we saw there, is no doubt in our mind but that the Doctor is guilty of deeds unbecoming a man in the responsible position he holds.

No matter if Dr. Rogers did show up badly, Mr Thompson's character was not questioned, and so on was with other witnesses against Grissom. We do not say that he is guilty sufficient to expel him, but sufficiently so to justly separate him from the asylum, or else those virtuous gentlemen, who heard all the evidence, would not have said so. Of course a majority rules, but in this case there is still a doubt in the minds of many of the jury, which leaves a cloud of shame hovering over the once fair escutcheon of the affable and distinguished autocrat, who has been representative and swayed senates by his presence, into appropriating what ever he asked in the name of that noble institution. Like his prototype, he must go; peaceably if he will, forcibly if he won't.

ONLY IN THE LAST FEW DAYS—TWO REJECTS FROM A NEIGHBORING TOWN, WHICH IS IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT, HAVE SENT THEIR FRIENDS TO THE WESTERN ASYLUM AT MORGANTON, BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN DR. GRISSOM. Such things ought not to be. Dr. Grissom ought to resign, and we believe that would be the verdict of three-fourths of the thinking people of North Carolina.—Mason Union.

As we noted last week, the law-abiding committee of the N. C. Insane Asylum acquitted Dr. Grissom of all the charges brought against him. The vote stood five to three on the charges of immorality which, being nearly a day, made no dead the superintendent of all suspicion by considerable. It is significant, perhaps, that the more influential of the State press are so unanimous in their opinion that Dr. Grissom should resign, and that on account of this scandal. If all the facts of investigation been a mine in the jury, it would have looked very different, but there seems to be enough evidence against the Dr. to influence three of the eight members to vote for conviction. At a meeting of the citizens of Raleigh the night of the 22d, we expect to see a delegation at the meeting of the Board, and on the following day a larger meeting will be held with the object. This, in taking, where all parties concerned are known, means that the sentiment not only would be but from all over the State there is a chorus of dissatisfaction at the result of the investigation. Personally, we hope it will first that the Board would reconsider from what it saw. We cannot in the face of the evidence we read, but the preponderance of testimony seems to be in defense, but the decision is the other way, it seems, and so it must go, for we, with others, think that Dr. Grissom should step down and out, and at once.—Raleigh Leader.

The Board decided, by a vote of [illegible] that Grissom was not guilty of the charges. That Dr. Burke [illegible] the exonerating of Dr. Grissom [illegible] a great deal, and ought to go [illegible] towards the restoration of public confidence, for he is the [illegible] Board, and has been [illegible] workings of the institution [illegible] stant witness to the bearing in [illegible] ment of Dr. Grissom. These [illegible] against acquittal had not the [illegible] tunity, but no doubt they felt [illegible] the evidence brought against him to vote as they did. * * *

From our own standpoint, and looking through lens unshaded by one single shadow of prejudice or partisanship, we do hesitatingly assert that were we a sworn juror, we would not have found him guilty, as alleged in the charges and specifications. The evidence adduced did not support the gravamen of the accusation. * * But as to his being guilty of "gross immorality and misappropriation of public property," we do not for one single moment believe, for the evidence did not support that grave and serious charge, and in our judgment his character will not smart under the stigma of that aspersion. The oft-repeated expression that "however the result may be, when a good man is assailed his usefulness is destroyed," is fallacious and ought not to be entertained; for were it true, then a man may be calumniated most basely and wickedly, no matter how fair his fame, by black his defamers, and his vindication is of no use. Good men and true cannot stay the tongue of slander. Only let a vile slanderer know his work of destruction of character is effectual to the pelting down of reputation and the impairing of usefulness, then his machinations, under the inspiration of the devil, will have full sway and no one is safe.—Wilson Mirror.

The mass of people hoped that he would be