

BIENNIAL MESSAGE

OF

ELIAS CARR,

GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

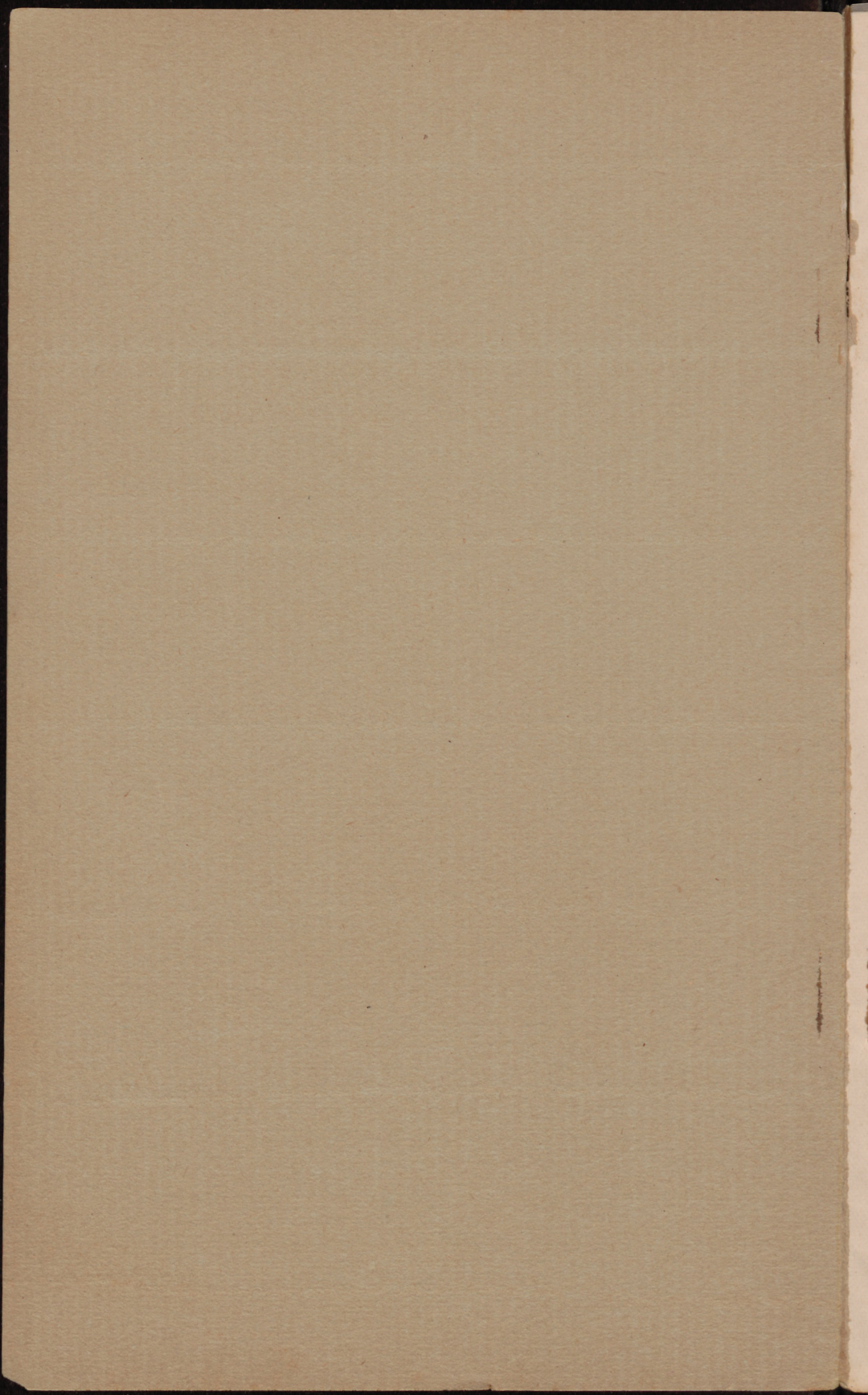
SESSION OF 1895.

RALEIGH:

JOSEPHUS DANIELS, STATE PRINTER AND BINDER.

PRESSES OF E. M. UZZELL.

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ASSEMBLY—SESSION OF 1895.

Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

Our Constitution requires that the Governor "shall from time to time give the General Assembly information of the affairs of the State and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall deem expedient."

In order to be better fitted for this task I have since the adjournment of the last Legislature endeavored to acquaint myself with the various departments and the management of the State institutions. The recommendations which will be placed before you for your consideration are obtained largely from personal visits and inspection. I have visited and inspected during the interim: The State Prison frequently; the State farms on the Roanoke annually; the University each recurring commencement; the Agricultural and Mechanical College commencements; the closing exercises of the Normal and Industrial School; the State Fairs at the Capital; the State Guard encampments at Morehead, and every other institution to which the State contributes financial aid, save alone the two Orphan Asylums at Oxford and some of the Normal Schools. These last being under the very efficient super-

vision of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, I refer you for information concerning them to his report.

It is gratifying to bear testimony to the honest and efficient management of these various State institutions and to ask your favorable consideration of their various reports accompanying this message, and recommendations made therein. In this State the responsibility for legislation is not a divided one between the Legislative and Executive branches, as in the Federal Government and in many of the States. Under our Constitution the Governor has no veto power; the most he can do is to recommend, and the whole responsibility is made to rest with the Legislature. This being the case, it becomes all the more important that your action should be wise, conservative and well considered. Nothing now existing should be changed unless you are satisfied that you can improve upon it. Change simply for the sake of change may and probably will result in serious injury to some of the manifold interests of the State. It has not hitherto been the custom in this State to make changes except when experience or observation taught that a change was necessary and helpful. Our charitable and penal institutions have been well and economically managed. These institutions invite your close investigation and scrutiny. After you have made this examination, in the spirit of truth and fairness, I am sure that you will readily concede the wisdom and economy of their management. If you should find this to be their condition, then I am sure you will be slow to make any changes which cannot be fully justified in the light of subsequent experience.

CITY AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

Our city and county government necessarily form important parts in the machinery of government in this State.

They absorb very much more of the taxes of the people than the State government with all its varied and important functions. No well-informed man can say that these governments, as a rule, have not been well managed. There may have been here and there a few exceptions, but a close scrutiny and a rigid examination will develop the fact that in all the history of the State the city and county governments have never been more wisely and economically administered than for the past fifteen years. You should hesitate long and anxiously before you make any alteration in the system which has produced such good results. It seems to me you should feel satisfied that the proposed form of government will produce better results in efficiency and economy, and not allow the prejudices of party feeling to influence you to the enactment of a law which may bring, to a part of the State at least, loss of property, depreciation of values, and, instead of progress, retrogression in business activity.

If the changes you make fail to accomplish such results the responsibility will rest on you, but the people will have the burdens to bear, and pay the expenses of your experiment. In campaign after campaign a change in our system of county government was proposed by one party, antagonized by the other. Time and again it has been discussed and fought out before the people, and the party proposing the change, etc., always went down in defeat. This question was not, in my judgment, the prominent question in the last campaign. The causes which operated most potently to bring you into power as law-makers are to be found in other questions. Had this been the only or the great issue before the people their verdict, in my opinion, would have been otherwise. But be that as it may, the judgment of the people has after full and fair discussion been in favor of the present system. It

therefore has the approval of the people as well as the best results in practice to commend it to your better judgment and to warn you against making useless changes.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

By reference to the report of the Secretary of State it will be seen that the total amount collected by that office and paid into the Treasury amounts to \$103,788.48, a sum by \$11,000 in excess of the total expense of the Executive, Judicial and Railroad Commission departments. I desire to call your attention especially to this source of revenue to the State, as it is in nowise a burden to the citizens.

The suggestions and recommendations contained in the report meet my commendation.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The State Treasurer's report presents a healthful condition of the State's finances. It shows a cash balance on hand at the close of the past fiscal year, ending November 30th, of \$114,531.15, notwithstanding a reduction of the tax levy by the Legislature of 1893 from twenty-five cents to twenty-two cents.

The total estimate of expenses required by law to be furnished by the Treasurer to the General Assembly of 1895 is shown to be \$860,400, and a similar amount for 1896, less \$63,000, the expenses of the Legislature. The present levy upon last year's assessment will yield only \$815,000, or an excess of disbursements over receipts of \$45,400. It will not be wise under the circumstances to estimate receipts from any other source. Under the funding act of 1879 \$3,322,800 in four per cent. bonds have been issued in exchange for the old recognized debt of the State. There are still some old bonds outstanding which when funded will require a further issue of \$292,970 new

four per cent. bonds, making a total possible debt of \$3,615,770, bearing four per cent. interest. The State owns, as an investment, \$136,750 of these bonds and the Board of Education owns \$143,250.

The North Carolina Railroad six per cent. construction bonds, amounting to \$2,720,000, are secured by the State's three-fourths interest in the road, the dividends from which are more than ample to meet the interest.

The recommendations and suggestions contained in the report meet my hearty approval. For two years past I have been in almost daily contact with the retiring Treasurer, having an intimate knowledge of the man and his methods. His familiarity with the financial affairs of the State, the systematic manner of conducting his office, his wisdom in council and his many other sterling traits of character have greatly endeared him to us all. Honorable, capable, efficient, the State loses an officer who has been faithful and devoted to his trust.

STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT.

In calling your attention to this report I would ask you to pay special attention to his recommendations on *equalization* of taxation. This is a very important matter, and I would recommend the establishment of a State Board of Equalization. All property should be proportionately and all classes of citizens should be equally taxed. The net increase of property subject to taxation for 1893 over 1892 was \$1,209,392.15. In 1892 there was collected for taxes \$1,395,899.73, in 1893 \$1,358,994.75; showing \$36,904.98 less collected in 1893 than in 1892. The reduction of tax levy of three cents, from twenty-five to twenty-two, accounts for the less sum collected for general purposes, notwithstanding the aggregate increase in values and the increase of one cent for school purposes.

The State and county taxes for 1893 for all purposes were:

State taxes -----	\$1,358,944 75
County taxes -----	1,058,941 69
Total -----	<u>\$2,417,935.44</u>

Estimating the population for that year for the State 1,675,000, the *per capita* tax was \$1.44 for all purposes. The report of the Auditor on the average valuation of land per acre is very interesting and discloses some remarkable facts which should command your attention.

PENSIONS.

No subject which will be called to your attention is more worthy your generous consideration than the pensions paid to the surviving Confederate soldiers and their widows. This class of our citizens is fast passing away, and in their declining years of infirmity they should have the tender care and support of the State. No more fitting tribute of a State's appreciation to those who have shed luster and glory on the name of North Carolina and her institutions could be shown than in granting to them this meager support. The Auditor recommends an increase from three and one-third cents on the one hundred dollars' worth of property and ten cents on poll to four and one-half cents on property and thirteen and one-half cents on poll, which would raise sufficient funds to pay the soldiers and widows of soldiers the full quota allowed by law, to-wit:

First class -----	\$100
Second class -----	75
Third class -----	50
Fourth class, soldiers -----	25
Fourth class, widows -----	25

I respectfully ask your careful attention to this recommendation, and believe that our people will gladly pay this tax in order that those who are to-day monuments of the great struggle for civil rights and individual Statehood may as they decline in years and feebleness be aided by their State to the fullest extent, especially when we consider that no one can be a beneficiary of this law who owns five hundred dollars' worth of property, or holds a position under State or nation which pays three hundred dollars per year. Consequently only the poorest of our soldiers are benefited, and these should receive our care and support.

The pensions now being paid by the State are \$105,132.

Amount issued in 1893.....	\$99,280 00
Increase in 1894 over 1893	5,818 00

The present levy, three and one-third cents on the one hundred dollars' worth of property and ten cents on poll, will produce for the current year \$111,390.77.

From the Auditor's report pertaining to the general indebtedness of the State it appears that in many counties (at least over half), under the present system of county government, there is no indebtedness whatever; that the taxable property of the State amounts to \$262,927,119.87, and that the total indebtedness is about one-twenty-fifth of this amount. This shows that the people of North Carolina own twenty-five times more than their public indebtedness, and, further, that in the cities and towns this indebtedness has been incurred for the most part on permanent improvements, such as electric light systems, water-works, street improvements, etc.; in the counties for new and improved jails and court-houses.

Considering the onerous burdens under which our people have lived since the war, it shows conclusively that the

party intrusted with the administration of public affairs has given to the people such a State government that the light of prosperity from onerous taxation is dawning in North Carolina. Furthermore, that the State of North Carolina levies and collects for general purposes a lower rate of taxes than any State of the Union comparing in characteristics with this State, and all expenses have been kept strictly within the appropriations and moneys provided for the maintenance of government. The further inquiry into this subject will show that the general expenses of the Executive part of the government are paid by corporations doing business in the State from other States. Such being the case, can we not congratulate the people on this relief from taxation and upon the splendid management of a State government the Executive and Judicial part of which can be paid from revenues collected by taxes imposed on foreign corporations, through the wisdom of a party which has always looked to their welfare and sought to give them a government pure in finance and for their best interests?

REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

I recommend the adoption of every suggestion made by the Attorney General in his report, and particularly those concerning slander, trusts and lynching. With reference to the last mentioned offense I call attention to the following language used by him:

“The Legislature, having done all that it can to secure promptness in trials and to place the State on an equality with the defendant, should then pass more effective laws against lynching itself. There has been no indictment prosecuted to a conviction against lynchers in North Carolina for years past, as far as I have been able to learn. There have been frequent, patient and thorough investi-

gations of the crime before the grand juries, bills sent by Solicitors, but few true bills returned. The reason for this is but too plain for discussion, and the same result will follow as long as a Solicitor is compelled to begin proceedings against defendants in the county where the crime has been committed. Your Excellency would do well to recommend to the Legislature the enactment of a law giving a Solicitor of the Superior Court the right to send a bill of indictment for this offense before the grand jury of any county in his district which he may desire, with necessary provisions to summons witnesses in that behalf, and confer upon the Superior Court Judge the right to try the case in any county which he may deem proper in his discretion."

CRIME.

Criminal laws should be so amended as to provide for penalties increasing in severity in proportion to the number of times a prisoner may be convicted. The absolute knowledge of the infliction of more rigorous penalties in this matter would prove a great deterrent and tend to relieve society of many habitual criminals.

REQUISITIONS.

There are now no charges made by our State against any other State in case of requisition. There are States in the Union, however, which do make such charges. I suggest to the Legislature that a law be enacted authorizing the Governor before granting a warrant of extradition to require fees to be paid for it by any State which has a law charging fees in like cases.

JUDICIARY.

Court Stenographer.

As a saving to the tax-payers, a convenience to the Courts, both Superior and Supreme, and often to the Execu-

tive, who, when considering pardons, has frequently to refer to the bench notes in the case as the only protection to the State, I would recommend the establishment of the office of Court Stenographer.

Compensation of Solicitors.

The office of Solicitor is one of dignity, importance and responsibility. The compensation of such an officer ought not to be made to depend upon the number of convictions obtained in the execution of his varied and weighty duties. If a man is worthy to fill this high office he can surely be trusted to perform his full duty without the stimulus of a trifling fee, dependent upon his success in obtaining verdicts. In the consideration of the question whether a man should be prosecuted for murder or manslaughter, for instance, a Solicitor ought not to be liable to be affected by the difference of fees legally taxable for the different degrees of homicide. In the prosecution of offenses which are usually committed by wholesale, such as selling liquor without a license, he should not have the temptation always before him to multiply indictments to his own pecuniary advantage. The effect of sending numerous indictments to the grand jury is uniformly to increase the costs, and at the same time to reduce the amount of the fine which should go to the school fund, for a Judge in fixing the amount of a fine is almost obliged to take into consideration the amount of the costs incurred. The appeal so frequently made to a Solicitor to suspend his prayer for judgment upon the payment of the costs ought not to be made to an officer who has an immediate pecuniary interest in the result. The considerations which urge this amendment to our laws are too numerous to attempt their presentation at length, and surely must have already occurred to you. The Solicitor should be a salaried officer, and the fee which is now taxed in the bill of costs as his

chief compensation should be collected from the defendants and paid into the State Treasury to reimburse the State for the salary paid. Whether this salary shall be at an annual rate, as the Judges are now paid, or dependent upon the number of the terms of court held, and what the amount shall be are matters of detail which can be readily solved by the wisdom of the Legislative body, and about which I will make no suggestion.

Courts.

No part of the government is closer to the people than the Judicial department, and anything that will tend to increase its efficiency or to lessen the expenses of litigation is entitled to careful consideration. It is believed these ends may be subserved by providing for the appointment of two or more special Judges with authority to act in case of sickness or other temporary disability of one of the Judges of the Superior Court, and with authority to hold Special Courts. It sometimes happens that a Judge is unable to hold his court, and the county has the expense of a great part of the term to pay, and no business is transacted, and, in addition to the expense, dissatisfaction with, and want of confidence in, the administration of the law are engendered which produce other evils.

Again, at times crimes are committed which demand immediate investigation, and, although under the present law there is authority to call a special term of the Superior Court, frequently no Judge can be found unemployed to hold it. The expenses of the additional Judges would be made nominal by providing that they receive no salary except for the time actually engaged in holding courts, and by allowing them in the meantime to practice law.

If your body should take this matter under consideration care should be taken to avoid any constitutional objection. The Constitution provides that Judges of the

Superior Court shall be elected by the people; but it also provides that the Legislature may establish courts inferior to the Supreme Court. These provisions may be met by appointing special Judges with the same jurisdiction in the courts held by them now exercised by the Judges of the Superior Courts, and with no power except when holding courts, and by creating the machinery for resolving a regular term into a Special Court if the Judge assigned by the law to the regular term is unable to attend.

SECURITY FOR THE STATE'S MONEY.

Under the law, notwithstanding the money on hand in the State Treasury at one time, which sometimes aggregates six or seven hundred thousand dollars no provision is made for its security beyond the Treasurer's bond of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and his discretion in selecting places of deposit. The inadequacy of this protection is manifest. Why should not the State's money be as amply secured as the counties' or individuals'?

TAXES.

Personal property liable to taxation too often escapes the assessor, and there is urgent need to remedy this. It is a notorious fact that a large amount of personal property pays no taxes, thereby depriving the State of a portion of its rightful revenue and increasing the burdens upon realty. This is manifestly very unjust, and while the law may be adequate it is rarely enforced. It is both unnatural and unwise to spend the public money for aught that is not absolutely necessary. The levying of all taxes is a laborious and thankless task, but half the sting of it may be eliminated if imposed with justice and impartiality, falling upon rich and poor alike, each paying according to his ability.

Do not defer the payment of taxes in any instance. It is a seeming injustice, to say the least of it. When the law was enacted postponing the payment of taxes in the tobacco counties there were only a few in which the crops were grown. To-day many of the cotton-growing counties are large producers of tobacco, and find no difficulty in meeting promptly the demands of the tax-collector. Just here I desire to say the Treasurer has collected the State's taxes save a small amount from Madison.

PUBLIC PRINTING.

The last Legislature passed an act to regulate and provide for the public printing (chapter 351), which requires that four weeks prior to January 1, 1895, and every two years thereafter, sealed proposals to do the public printing and binding shall be made to the Secretary of State, under bond and certain specifications; that these should be opened before a joint committee of the General Assembly and the contract awarded to the lowest bidder. This act was passed after careful consideration and investigation, and is a wise and judicious law. It gives each printing house the same opportunity, regardless of party affiliations, and eliminates any unpleasant rivalry among them. It is a purely business proposition between the State and the party awarded the contract, each being protected by bond for a full and complete fulfillment of the contract, and has received the approval of both parties. I commend the provisions of this equitable law.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The Superintendent recommends a rate of increase in taxation for the benefit of the public schools sufficient to conduct the schools the constitutional requirement of four months. He estimates that it will require a levy of 22

instead of 16 cents, the present rate. This I most emphatically indorse, and in corroboration of this view I desire to repeat what I have said on a previous occasion: "Our most earnest solicitude and help should go out to the common schools of our State, for it is in these that the children of the great mass of our toiling, laboring, wealth-producing people must be educated and trained preparatory to their life-work, or not at all. It is the imperative duty of the State to provide school facilities for these children, and we can never be said to have done our duty until we have complied with the spirit of the Constitution, which commands that a school term of at least four months in the year be provided for them. Thirteen weeks, the time now provided, will not do, and we are trifling with the most vital interest of the State in longer neglecting to come up to the full measure of our duty in this matter. If upon deliberate consideration it should be found, in view of a recent decision of our Supreme Court, that another provision of our Constitution stands in the way of our levying a sufficient tax to carry on the schools of the people four months in the year, I desire that an amendment to the Constitution be submitted to the people to take the school tax out of the constitutional limitation. These schools I regard as a necessity to the children of the men and women engaged in farm life. The children of our people in cities and towns are well provided for, as a general rule, by the graded schools, and they enjoy privileges in educational matters which children living in the country do not have. An efficient common school system is the only hope of our people for an intelligent, thrifty, laboring population upon our farms, and I urge with all the earnestness I can command that our law-makers shall not neglect this imperative duty resting upon them."

EDUCATION.

The future advancement, happiness and prosperity of the people of this State depend probably more upon the efficiency of our public school system than is generally conceded. Education is the great factor in the advancement of all people, but in a free country it is of the most vital importance. The mind that moves in a small circle, the mind tainted with bigotry and prejudice, is out of place in our system of public instruction, and should not be tolerated. The unity of sentiment and spirit between tutor and pupil with regard to the acquirement of knowledge and the duties and obligations of citizenship should be the chief end in view. The percentage of pupils attending the schools (see Superintendent's report) is not so great as we would wish, but probably in view of the depressed condition of affairs, especially in the agricultural districts, is as large as we could reasonably expect.

The State has taken another step forward in the establishment of the Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges for the education of her young men, and a bolder movement still in the establishment of the Normal and Industrial Schools for her girls. Two more needed or popular movements were never begun in North Carolina, these last completing the link in the educational chain between the common schools and the University. The State cannot afford to withdraw any part of its aid heretofore extended to its institutions, for by retarding their progress you cripple the State in its greatest development, and, instead of progressing and keeping pace with the advancement of the age, the best interest of every citizen will be affected just so far as you prescribe his educational advantages. Our educational institutions, from the University down to the common schools, have been doing a great work in the State. Education is the hope of the people, and our public schools

of all grades and kinds should receive the cordial support of all parties and classes. No change should be made in any of these except to make them more efficient and helpful. In connection with our public school system, above referred to, it is my pleasure, and I conceive it my duty as well, to refer to the excellent work being done toward the education of the children of the State, both male and female, by the denominational colleges and the academies and high schools. The education of the youth of the State is the *desideratum* at which all good citizens must aim, whether it be by State aid or private or denominational enterprise. Where the child is educated cannot be the question. How she or he be educated may be, and is, material. Who pays for it has nothing to do with the child—the education or the place where educated. The State desires and must have all her children educated so as to better fit them for the duties which must devolve upon them as citizens. According to the report of the able Superintendent of Public Instruction there are 389,709 male whites, 212,191 female whites, 235,486 male colored, and 123,899 female colored of school age in the State. Out of this total of male whites there are less than 1,200 in all of our institutions for higher education, the University, denominational and other. While this shows the field to be “white unto the harvest” it also shows how lamentably few are the laborers compared with the needs of the people. All that can be done by the people and the State to strengthen and extend the usefulness of our colleges must be done, and I cannot but believe that your honorable bodies will guard with jealous care and amply provide for these institutions of the State, of which you are the special custodians, and by whom only can proper sustenance be provided.

STATE UNIVERSITY.

In reference to this State institution I beg to repeat what I said in my inaugural address: "Your venerable State University, waxing strong once more, deserves, and I know will command, your fostering care. Regarding the State University as the head of our school system, and the colleges and high schools as the great coadjutors, there ever should be hearty co-operation between those engaged in the great work of teaching in these and those engaged as teachers of our common schools." We, as makers and ministers of the law, should do all in our power to build up and make more useful our University. It is given to you by the Constitution (Article 9, section 6) as a priceless heritage, left to us by our forefathers, who, after their declaration of individual freedom, as a State proclaimed North Carolina the advocate of higher education by declaring, in 1776, in the Constitution adopted at Halifax, that "All useful learning shall be duly encouraged and promoted in one or more universities." They discharged their duty in regard to higher education and sought to make this institution the peer of Oxford, so that in this Republic and in the Commonwealth of North Carolina her sons need not go to foreign lands to complete their education. Generous men have contributed to the maintenance of certain chairs at the University, and the State is called upon to do her duty in its support. Surely, gentlemen, we could not be less mindful of our duty to ourselves, nor do one thing which will retard the progress and advancement of the University of North Carolina. The University will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its opening for students at the annual commencement in June next. It is hoped that the patriotic citizens of the State will give their hearty support to this venerable institution, and by their presence give inspiration to its professors and

trustees to labor still more for the advancement of its already high standard and the increase of its usefulness. That it has done a great good in the past a catalogue of its sons who have filled every high office under the general and the State governments, and illustrated the State in every calling and business, conclusively shows. It is believed that it has never done better work, and I feel confident that nothing will be done, in this centennial year, by your honorable body which may tend to impair its usefulness.

Our beloved State is getting old enough to provide for the highest education of her sons in all branches of human learning, and while all are not able to take direct advantage of the opportunities offered in her University and like institutions, those who do partake of their instruction become teachers of others, whether engaged in the technical profession of teaching or not, and thus are centers of light and influence for the whole State.

You do not need any suggestions from me as to how you can best promote its welfare. I am not prepared to suggest any amendments of the existing laws in reference to it. I transmit herewith reports of the Treasurer and Bursar of the University.

THE NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND
MECHANIC ARTS.

This institution has been established but five years, and to-day has 225 students, with applications which will swell that number to 300 during the next session. The practical value of an agricultural and mechanical training of the young men of this progressive age is no longer a subject of argument with the ablest thinkers and practical economists of this century; and the report of the President of this splendid institution shows conclusively the result of the

training already given to the twenty-seven graduates. Twenty-one are engaged in honest employment, two are prosecuting post-graduate courses, the four others are supposed to be likewise engaged. A young man can get a thoroughly practical education in this institution for less money than anywhere else in the State, nor does it conflict with our colleges and University. It is a different education in practical results and fills a long needed want in our educational system. I commend a careful perusal of the various reports of the work done in this institution. The results accomplished are astonishing, and in comparison with other State institutions of the kind are marvelous. This institution is one the State should be proud to assist to a still greater degree of usefulness. The State has expended but \$40,000 on this institution, while the State of Virginia has given \$400,000; Mississippi, \$300,000—\$30,000 per year; Alabama, \$300,000—\$24,000 per year; Texas, \$30,000 annually; Louisiana, \$20,000 to her Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges; yet this College has more students than any one above mentioned.

The Board of Trustees ask for a continuance of the \$10,000 appropriation per annum, and a special appropriation of \$15,000 per annum for two years for the purpose of additional buildings as named in report. Gentlemen of the General Assembly, I urge you to make this appropriation. Having been a member of this Board, I am fully acquainted with the needs of this valuable institution and indorse the recommendation of the Board of Trustees. The Agricultural and Mechanical College is doing a work for the young men of North Carolina which cannot be estimated now or expressed in words; the future advancement of the State alone will show this result. This is an age when everything tending to a mechanical or scientific education should be obtained by our young men. The old

order of things has passed away, and if we wish our young men to be prepared to successfully meet the progressiveness of the age it is by this kind of an education. Too much cannot be said in praise of this institution or its management; its future is with you, and I hope that you will protect it and enable it to advance to the degree of usefulness for which it was established.

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE FOR THE COLORED RACE, AT GREENSBORO, N. C.

This institution through some inadvertency, I dare say, has failed to make a report.

THE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This is the youngest of the State's educational institutions, it having begun its work a little more than two years ago. It has the smallest appropriation. It had last year the largest enrollment; this, too, without the usual methods of advertising or drumming for students. It is the only institution for white women where the people of North Carolina have made provisions for bringing a thorough practical education within the reach of young women of small means by legislative appropriations, or by liberal endowments similar to those for all other classes of our population.

The State has spent very little, comparatively speaking, for the plant and equipment of the school, the funds for erecting the main buildings and the land on which they stand having been donated in order to secure the location of the institution at Greensboro. These buildings, together with the additional buildings erected by the institution, do not provide enough accommodation for those who wish to take advantage of the opportunities it offers.

Having visited the institution while the buildings were

in process of erection, I elicited from the contractor information that impressed me with the great economy of the expenditure of the appropriation. The buildings are substantial and attractive, but are without many conveniences considered necessary for a modern institution, educational or other. I refer especially to water-works and light.

I do not think that it is going too far to claim that the unprecedented popularity of the Normal and Industrial School is due not simply to the fact that it has cheapened education for women as education had already been cheapened for men, but also on account of the practical nature of the education and training offered by the institution. The female population of the white race in North Carolina is about 10,000 in excess of the male. There are so many young women to-day who, either from necessity or choice, expect to earn their own living and who are ambitious to place themselves in the list of bread-winners rather than in the list of mere consumers, and so greatly would it benefit the entire State to encourage this idea, that I regard the small annual appropriation for the purpose as probably the best investment the State ever made. Moreover, the majority of those who enter the institution expect to become teachers of the children of the State. It is well for the State to encourage young women to enter this great work, and at the same time to offer them help in preparing for its arduous duties.

Certainly, when it is known that a large majority of those who enter the institution would probably have been unable to go elsewhere, and when it is realized that for many years the State and our largest religious denominations have been engaged in bettering the quality, and at the same time cheapening the prices, of education for men by State appropriations, gifts and endowments, while the education of women has been left almost entirely to pri-

vate enterprise, it will hardly be necessary for the State's Executive or for any one else to make further plea to the General Assembly to deal generously with the Normal and Industrial School.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Commonwealths in which agriculture is the chief source of revenue have, as a rule, paid little regard to legislation looking to the protection of employees, and doubtless there is some show of reason in this apparent oversight, as the farmer has long been considered the most independent of laborers. But times have changed, and the number of independents is daily growing less. Railroads, mills and factories are constantly increasing, while great numbers of the heretofore independent small farmers are either working as wage-earners or as tenants. Thus daily is growing the number of employees, and further legislation looking to their welfare and protection seems to me both wise and prudent. There is much in the question of labor legislation which deserves your earnest and careful consideration. Much of the friction which has and does now exist in other States between the employers and employees could doubtless be obviated by wise and judicious legislation. For information touching this subject I beg to refer you to the valuable report of the Commissioner of Labor Statistics, himself a workingman. The importance of these bureaus in collecting statistics relating to all departments of labor and inquiring into the relationship between employer and employee has caused them to be recognized as indispensable national and State institutions, and entitles them to a liberal outlay for their support and maintenance. Recognizing the necessity for this department, I commend and approve the recommendations of the report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES.

During the first year of Governor Fowle's administration the Board, which had been allowed to lapse into a state of inactivity, was revived, a new Board appointed, and with their organization began a work of usefulness which can hardly be estimated. Their biennial report shows how thoroughly they have investigated the penal and charitable institutions of the State. They have organized different county boards, and I am satisfied the Board is doing much good in calling attention to the condition of the county jails and charitable institutions of the counties. In their examination of the State institutions they report that the institutions have made much improvement and have been well and economically managed. This Board should be encouraged by the Legislature; their work is gratuitous and purely charitable.

For a full survey of all our institutions and improvements of this character I commend to you their report, which is full of valuable statistical information and will be of great assistance in obtaining a complete review of the State's public charities.

INSANE ASYLUMS.

The institutions for the insane have been well and economically managed during the past two years, and the Board of Directors and the management of these institutions are to be congratulated by the people of the State upon their stewardship. The Board of Directors are in every instance practical business men who have given their closest attention to the details of these institutions without pay, except *per diem* and expenses, and have managed the affairs as they would their own business. The Superintendents are men of capacity and have been devoted to their work, giving to the unfortunates their best care and atten-

tion. In a message of this length the principal recommendations alone can be noticed, and for the full detail of the work of each institution I refer you to their carefully prepared reports.

THE NORTH CAROLINA INSANE ASYLUM AT RALEIGH.

This institution has the care of all the white insane persons east of Richmond, Durham and Person counties, and is still inadequate for the needs of the State for this class of her afflicted citizens. North Carolina is growing in population each year, and there is no diminution of insanity. The last Legislature made appropriation for the erection of a congregate dining-room with dormitories for female patients, which has been built, but by an oversight no appropriation for furnishing this building and maintaining the increased number of patients which it will accommodate was made. When this is furnished they will be able to accommodate seventy-five additional patients. Seventeen insane persons have been rejected for want of room. Many of our counties are supporting their insane, but in such a way that no hope of their recovery can be entertained. This class requires more than any other the State's care and appeals to your liberal support. A great State should not allow her insane to be confined in jails and poor-houses, but should place them at once under the care of able physicians and give them proper exercise and amusement, in order that many a good citizen may be restored and become useful to his State and people.

This institution was originally built to care for 240 patients, yet there has been a daily average of $307\frac{1}{3}$. The number admitted during the last two years was 171; number discharged as cured, 96; improved, 20; on bond, 3. The *per capita* cost for subsistence is \$170.80. This institution has been well managed. The improvements desired and necessary are as follows:

For maintenance and support of 382 patients--	\$ 65,245 60
To pay outstanding debts -----	4,590 94
To furnish new buildings -----	3,345 00
For fire protection by connection with city water-works -----	7,000 00
For new pumps, repairs to gas plant and shed for tools -----	800 00
Total -----	<u>\$ 80,981 54</u>

Making in addition to annual appropriation \$15,735.94. I think it would be economy for the State to connect the Asylum with the city water-works as a protection against fire, and if necessary cut down the amount of insurance. After investigation of the report of the Chairman of the Board I would respectfully call your attention to his remarks in regard to the *criminal insane* and ask your careful consideration of his recommendation. Many decided improvements have been made, and the institution is becoming more fully equipped and more capable of the great work which you have committed to its care.

THE STATE HOSPITAL AT MORGANTON.

The report of this institution shows over fifty per cent. of recoveries on admissions and less than five per cent. of deaths on the whole number under treatment. The daily average of patients was 556. The last Legislature appropriated \$12,000 for the erection of a congregate dining-room for males, which is complete and will be ready for occupancy in January. This building will accommodate one hundred additional patients. The furniture being made in their own shops has enabled the Board to lessen considerably the expense of erection. The demand for more room for lunatics is pressing. Nearly 200 have been rejected for want of room, and owing to the crowded con-

dition of the female wards the Board undertook the erection of a building for women. To finish and furnish this new building an additional appropriation of \$4,000 is desired. On the closest estimate for expenses for the ensuing year \$100,000 is needed. With this appropriation the institution will be able to care for 140 additional patients, making a total of 690 patients at a *per capita* cost of \$142 as against \$150 for the last biennial report. This is but seventy dollars *per capita* increase for the proposed 140 patients, just about what it costs to keep a lunatic in an ordinary poor-house, and much less than the cost of keeping prisoners in jails. Their improved tube well system of water-works, supplying over 200,000 gallons per day, is a great improvement over the old system, and was very much needed, giving the institution ample water supply in case of fire. A better system of lighting is needed, and I would advise that you take under consideration the erection of an electric plant. An institution of this size and cost should not be subjected to a poor system of lighting—the use of gasoline and the dangers attending the use of gas, under the present system, which is unsatisfactory and dangerous. If your honorable body is not satisfied with the necessity of these improvements I would suggest that you appoint a committee to visit this and other institutions and see for yourselves the need of these improvements and the grand work which is being done in these institutions.

THE EASTERN HOSPITAL.

This institution was opened August 1, 1880, with 70 patients. Since that time there have been many additions, and it now accommodates 307 patients—129 males, 178 females. For the past two years the whole number treated was 459—206 males and 263 females; admitted during last

year 1860, and a large number of females have been rejected. The last Legislature appropriated \$13,000 for the erection of an annex for males. This was completed in June last at a cost of about \$2,000 less than the appropriation, owing to the fact that all the common labor was furnished by the inmates of the Asylum. This building will enable them to accommodate the male insane for some years to come. According to Dr. Miller's report there is no diminution of insanity among the colored population, and there is urgent necessity for the erection of a building for females. Many have been turned away during the past year, who are now languishing in jails and other places of confinement throughout the State. I quote from his report: "The State has long since undertaken the humane care of her insane population, regardless of race, politics or religion, and she should discharge this responsibility to an extent that should meet the exigencies of this duty. It should be our aim to make this not only a home to the colored insane, but in a higher sense it should be our endeavor to make it a hospital, so that as many as possible may be restored to normal mentality and cease to be burdens to the State and become wage-earners and self-supporting citizens."

There are now twenty female patients in a room over the laundry for the want of space. It seems to me it is absolutely necessary that you make the appropriation of \$20,000 asked for in his report, so that this unfortunate class can be given proper care and attention. The State of Virginia has about one-third more negro population and accommodates 800 insane persons in her negro asylum at Petersburg. The *per capita* cost of maintenance is \$115.94 per year. The question is, Can the State keep them for less and give them proper care and attention? If not, then it is your duty, for the sake of humanity and these poor, afflicted

persons, to see to it that they are given proper care and maintenance, and I recommend that in addition to the amount required for maintenance you make this appropriation. The money will be economically spent and the State of North Carolina will have discharged her duty towards this afflicted and dangerous class of her citizens. Many improvements have been made in this institution. Under special act they purchased 170 acres of land adjoining the asylum for \$1,900, and this will enable them to add still more to their own support. As far as it is possible they utilize everything to make the institution self-supporting, and their report shows good business management.

INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB AND THE BLIND.

Since the last report from this institution many things have transpired which may, and doubtless will, affect its future. Chief among these is the removal of the white mutes from this institution to the School for the Deaf and Dumb at Morganton, by which the white department here is converted into a school for the blind exclusively. This has very greatly relieved the crowded condition of the department soon to be filled again from the ranks of the 731 blind children of the State, as shown by the Census of 1890. The report shows more room is an imperative necessity for the accommodation of those already in attendance—a chapel with dormitories overhead for the white department and a recitation-room with dormitories for the colored. An appropriation for these needed improvements I recommend.

In verification of the economical administration of this institution you will find herewith comparative figures of the *per capita* cost for maintenance of pupils at other similar institutions, viz.:

Perkins Institute for the Blind	\$360 39
Pennsylvania Institute for the Blind	363 71
Maryland School for the Blind	275 00
North Carolina Institute for the Blind	160 00

The Board of Directors of this institution have never received any emolument whatever for fifty years' service given the State in the management of this great charity.

The separation of the mutes from the blind, by the removal of the former to Morganton, makes this a fitting opportunity to place this school upon a parity with the foremost institutions of the land, and I feel sure, after a careful examination into the conduct of the institution and its necessities, you will be willing to appropriate a sum sufficient to make the necessary improvements and equip the same. Their report, which is complete in every detail, is herewith transmitted for further information.

THE NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

The Legislature of 1891 found that there were upward of 800 deaf mutes in the State of North Carolina, and feeling that this class required the support of the State, as well as those who have no infirmity, in order that they might become better citizens and able to earn a livelihood, created the School for the Deaf and Dumb, to be located at Morganton, her citizens offering the most liberal inducements. A splendid institution has been established—large and capable of accommodating 250 pupils, if appropriation is made for their support. In October the school was opened and now has 102 pupils. The last Legislature appropriated \$35,000 per annum, but it was not sufficient to pay off the former indebtedness and prosecute to a successful end the building operations. The Board recommends that the Legislature pay off this indebtedness and continue the appro-

priation of \$35,000 annually. I indorse most heartily this recommendation of the Board. They need many things in a school just beginning, and it will be necessary in order to make the school capable of doing the work imposed upon it by the State. This class have as much claim to an education at the hands of the State as other children, and since their defects prevent them from receiving it in the ordinary public schools it is only just that they should be instructed in schools especially adapted to fit them for a useful life. Uneducated mutes are frequently vicious. This is almost entirely obviated in educational training. As a rule they come to the school petted and spoiled children, consequently helpless. Their discipline while at school should be rigid, so as to impart thoroughness in the practice of the few industries to which they are limited. To the useful and practical training already given them I would add printing, which was once taught with great success at the school in Raleigh, and moulding, decorating and burning of pottery. Apart from suitability of the occupation—the boys to mould and girls to decorate, no industrial plant could be erected at less cost and supplied with material of a superior quality than from our own soil. The State does not do its duty to this class of unfortunates unless it couples with the intellectual training such an industrial education as will enable the pupil to earn an honest living.

A technical knowledge of some suitable industry before leaving the institution will equip them for the battle of life and start them in the world on a basis of equality with the wage-earner. This institution is capable of doing the work if you equip it. Their greatest need, next to support, is in the industrial department, machinery and tools for carpenter shop, outfit for printing-office, for the shoe-making trade, for mattress and broom-making, etc. This

equipment will cost about \$3,500, and should be in addition to the appropriation asked by the Board of Directors.

I do not think that you can make any mistake in the money spent on this class; it is well invested and will yield an abundant harvest. For further information I commend to you the report of the Superintendent.

THE OXFORD ORPHAN ASYLUM.

This institution for the care of the orphan children of the State is one which demands your special attention. If it is the duty of the State to provide educational advantages for her boys and girls it is certainly imperative upon her to provide for those left destitute, with no one to provide for their support, training and early education. No one can estimate its effects upon the future society and citizenship of the State. If these boys and girls are left to shift for themselves, with no care or instruction, the quality of manhood and womanhood will yearly degenerate in North Carolina. No one can estimate the good effects of early moral training, consequently the Oxford Orphan Asylum should be near and dear to the hearts of all patriotic citizens. Many improvements have been made in the past two years which are enumerated in the Superintendent's report. The receipts for the past two years are as follows:

From farm	\$	35	45
From shoe-shop		163	75
From printing-office.....		2,016	24
From lodges, churches, etc.....		6,416	13
From State		10,000	00
Grand Lodge		2,100	00
		<hr/>	
Total	\$	21,612	57

The management of this institution is under the care of the great and grand order of Masons, and has been carefully managed. The children are taught to work on the farm, in the printing-office, and given daily instruction. They have under cultivation one hundred acres of land, which supplies much of their food. The present Superintendent does not ask for an increase of appropriation, but commends the institution to your care. A much larger appropriation could be expended and with the best results. There has been an average attendance of 205 children during the past year. Some have obtained situations in private families, others have gone to work. The average cost of maintenance is about \$105 per year. The health of the children is excellent.

THE COLORED ORPHAN ASYLUM AT OXFORD.

This institution was established in 1886, the work being apparently a failure. The present Superintendent, Rev. Robert Shephard, took charge of the institution in February, 1890, and under his care the institution has grown to its present capacity. Receipts during the past year from State, churches, societies and individuals, \$2,367. Of this amount the State contributes \$1,500. The total number in attendance in 1893 was 60; in 1894, 66—a *per capita* support of \$36. With the present building the Superintendent states that he could support 100 children, if the State could appropriate \$3,000, with the outside aid received. There are many improvements needed, and I recommend that this appropriation be made.

THE NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.

The North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, which includes the Fertilizer Control Station and the State Weather Service, is just closing a successful and satisfac-

tory year. It has lived for eighteen years, and each year that passes marks a substantial advance over the previous one. At this time the work accomplished for the benefit of the farmers of the State and agriculture and horticulture generally is very far-reaching, and our people generally recognize the fact and are more than ever taking advantage of the help that it affords. The work of the Fertilizer Control is sustained by the tonnage charge upon fertilizers. All the remaining work of the Station in all its branches is supported by the general government, and the State derives all the advantages from them without the direct appropriation of a single cent from its Treasury.

During the last two years the Station has published and widely distributed 152 separate distinct publications. The edition of the regular issue is 17,000 copies, and the others vary according to the demand. Some of the subjects treated in the bulletins during the past two years are: Some experiments in wheat culture, the culture of orchard and garden fruits, feeding experiments, horticultural tests and results, miscellaneous agricultural topics, digestion experiments, some leguminous crops and their economic value, thread worm of pork, our common insects, dairy industry in the State, why pull fodder corn, the chestnut and its evil, rational stock-feeding, propagation of flowering bulbs for commercial purposes, feeding trials with animals, marls and phosphates of North Carolina.

Among other work of a distinctive character during the past two years the Station has elaborated a system of seed standard and of a voluntary seed control to benefit both sellers and buyers, has investigated the possibility of establishing the flowering bulb industry and thus bring to North Carolina the immense trade annually going abroad, has made special exhibits at two State Fairs and sent large contributions to the World's Fair at Chicago, has published

and widely distributed many appropriate, timely and useful educational bulletins designed to disseminate better agricultural methods throughout the State, has taken steps to give special agricultural and horticultural information to the Waldensian colonists in Burke county, has investigated very completely the subject of our ordinary and home-grown cattle foods and placed true values upon them by means of carefully planned digestion experiments with cattle, has through the Fertilizer Control analyses preserved the grade and purity of thousands of tons of commercial fertilizers sold in North Carolina, has encouraged the dairy industry and the growth of improved breeds of stock, has disseminated knowledge in regard to important field crops such as crimson clover, soja-beans and cow-peas, by distributing packages for trial and in other ways, and has saved thousands of dollars by prompt distribution of weather forecasts, especially with the early trucking crops.

These and other results have been accomplished. Much of this work is being continued, and, together with other subjects soon to be investigated, will prove of increasing interest and value as time goes by.

The Experiment Station is in a thoroughly healthy condition, and its work and results are evidences of that fact.

AGRICULTURE.

From an agricultural stand-point these are no ordinary times. Our State, and, indeed, the country at large, is even now passing through a crisis as great if not the greatest in its history, brought about in a great measure by the low prices prevailing for farm products. Values for years have been constantly declining until now they have touched a point at which, in too many instances, losses instead of profits are to be counted. If this is to be continued the economic life of our people must undergo a great change.

The general condition of agriculture, the world over, is very much worse than it was ten years ago. It is not that progress in any one country has not been met by similar progress in others, or that one has gained at the expense of another; but withering blight has come to us all alike. The wheat farmers of the Argentine Republic and the Western American States, the cattle breeders of Australia and the United States, the cotton planters of the South and of India, Egypt and Asiatic Russia find their vocation unprofitable. There was a time when all this was different. From 1850 to 1860 the value of our farms doubled. Our national wealth doubled. There were no tenant farmers. The increase in wealth was the farmers' own. What has brought about so great a change? Legislation in North Carolina has ever been friendly to the State's chief industry, agriculture, and the ills we suffer to-day have their origin in unjust national and not State legislation. A simple indication to our law-makers that the interest of the farmer would be fostered by a certain law has been all-sufficient for its enactment. How best to serve this majority class of our population has been the earnest wish of the Board of Agriculture since its establishment. I have read carefully the report of the Board made to your honorable body, and I commend most heartily its unvarying efforts to impress the people with the necessity of diversification in crops. It is the only absolute safety for the farmer in times of great depression.

ATLANTA EXPOSITION.

The various exhibits which North Carolina has made of her immense natural resources, variety of soils and delightfulness of climate have attracted much attention, and the effects are being daily felt throughout the State by the numerous inquiries and the settlers who are coming to us

and the money which is being invested within the State. The exhibit at the World's Fair was creditable. While the appropriation was small, still we showed the world that we were among the most progressive States of the South. A great part of this exhibit is now in the Museum in this city and daily offers to our people information about their State which they can get from no other source. A great International Exposition is to be held in the city of Atlanta in the fall of 1895. North Carolina has been invited and urged to make an exhibit. Atlanta is the most progressive city in the South and alive to every new enterprise which may add to its own greatness, and this exposition will be a success if push and energy will bring it. Would it benefit North Carolina to exhibit her resources at this exposition? Much could be said on this subject, but I believe that there is no better way on earth, to lay before the world the advantages of your section of country than at this exposition. No one can estimate the good results accomplished, and I heartily indorse the recommendations of the Board of Agriculture.

North Carolina should be represented, and if the appropriation is made she will make an exhibit of which her citizens will be proud, and will attract the attention and investigation of those who will attend this exposition.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

My attention has been called to the Baltimore Centennial Exposition, which is to be held in the city of Baltimore from May 15 to November 15, 1897, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the city of Baltimore. This exposition is designed to embrace the products of agriculture, mines, electricity, fish and fisheries, timber manufactures, the liberal and fine arts and sciences

of the United States and Canada, the Central and South American Republics and various nations of the world. Baltimore is at the gate-way of the immense industrial North, progressive, and has many advantages for such an enterprise. If carried out on the scale proposed it will command the attention of America and foreign nations, and I think that North Carolina should make an exhibit of her wealth in this Southern city. Many representative North Carolinians do business in this city who would interest themselves in this matter, and I commend it to you and ask that this subject of making an exhibition at these two representative Southern cities be referred to a committee on this subject for investigation and recommendation of amount of appropriation which may be necessary to enable North Carolina to make an exhibit worthy of her resources and advancement in agricultural and manufactured products.

STATE FAIR.

North Carolina makes an appropriation of \$1,500 to the North Carolina Agricultural Society, to be paid for premiums on agricultural and mechanical products exhibited at the State Fair. I am proud to state that the last State Fair was the greatest success as a fair which I have ever attended in the State. The Society is to be congratulated on the splendid exhibit and the large attendance.

To make this fair successful the State should give a larger appropriation. A great many settlers from the West are moving into the State. They come with new ideas in regard to farming and the manner of cultivation, and I believe the State could not make a better expenditure of money than to encourage the North Carolina Agricultural Society in its efforts to give the farmers and manufacturers of the State an opportunity to show the improved methods

of husbandry, farming, mining and manufacturing. To meet once a year and exchange ideas, see the improvements in all branches of industries and farming throughout the State, is of incalculable benefit to our people.

For your information I append a partial list of appropriations made to State Fairs:

New Jersey, annually -----	\$ 3,000
City of Richmond, annually -----	5,000
Ohio, annually -----	8,000
Rhode Island, annually -----	3,200
Iowa, annually -----	8,000
Iowa, to county fairs, annually -----	25,000
Maine, annually -----	2,000
Connecticut, annually -----	2,500
Minnesota, annually -----	4,000
New York, annually -----	20,000
Oregon, annually -----	5,000
Illinois, annually -----	13,000

The appropriations demonstrate that these States must receive great benefit from such investments.

NORTH CAROLINA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Comparatively few people are aware to what extent horticulture is carried on in North Carolina. According to the Census of 1890 the number of acres, exclusive of market gardens, devoted to the trucking interest in North Carolina was 22,000; the aggregate value of fertilizers used, \$372,000; amount paid labor, \$308,000; the average net receipts, \$1,760,000. If we add to this the product of the market gardens, the vineyards, orchards, bulb farms and nurseries it will probably double the above amount. This shows how important horticulture has become in North Carolina. Regarding Horticulture as the hand-

maiden of Agriculture, I ask you to make a liberal appropriation to this Society, one commensurate with its importance.

THE NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

The colored people of this State should have an opportunity annually of exhibiting their progress in industrial, mechanical and agricultural products. To this end there has been appropriated annually by the State \$500 to assist them in their enterprise. They have been compelled of late years to use the State Fair Grounds, which causes the fair to be held in the latter part of November. This is too late in the year to enable them to have a proper attendance. Their exhibits have been good, and in order that the North Carolina Industrial Association may become more useful in practical benefits to this people I recommend that you appropriate not less than \$1,000 to this Association.

PENITENTIARY.

The crime of the State is the burden of the State. This being true, you will doubtless read with great interest the report of the Superintendent of the State's Prison. The object of legal punishment is the protection of the citizens and the reformation of its criminals and the deterring effects of such punishment upon the evil-disposed. I am convinced that reasonable, speedy and sure punishment for violations of the law is not only the best but surest means of securing these desired ends. Very stringent laws too frequently result in the liberation of the guilty by the jury; justice too long delayed is provocative of mob law; and Executive clemency too frequently exercised has a tendency to minimize punishment in the eyes of the criminal. Experience has taught us that in the management of the criminal classes far better and more satisfactory

results have been obtained by moral suasion and the exercise of a mild but firm discipline rather than by inhuman methods. In our State Prison the benignant effects of a mild policy are discovered in the general strict obedience to discipline on the part of the inmates and the comparative contentment and resignation they carry into the performance of their duties.

The very vicious criminal as a rule is not a well-informed person, and does not have the opportunity of learning of the deterring effects of punishment. I would suggest the immediate incarceration of all such criminals as are in danger of mob violence at once in the Penitentiary, there to remain, at the expense of the county in which the deed was committed, until trial, and that in the future all capital punishment be inflicted in the Penitentiary, that it may more effectually impress the criminal class.

I would suggest that, the State having assumed charge of the dependent insane, the indigent blind and deaf, a large part of the cost of maintenance might be saved by utilizing some of its prison labor in the manufacture of clothing, shoes, etc., for the inmates of the various institutions. This would give employment to a certain class of prison population that are not now permitted to leave the walls.

The operations of the State Penitentiary have been confined almost exclusively to farming. About eighty per cent. of the convicts have been employed throughout the year on the farms. Small forces have been engaged in outside work whenever it could be obtained at a profit. The remaining convicts, such as life prisoners and some long-term convicts and the feeble men and women, have been confined in the central Penitentiary, and employed in brick-making, shop work, shoe-making, clothes-making, etc., etc.

The farm work has been prosecuted with vigor and effect,

and so far as the quantity of the crop produced is evidence has accomplished good results. In the winter of 1893 the dikes had to be partially rebuilt, which consumed considerable time and means. New lands of about 1,600 acres were cleared and planted, leaving some 1,000 acres of forest land on different farms yet to be reduced to cultivation.

Areas Cultivated.

Halifax farm on the Roanoke -----	1,350	acres.
Northampton farm on the Roanoke-----	2,150	"
Caledonia farm on the Roanoke-----	4,500	"
Castle Hayne, New Hanover county -----	600	"
	8,600	
Total -----	8,600	acres.

Upon this area 140 persons are employed to keep, manage and care for an average number of 1,000 convicts. On the farm and works 226 mules and 37 horses have been worked daily.

The Principal Crops Produced in 1894.

Cotton 843,500 pounds, 52 per cent. more than in 1893.
 Corn 93,900 bushels, 54 per cent. more than in 1893.
 Wheat 11,301 bushels, 258 per cent. more than in 1893.
 Oats 4,650 bushels more than in 1893.
 Forage 2,286,750 pounds, 50 per cent. more than in 1893.
 Peas 4,000 bushels, 9 per cent. less than in 1893.
 Peanuts 7,200 bushels, 42 per cent. less than in 1893.
 Sorghum 7,620 gallons, 53 per cent. more than in 1893.
 Meat 85,000 pounds, 75 per cent. more than in 1893.

Sanitary Conditions.

There has been much improvement in the sanitary condition and the health of the population. The physicians state that most of the sickness is from malaria. While

this cause may not be entirely removed great improvement has been made in the system of drainage and efforts have been made to improve the drinking water through deep water wells. It could be done by cisterns. The State Geologist thinks that good water could be obtained by a system of deep wells of about 350 feet. The experiment has been made but not yet successfully.

Needs of the Penitentiary.

The crops have been large. The quantity produced has been increased to the utmost limit. Prices have been so low and loss on them has been so great that considerable less has been realized than was expected or could have been under different conditions. They have earned \$25,000 outside of the farms. They have used the \$25,000 appropriated by the last Legislature, *and \$25,000 only*, in the last two years; or \$12,500 each year is all that the Penitentiary has cost the tax-payers of the State. This appropriation was expended on account of losses in the floods of 1893 and to purchase ninety-six mules and other requisites for equipment for increased farming. With the exception of this \$25,000 the Penitentiary has been self-sustaining, without another dollar of tax money, notwithstanding the low price at which products have ruled; and at the end of the year owes \$14,188, now due. This is not a deficit, for the assets in surplus materials convertible into money at a reasonable valuation, with bills collectible, amount to \$44,000. If this could be sold at reasonable sums and bills due collected at once the Penitentiary would start the year with a handsome balance in its favor. If this surplus was cash in hand it would amount to about three months' support. The Penitentiary should earn in outside work two months support from January to October, when another crop would mature, and would

leave four months to be supported by the State. This will require an appropriation of \$50,000 to carry on the work until October, 1895. Then there should be a contingent appropriation to prepare for any disaster or trouble, and this amount, if used, could be returned to the Treasury from its profits. This appropriation would run the Penitentiary until October, 1895, when the second crop would be made, which would be a surplus. Could we not then say the Penitentiary is self-sustaining? All investments are doubtful, but I earnestly believe if you will give this assistance your next meeting will find the Penitentiary amply able to take care of itself. All business is hazardous, but this, unless floods or fires destroy, will be self-sustaining at that time.

To Purchase Farms.

The affairs of this institution have been, in my judgment, most admirably managed; the outlays judicious. The Superintendent has had a laborious task, but has proven himself a man fully equal to the management of this great work and capable of conducting this experiment to a successful ending. I believe that this is the best use that can be made of the convicts, and trust, gentlemen, that you will grant the appropriation needed. The institution is open to your investigation and inspection. The State is now paying a rental of seven per cent. for the farms. If it is to be the policy of the State to continue this work it is but a sound business proposition to purchase the farms with an issue of four per cent. bonds, thereby saving to the State three per cent., which fund, placed as a sinking fund, will pay the entire purchase-money at the expiration of forty years.

Reformatory for Juvenile Convicts.

I would respectfully call your attention to that part of his report in reference to a Reformatory for juvenile convicts. There are convicts in the Penitentiary who were received at the age of nine years—fifty-five under the age of sixteen, and these should not be allowed to associate with hardened criminals, but upon conviction sent direct to the Reformatory.

It is due society that the State should attempt to reform this class rather than by association to allow them to become confirmed criminals. Experience teaches that it is very seldom that criminals of the worst class ever become benefited by their term of imprisonment or caused to lead a better life. The youthful prisoner confined for petty larceny and such crimes could be reformed with proper care and treatment, but to remain for two or three years in daily contact with the older criminals has a bad influence over them the rest of their lives, and instead of becoming reformed citizens they often develop into worse criminals than their associates. I approve this recommendation for a Reformatory, and submit the matter to your consideration.

STATE GUARD.

In all monarchical forms of government a standing army has been considered necessary for defense from foreign enemies and protection for the form of government, and to-day European countries are overburdened with taxation for the expenses of standing armies. The policy of this government has been to protect its citizens in the free enjoyment of life and liberty by salutary laws, and each citizen has been taught in the past to respect them. In our early history the old militia law served its purpose, and the assembling periodically, under the Constitution, of all able-bodied

citizens at the county-seat or place of muster was considered all that was necessary for the protection of our citizens.

In the advancement of the age the old militia law has been succeeded by the National Guard system, which has proven to be much more efficient and by far the most economical way of giving to the State such protection as is necessary in these turbulent times, when our country is overrun with foreign population of the lowest order, who have no respect for our laws or institutions. The last Legislature recodified the military laws, and under the efficient management of the present Adjutant General the State Guard and Naval Reserves are now fully equipped and prepared to do active service at any time.

There are now twenty-eight military companies of white infantry, divided into four regiments of seven companies each—one troop of cavalry (white) and one company of infantry (colored), both unattached, and one battalion of Naval Reserves (three divisions), numbering in all thirty-three companies, aggregating 1,660 men. The land forces have been reduced to thirty companies, the number contemplated by law. These companies are located on lines of railroads and telegraphic communication throughout the State, and can be concentrated in a few hours' notice in sufficient numbers to do any service required of them.

The Guard is composed of our very best young men from every rank of life, who are capable and willing to do service at any time. There has been at times a sentiment throughout the State to depreciate the National Guard. I have no patience with such a sentiment, and the patriotic citizens of North Carolina should rather honor and respect the young men of the State who give gratuitously their time and service for this purpose. In times of trouble or excitement the first thought in these days is the Guard, and not the old-fashioned Sheriff's posse, which, if depended

upon, would be unable to meet the emergency. I have witnessed this since my induction into office, and assure you, gentlemen of the General Assembly, were you in my position you would most highly esteem the National Guard, and agree with me that it is the right arm of the Executive in times of commotion or disturbance.

In April of 1893 I was called on by the civil authorities of Craven county to execute a writ of ejectment of certain citizens of James City from the lands owned by James Bryan, Esq. The civil authorities were totally incapable of dispossessing them. The Sheriff asked for 450 or 500 men. I put the First Regiment in Newbern within twelve hours, encamping outside of the city, and accompanied them with sufficient officers of my staff to perform the required duties.

Without the military nothing could have been done; the mere fact that it was there brought these parties to terms. They defied the officers of law for over thirty days, during which time the Sheriff was unable to get posses to assist him in executing writ of ejectment. This case was a peculiar one, and had to be dealt with carefully; but without this force the county of Craven would have been unable to meet this emergency. During the time the First Regiment was present in Newbern the soldiers behaved splendidly, and especially so under the very trying circumstances of the sudden encampment. Four times during the past year, upon requisition of the civil authorities, troops have been called upon to preserve order and prevent anticipated riot or disturbance. In this, your capital city, only last summer was the Executive called upon after nightfall to prevent the prisoners in the county jail from being lynched, and I am satisfied but for the fact that a military company was stationed on guard these prisoners would have been taken out and hung, at least some of them would, without

a trial, without an examination of facts as to their guilt. I cite this case as an example only. Time and again the State Guard has done good service. Hardly a year has passed since its organization that it has not been called upon to protect property or prevent bloodshed. Their presence in the State is assurance enough that the Executive is able to govern under the laws. The officers and men have always been such as could be trusted to execute carefully and discreetly such orders as have been issued to them.

The State appropriates \$16,000 per annum for the support of the State Guard. This is used to pay armory rent for the store of arms and drill purposes, insurance on arms and equipments and for annual encampment (\$5,000). The National Government furnishes clothing and equipments amounting to \$9,488.73 for this State, and so much importance is attached to the National Guard by the general government that within the past four years the annual appropriation granted by Congress for over one hundred years has been doubled, and a still further increase has been recommended by the President. North Carolina, in proportion to her size and ability, does but little for her State Guard, as the following will show :

STATE GUARD.

Statement Showing Amount of Annual Appropriation Paid to State Guard by Different States.

Alabama appropriates annually	\$ 20,000
California appropriates annually	180,000
Colorado appropriates annually	30,000
Connecticut appropriates annually	all expenses paid.
District of Columbia appropriates annually	19,500
Georgia appropriates annually	20,000

Illinois appropriates annually -----	132,000
Indiana appropriates annually -----	37,000
Iowa appropriates annually -----	45,000
Maine appropriates annually -----	26,185
Maryland appropriates annually -----	45,000
Massachusetts appropriates annually -----	210,000
Michigan appropriates annually -----	73,286
Minnesota appropriates annually -----	40,000
New Hampshire appropriates annually -----	25,000
New York appropriates annually -----	400,000
Ohio appropriates annually -----	119,000
Oregon appropriates annually -----	30,000
Pennsylvania appropriates annually -----	320,000
Rhode Island appropriates annually -----	56,421
South Carolina appropriates annually -----	25,000
Tennessee appropriates annually -----	22,500
Texas appropriates annually -----	20,000
Vermont appropriates annually -----	15,000
Wisconsin appropriates annually -----	84,664

I would respectfully call your attention to the full and complete report of the Adjutant General and his associate officers. I do not recommend at this time an increase of the appropriation further than to heartily indorse the recommendations of the Adjutant General. The State should appreciate most highly the services of her citizen-soldiers and should ration the troops and pay a small *per diem* while engaged in the service of the State. I do not deem it further necessary to dwell upon the great importance of a State Guard. It is my opinion that this is absolutely necessary to enable the State at all times to enforce the law. It is by far the cheapest manner in which it can be done. What is \$16,000 per annum to the people of a great State, when a single "muster" carried out under the

old militia laws of the State would cost the people at least four or five times as much.

I commend to you as business men, with the welfare of the State at heart, to encourage the organization as a matter of economy, maintain its efficiency as provided for in the Constitution, and by your indorsement make the members thereof feel that the State appreciates their services and honors the men who sacrifice their time and service without pay and reward.

SOLDIERS' HOME.

Originally this Home was maintained entirely by voluntary contribution. The Legislature of 1891, recognizing the just claim of the veteran Confederate soldier to share in the distribution of the State's charity, generously appropriated \$3,000 to the support of the Home. Again in 1893 the appropriation was supplemented by an additional sum of \$5,000, making a total of \$8,000. At this same session the sum of \$3,000 was appropriated for repairs and much-needed improvements. By reference to the report of the Board of Directors, which is herewith transmitted, and the Auditor's report, it will be seen that this fund was judiciously expended. The Board has made no recommendation asking for additional appropriation, preferring to leave this matter to the generosity of North Carolina's legislators to adequately provide for the disabled veterans who risked their lives in defense of their State. I feel satisfied that the General Assembly will do their duty in this matter.

RAILROAD COMMISSION.

Public regulation of railways is not only a public right, but a public duty of great importance, and the right and duty of control is no longer an open question.

Railways are public highways and have control of travel and commerce, and the necessity of their being limited to the exaction of reasonable rates is manifest; the masses of the people and the business of the country are completely at their mercy if allowed to dictate at will the amount of charges, etc. The General Assembly at its session of 1891 passed an act establishing a Railroad Commission.

The Board of Railroad Commissioners are invested with judicial powers; authorized to hear and decide complaints; to make rules for interchange of traffic between railroads; to hear and adjust the differences between them; to make, revise, alter and approve the tariffs of railroads and telegraph companies; a Board of Appraisers for railroads, telegraph and steamboat companies. The act has been judiciously construed in its vital points by the highest courts and in every essential particular has been upheld. The policy of the State and the Railroad Commission is as friendly to railroad construction and to railroad prosperity as it ever was.

The Railroad Commission understands and our people understand that their interests and the interests of the railroads are so mutually dependent that any policy which would affect injuriously the railroads would as certainly operate against the prosperity and welfare of the people. The Commission, in its wisdom, by a wise and conservative administration, has accomplished great good, and at the same time a better feeling between the railroad companies and the people has been brought about.

Your attention is called to the reports of the Railroad Commission. It is seen that many complaints from time to time, covering a wide field, have been adjudicated. The Railroad Commission is open to the humblest citizen. His complaint, no matter how small, always has a careful consideration and a thorough investigation.

The fact that there is a tribunal to which the people can appeal from the railroads, and to which the railroads can appeal as against each other, often prevents that wrong and injustice which makes an appeal necessary.

Many new depots and improved facilities have been established along the different roads of the State. The Commissioners state that it was found, as a rule, great inequality and differences existed at non-competitive points in freight rates; that excessive charges were made for short hauls, and that discriminations were made at almost every intermediate station. A standard tariff of rates adjusting all these matters upon a fair basis was made. This led to a reduction and saving to the people upon freight charges of about one-quarter of a million dollars per annum; passenger charges over two hundred thousand dollars per annum. Express rates have been modified. Telegraphing has been simplified and rates reduced at least fifty per cent.

The tax returns in the Auditor's office upon the establishment of the Commission show the railroad property returned for taxation to have been about \$12,000,000; the present taxable value is about \$25,000,000—more than doubled. The Commission has been active in seeing that every species of property liable to taxation coming under its jurisdiction was placed upon the tax-books. Many steamboats heretofore untaxed and even the Pullman cars running through the State are now taxed. Notwithstanding these sweeping reductions in rates and increased value placed on the property for taxation the railroad officials do not hesitate to say the Commission has dealt fairly with them.

The people have enjoyed the advantage of lower rates, and were relieved from the evils of unjust discriminations; so the course of the Commission while highly beneficial

to the people has not been unjust to the railroads, and did not prove injurious to them.

It is noticed that one of the largest systems of roads in the State was in the hands of a receiver. This system has now reorganized and on a more solid basis than ever. The Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway is yet in the hands of a receiver. The report shows a decided improvement in railroad business over that of the previous year.

THE NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD COMPANY AND ITS EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION.

My purpose has been, as expressed in my message to the last General Assembly, to have all the property of the North Carolina Railroad Company assessed for taxation without exemption. All other railroad companies whose charters contained exemption of property from taxation have been required by one means and another to bear their burden of taxation without exemption. It is unnecessary to enter now upon a consideration of the reasons that influenced the General Assemblies of this State many years ago to grant charters to railroad companies containing clauses exempting parts or all of their property from taxation. It may be safely stated that so changed are the conditions of business and population that under no circumstances could a General Assembly be elected now that would grant such exemptions. It may be also safely stated that the present condition of affairs was not in the contemplation of those who drafted the present charter of the North Carolina Railroad Company. It is a perpetual corporation. The State owns three-fourths of its capital stock, or \$3,000,000 out of a total capital of \$4,000,000. As the State has so strenuously and persistently insisted that all other companies whose charters contained exemptions should surrender them it would seem but an act of simple

justice that the exemption of the North Carolina Railroad Company should be likewise surrendered. This would have been accomplished but for the vigorous opposition of the private stockholders of the company. The directors of the company passed a resolution to waive the exemption and list all its property, but the private stockholders immediately applied to the Federal Court to restrain such action, and this suit is not yet determined. In an effort to obtain the sanction of the stockholders to this action of the directors the private stockholders, under the operation of a harsh and unreasonable by-law adopted in 1891, have prevented a meeting of stockholders for more than a year. The by-law referred to requires that one hundred of the private stockholders representing a majority of the private stock shall be represented in person or by proxy at any meeting held. The charter contemplates annual meetings of the stockholders: certain corporate acts can be done only at such annual meetings. The exemption from taxation does not extend to all corporate property and continues only until the dividends of profits exceed six per cent. The company is now practically out of debt, and its annual income exceeds by nearly \$30,000 six per cent. upon its entire capital stock. The policy of its management heretofore has been to so increase its expenses as to consume any surplus over six per cent., and this it has succeeded in doing. The General Assembly has for several years, in its acts to raise revenue, attempted to repeal all clauses in any railroad charter exempting its property in part or whole from taxation, but these attempts have been rendered ineffectual by the decisions of the Federal Courts. If the condition upon which the exemption depends has not already happened it is safe to say that within a very few years we will see the entire property of this corporation, without exemption, contribut-

ing its portion to the support of the State government and paying equally with the citizens of the State for the protection extended to it by the laws. I shall not cease in my efforts until this be accomplished.

I renew the recommendation made in my inaugural address that this immunity from taxation be repealed. I believe that the interest of the State and the company will not be injured thereby, and that common honesty and justice require it. The State owns two-thirds of the stock of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad Company, and all of its property pays its proportion of the taxes, State, county and municipal. The State has said to all other railroads within her borders, "You must pay taxes, or you will be shut off from public favor and consideration until you do." This has been done because the people demand that *all* property of *all* classes shall bear its proportion of the public burdens. The result is that the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad Company, the Seaboard & Roanoke, the Raleigh & Gaston Company, the Petersburg Company, the Cheraw & Salisbury—all except the North Carolina Railroad Company have surrendered their exemptions and now pay taxes on all their property. It would seem just that the State should follow the Golden Rule and demonstrate to her citizens that in her sovereign capacity she requires nothing of them that she will not conform to when she lays aside her sovereignty and engages in a private enterprise.

If the Legislature thinks that no action ought to be taken I recommend the consideration of some plan to enable the company to transact its business in the stockholders' meeting. Under the present by-laws a little more than one-eighth of the stockholders of the company by absenting themselves can prevent a meeting, and recent results show that they will resort to this measure. No

meeting has been held since July, 1893, and none is likely to be held unless the subject of taxation is settled.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

In accordance with resolution of this Board an inspection of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad was ordered, so that the present condition of this State property could be placed before you.

I transmit herewith the report of Mr. Ed. Chambers Smith, a member of the Board. His report shows the State property to be in excellent condition, its road-bed, track and bridges in good repair; its depots equal to the needs of the road; its rolling stock good; its management successful. This railroad has paid the State three annual dividends of two per cent. on the stock owned by the State, amounting to \$75,996. This stock, which up to this time has been non-paying, is now a source of revenue and thereby lessens the State's taxes to that extent.

The State should feel proud of this management, for during the past three years this railroad has been touched at its two most important shipping points by rival railroads, and the dividends declared under these circumstances prove conclusively that the management has been most economical. Railroads for the past few years have been under a great strain to make both ends meet, many having gone into receivers' hands and been reorganized, yet under such circumstances the only road operated by the State has added to our revenue, and in all its affairs been managed strictly on business principles.

STATE BOUNDARY LINE.

The amount of \$753.88 due North Carolina from Virginia for balance advanced on expense of running and marking boundary line incurred by that State during the

administration of Governor Scales, which had been repeatedly asked for by Governors Fowle and Holt, has been collected by me and covered into the State Treasury.

I found it necessary, for the purpose of establishing the rights of our citizens, to have run the boundary line between Monroe county in Tennessee, and Graham and Cherokee counties in this State. The total cost was \$577.

I have a request from the Governor of Virginia that a necessity exists for running a proper boundary line between Mecklenburg county in Virginia, and the counties of Warren, Vance and Granville in North Carolina. As soon as I can investigate the matter I will ask you to take such action as may be required to protect our citizens in their rights.

PARDONS, COMMUTATIONS AND REPRIEVES.

The total number of pardons granted during the last two years was -----	77
Commutations -----	9
Reprieves -----	5
Total -----	91

Of the pardons granted forty-five were pardoned from the Penitentiary, twenty-one from county jails, and eleven from county jails whose terms were less than twelve months. Of the nine commutations two only were commuted from death sentence to the Penitentiary—one for life and one for thirty years' imprisonment. The rest were changes in trivial sentences. The five reprieves were granted simply in order to give time for more thorough investigation. The most difficult and trying task confronting the Executive is a judicious and proper exercise of the pardoning power. There has been considered by the Executive 224 applications for pardon. Complying with law, I herewith transmit

a full list of the pardons granted during the term of my office, with the reasons therefor, as an appendix to the message.

SALARIES AND FEES.

In obedience to chapter 424 of Laws of 1894 I report the following salaries paid by the Executive Department:

Elias Carr, Governor	\$3,000 per annum.
S. F. Telfair, Private Secretary	1,200 " "
Charles L. Hinton, Executive Clerk	600 " "
Austin Dunston, employee	1 per day.

Expenses of Executive Department for rewards and returning fugitives from justice:

For 1893	\$3,376 97
For 1894	2,556 06
	<hr/>
	\$5,933 03

Amount collected by Private Secretary and paid into the Treasury for two years for fees and seal tax, \$2,587.42.

FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE.

The expenses of offering and paying rewards and return of fugitives from justice vary each year in accordance with the distance and number of fugitives escaping. I would suggest that, if possible, some legislation could be enacted requiring greater security of prisoners confined for capital cases in the county jails, and the Sheriffs be made more responsible for the security of these prisoners placed in their custody. It is seldom that murderers are captured unless rewards are offered by the Executive, and it is often perplexing to the Executive to discover whether the arrest made is *bona fide* or collusion between the friends of the murderer. Such cases have been called to my attention,

and I suggest that some law, if possible, be enacted to remedy this evil.

NORTH CAROLINA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The Geological Survey has continued during the past two years its examination of the natural resources of the State, and I am glad to be able to report that the benefits of this work are becoming more important and apparent as the work progresses.

The United States Geological Survey, as agreed upon in the beginning, has continued its active co-operation with the State Survey, and the work accomplished has been greatly increased. Elaborate topographic maps have been prepared of all the mountain counties and the more western Piedmont counties; and the geological maps of several of these counties are now being prepared. The iron ores of the State have been examined and a preliminary report on them published, which has been highly commended and extensively applied for. The corundum deposits in Clay, Macon, Jackson and Buncombe counties and the gold and monazite deposits of Burke, McDowell, Rutherford and Cleveland counties have been examined, and reports on these are now in preparation. Examinations of the clays, feldspars and building stone in the western and middle counties and of coal deposits in Chatham county are now in progress. A considerable amount of attention has been given to an examination of road materials and road construction in the State, and a bulletin on this subject has been published. A general survey of the water-powers of the State has been begun, and a report on this subject is now ready for the printer. A considerable amount of attention has been given to the study of the mineral waters and the general water supply in the State, and especially concerning the practicability of deep well borings in the eastern counties.

An examination has been made of the timber supply, and the conditions of the forest lands of the eastern counties, with especial reference as to how our forest wealth may be perpetuated by protecting the young growth and by restocking waste lands with valuable trees. Experiments have been carried on during the past year (1894) showing how, by the adoption of a different method of gathering turpentine, the value of the product can be increased. A report on the forests of Eastern Carolina is now ready for distribution, and another relating to the forests of the entire State is ready for the printer.

A geological survey of the State was inaugurated under Dr. Emmons just prior to the Civil War, and while it brought many investments its beneficial effects were overthrown by the war, and the manuscripts for a number of reports were lost or destroyed. Subsequently the survey under Prof. W. C. Kerr, though it was instrumental in bringing several millions of dollars of investments into the State, its benefits were largely lost by the untimely death of the State Geologist when only one volume of his reports had been published.

The existing Survey, as will be seen from the above statement of its work, is investigating matters of importance to all sections of the State. It will have ready for publication during the present year nearly 1,000 pages of reports. It has already been largely instrumental in bringing capital into the State, it has prevented the expenditure of large sums of money in mining operations where money would have been wasted, and as the reports now being published are distributed its usefulness in this and other ways will be largely increased. Among the beneficial results of the work during the past year it may be mentioned that by its experiments with the French method of gathering turpentine the Survey has shown how the value of this product

in North Carolina has been increased to the extent of nearly \$200,000 per annum; and it has been largely instrumental in reviving the monazite industry in the Piedmont counties, which promises to bring into these counties not less than \$100,000 during the present year, and perhaps annually.

Account of Expenditures for the Years 1893 and 1894.

Iron ore investigations (1893)	\$ 1,897 75
Gold ore investigations (1894)	1,513 19
Corundum investigations	1,955 54
Forestry investigations	1,590 21
General exploration and building stone investigations	2,323 06
Chemical work and material	1,133 82
Photographic work	771 54
Water-power investigation and topography	383 83
Clerical assistance	762 65
Postage	203 62
Investments	312 86
Equipment and repairs	159 82
Stationery and printing	58 38
Freight and express	230 52
Salary of State Geologist (for two years)	5,000 00
Expenses of Geological Board meetings	151 10
Miscellaneous	181 20
Diamond drill, coal and marble explorations ..	1,380 00
Total for two years	\$19,999 08

IMPROVED ROADS.

It is said that the condition of a country's roads are, in a measure, indicative of the civilization of its people. If this be true, then North Carolina is low in the scale. In many portions of the State, at certain seasons of the year,

they are almost impassable, and at best they are scarcely worthy of the name. It is useless to dwell upon the importance of better roads. In these days of rapid communication between great centers of population rough highways place the people who live remote from lines of railways at a fearful disadvantage. Not only is the value of properties in such localities seriously affected, but communication and intercourse of every description materially retarded. The old system of working the public roads, like the roads themselves, has worn entirely out, the labor expended upon them being in keeping with the roads, the very worst. A law must not only be just, but seem so. No law upon our statute books appears less just than than the present road law, and a new system is imperative. I am glad to note, however, that the people have become aroused upon this matter, and in some sections of the State great efforts are being made to better the condition of the public highways, and with marked success. I trust that your body will appoint a special committee with ample powers to look into this very important matter, and report a bill embodying a satisfactory measure during your session.

SHELL-FISH COMMISSION.

No subject has probably aroused more interest in Eastern North Carolina since 1890 and 1891, when Pamlico Sound was invested by the oyster pirate boats from Chesapeake Bay, who took what they wanted, frightened the citizens and robbed North Carolina of about \$1,000,000 worth of oysters (raw material), than this subject of oysters and their cultivation. The incoming of these strangers taught our people many things in regard to the subject and revealed to them the immense richness of our waters in this bivalve luxury—introduced improved methods of handling and dredging. Such complaint was made that

the Legislature passed a sixty days' law, and complete power was given to Governor Fowle to rid the waters of Pamlico Sound of these invaders. Up to this time factories had been established in most of the seaport towns, and the activity brought by this industry during the winter and spring months was being visibly felt by the business men of that section. The oystermen of the sound along the coast felt that they were deprived of their rights and a wail of discontent came up to your predecessors from this very worthy class of citizens to the effect that *this right was theirs and should not be delegated to foreigners*—men who were depriving them of their livelihood, and would return again to Maryland as soon as they could make their profits out of the business, etc., etc. Hence the present law of the State relating to shell-fish was enacted by the General Assembly of 1891, and being insufficient was amended by the Legislature of 1893. The principal provisions of the original act were, viz.:

1. The total abolition of dredging.
2. The institution of culling laws.
3. The adoption of standard measures.
4. The institution of the Board of Shell-fish Commissioners.

In order to carry out the provisions of this law without extra burdens upon the citizens of the State a license tax upon each boat engaged in taking oysters from the public grounds was imposed and a tax of one cent per bushel on all oysters caught from the public grounds. By this means \$12,469.44 was made available for the Commission from October 1, 1891, to December 7, 1892. (See Commissioner Lucas's report). By an amendment in 1893 the individual and boat license tax was abolished and tax on the bushel was increased from one to two cents. No other provision was made for revenue and the Commission was left to sup-

port itself from the revenue derived from these sources. From October 1, 1893, to October 1, 1894, the oyster year, \$192.75 was realized to the oyster fund. The Commission has been powerless to enforce the law. Since October 1, 1893, there have been numerous violations of the law, which, though known to the Board, and could have been easily punished, yet it was impossible to prevent, as there were no funds with which to pay the expenses of running the patrol steamer. Dredging for oysters has been indulged in—in some cases openly and defiantly. Oysters have been taken to market out of the State without having been inspected and without the payment of the bushel tax. By far the most general infraction of the law has been by North Carolina oystermen in taking oysters from the public grounds without license. The steamer "Lillie," bought for the purpose of a patrol boat, has been at her moorings for over two years. It has been impossible to use her for lack of funds. In fact, the present oyster law is a failure. Other States have succeeded in making just laws and establishing a business from which the citizens derive revenue and employment. There is no market for our oysters now, and immense raw material is wasted by being allowed to remain on the public rocks or grounds of the State unused.

There are some good reasons why dredging should not be allowed (see report of Commissioner), but, taking a broad view of the situation, I am forced to the conclusion that the recommendations made by the Board would probably be a solution of the question, viz:

The Board of Commissioners, realizing that there is virtually no oyster industry in the State to-day, and with the earnest desire to stimulate and promote such an industry, recommend the enactment of a dredging law with the following restrictions and provisions:

1. It should be confined strictly to North Carolinians and permitted only in the deep waters of Pamlico Sound.

2. Pamlico Sound should be divided as nearly as possible into two equal sections, equal in respect to the acres of natural or public grounds, and dredging permitted in alternate years upon one of these sections and prohibited upon the other, and no dredging allowed at any time within two miles of the shore line at any point.

3. All persons employed in work of any description whatever on a boat engaged in or licensed to dredge should be required to have license such as is now required of tongmen.

4. Every boat before engaging in dredging should be required to take out a dredging license and pay therefor a tax, those under custom-house tonnage a specific amount per ton. This tax should be sufficiently large to raise ample revenue to strictly enforce the law and protect the State's interest and that of the tongmen.

5. Authority should be vested in the Governor to suspend dredging by proclamation whenever and for as long a time as he may deem it necessary.

6. There should be an appropriation from the State Treasury of a sum not less than five thousand dollars per annum to be used for the enforcement of the law, but to be refunded to the Treasury from the money to be derived from dredging tax and other sources.

7. The penalties for violation of the law should be severe and every violation should work a forfeiture of license and of the boat and apparatus used.

These are the recommendations of the Board. I heartily indorse them, but do not recommend the enactment of this law unless the provisions for carrying it out in the shape of a five thousand dollar appropriation be made. To make a law of this kind and expect it to support itself untried

is nonsense. The above recommendations are wise and may perhaps result in establishing various industries in Eastern Carolina.

If your honorable body do not see this question in the same light, I agree with the Commissioners that the Shell-fish Commission should be abolished, the patrol steamer sold and the proceeds be allowed to pay the indebtedness incurred by the Commission. But bear in mind, however, that when you do this you open the eastern sounds to the oyster pirates of Chesapeake Bay, and upon the honest planters of oysters who have obtained grants of lands from the State you turn the worst element of oystermen, and leave them to protect their own beds from these men, who have heretofore shown no regard whatever for the laws of the State.

In 1891, Governor Fowle appointed Capt. Adam Warner Associate Shell-fish Commissioner. A better, truer or more highly respected man was never in the employ of the State. He served the State faithfully until his death in March, 1894. From the time of his service until Mr. Mann was appointed Shell-fish Commissioner the State owed him for services as Captain of Patrol and Assistant Shell-fish Commissioner and money paid out of his own funds for expenses of patrol-----\$2,369 60
Paid by Mr. Lucas ----- 1,380 00

Balance due under Mr. Lucas's administration...\$ 989 60
For the months of October, November, December,
January, February, part of March----- 262 60
Total amount due Capt. Warner up to death,
March 12, 1894-----\$1,252 20

He often made application to the Chief Commissioner for his salary, but no funds being in the treasury he could not be paid. His widow is now in need, and it is the plain

duty of the State to pay her this money, some of which was paid out of his own pocket for necessary running expenses. The vouchers, properly signed and indorsed by Commissioners Lucas and Mann, are in my hands. I will furnish them to you at any time. I hope that you will appropriate the money for liquidating this debt at once, so that the wants of his widow may be supplied out of a salary more than justly earned for two years of service.

The State owes Mr. Mann, Chief Commissioner, balance on salary, \$980, and Mr. Lucas, ex-Commissioner, balance on salary, \$158, making total debt \$2,360, which should be paid at once.

QUARANTINE.

The only quarantine station is at Southport, the mouth of the Cape Fear. The report of Dr. Curtis shows that during the past two years most of the foreign ports with which we have had commercial intercourse have been healthy, and owing to the substitution of steam for sailing vessels, the greater part of the business being done by the former, the latter return in ballast, mostly from healthy European ports. The appropriation of \$20,000 made by the last Legislature contingent upon an appropriation from the city of Wilmington has not been used. I make no recommendation of changes in the present law, for I feel satisfied that the government will take the matter of quarantine of American ports under its supervision, and thereby relieve the State of any additional expense. Although the present system is inadequate for an emergency, and consists in a very crude system of disinfection, still it is a protection and should be kept up until some better system is inaugurated.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

From the biennial report of the Secretary of the State Board of Health I learn that in the past two years this

department of the State government has made marked progress in its beneficial work. I respectfully refer you to the report for details, but am satisfied that by the thorough distribution of the full and explicit "Instructions for Quarantine and Disinfection" in contagious diseases, such as diphtheria and scarlet fever alone, many lives and a great amount of sickness and suffering, with the consequent loss of time and money, have been saved. In my opinion the very small amount appropriated by the State to this work of preventing the spread of disease among the people could not be expended to greater advantage.

COLONIAL RECORDS.

The long-cherished intention of the State to preserve and make accessible to the public its early records was to a large extent accomplished by the publication of ten quarto volumes under the supervision of the late Col. W. J. Saunders. By his death the work was stopped at the year 1776. The Board have, however, had the records as far as by diligence they could be recovered copied down to January 1, 1781, the date fixed by The Code (section 3609). This matter is now nearly ready for the printer. The date, January 1, 1781, is an inconvenient one, being in the midst of the British campaign in this State and just prior to the battle of Guilford. I recommend that publication of these archives be authorized up to November, 1789, when the State entered the Federal Union, and that a general index of the whole work be directed to be made.

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT.

The last Legislature patriotically appropriated the sum of \$10,000 toward the erection of a monument to commemorate the deeds of our heroes who gave up their lives in defense of the State. This fund has been turned over

to the Confederate Monumental Association, who are now engaged in erecting the structure upon the Capitol Square, with the prospect of an early completion.

DIRECT LAND TAX.

Of the funds returned by the United States Government for distribution among our citizens who paid the Direct Land Tax there remains \$24,000 in North Carolina four per cent. bonds, worth to-day ----- \$ 24,480 00
 Cash in Citizens National Bank ----- 3,508 39
 Loaned to the State by act of Assembly, World's Fair ----- 25,000 00

Balance principal ----- \$52,988 39

The expense attending the distribution of this fund has been defrayed from the accruing interest, of which there is at present a balance to the credit of expense account deposited in Raleigh Savings Bank of \$1,998.48.

A MONUMENT TO SENATOR VANCE.

I cannot close this message without calling to your attention that during the past year the State has been deprived of the services of that distinguished statesman, thrice honored Governor, respected and esteemed Senator, Zebulon B. Vance. His death was not unexpected, for his arduous labors in the United States Senate in behalf of the people's rights had gradually impaired his health until nature was forced to succumb.

As soon as possible after his death was announced the Council of State met and, thinking it proper that one so distinguished and beloved by the people of North Carolina should receive from the State all reverence and respect, requested that his remains might be brought to the capital, lie in state and be buried where he was thrice inaugurated Governor.

In accordance with this request his body was permitted to lie in state in the Capitol for a few hours and was then conveyed to Asheville, where he requested to be buried. The State officers and many prominent citizens accompanied the remains.

Senator Vance's life was known and read among all classes in this State, and the acts of his public life form a part of its history. His wise counsel and able statesmanship will long be cherished and his memory beloved by the people of North Carolina. I would recommend to your honorable body that suitable resolutions commemorative of his services be adopted and that you cause to be erected a monument to his memory as a tribute of love from his people.

CONCLUSION.

In a message of such length, embracing so many subjects of importance, it is impossible to enter much into details of any particular subject. If, however, you desire any further information it will be my pleasure to furnish you as far as possible. The record of the past two years is before you, and the officers of the Executive branch of the government take pride in placing before you reports so complete with statements which show conclusively the wisdom of the administration.

The past history of a clean, successful State government, free from reckless expenditures, honest and economical in administration, is behind you, a part of the record of the party who now turns over to you the future administration of the State, so far as it pertains to legislation. Believing that you have the best interest of your State at heart, I trust that you will be wise, judicious and careful in your enactments and economical in expenditures. I do not council that economy which amounts to rendering useless

any institution now in existence, and hope that they will receive your careful investigation and liberal appropriations.

I trust, gentlemen of the General Assembly, that your stay in the capital city may be pleasant and your term of office such as will add still greater prosperity and happiness to a free, independent and liberty-loving people.

ELIAS CARR,

Governor of North Carolina.

