

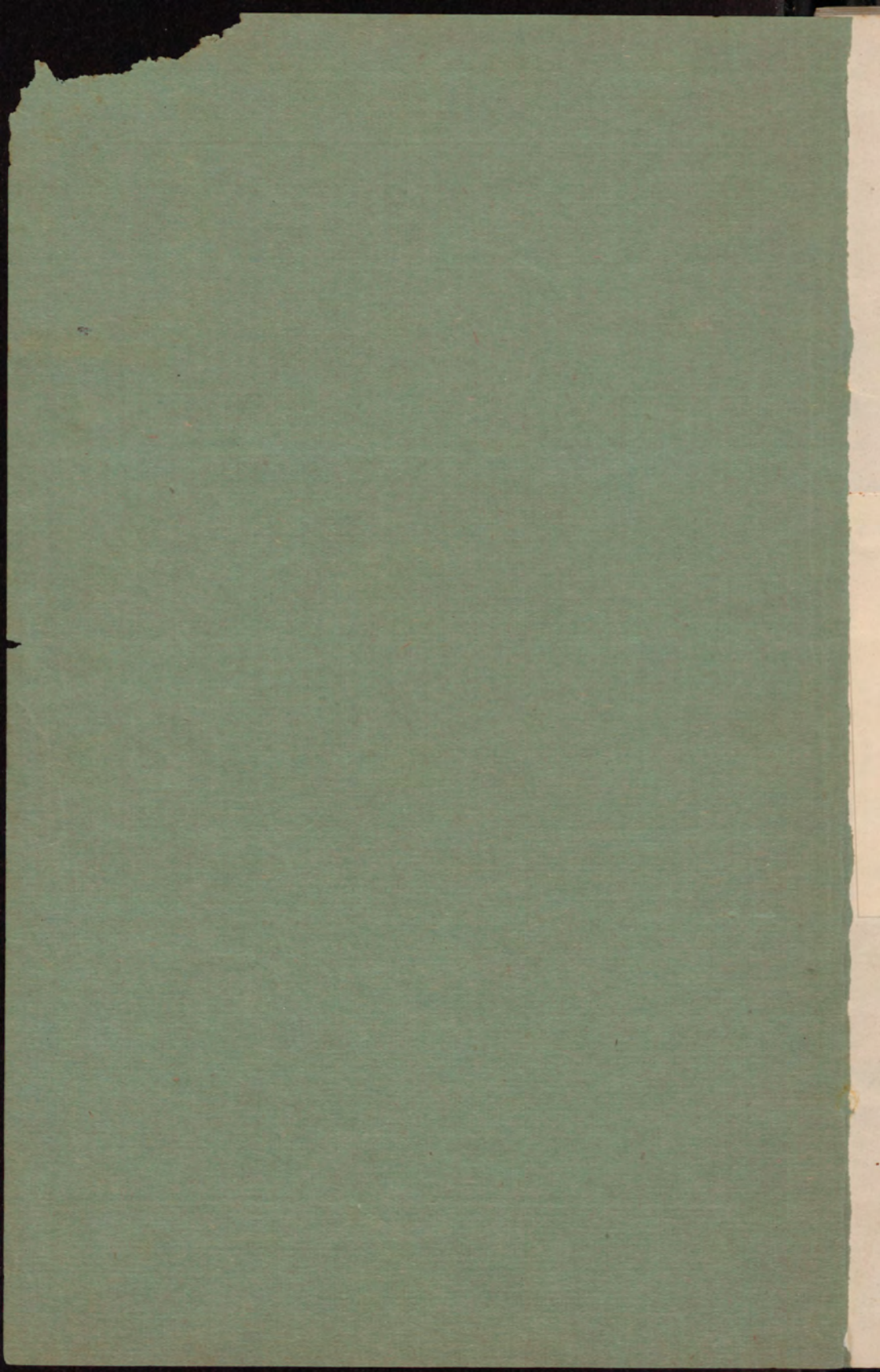
BIENNIAL MESSAGE  
OF  
THOMAS M. HOLT,  
GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA,  
TO  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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SESSION OF 1893.

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RALEIGH:  
JOSEPHUS DANIELS, STATE PRINTER AND BINDER.  
PRESSES OF EDWARDS & BROUGHTON.  
1893.





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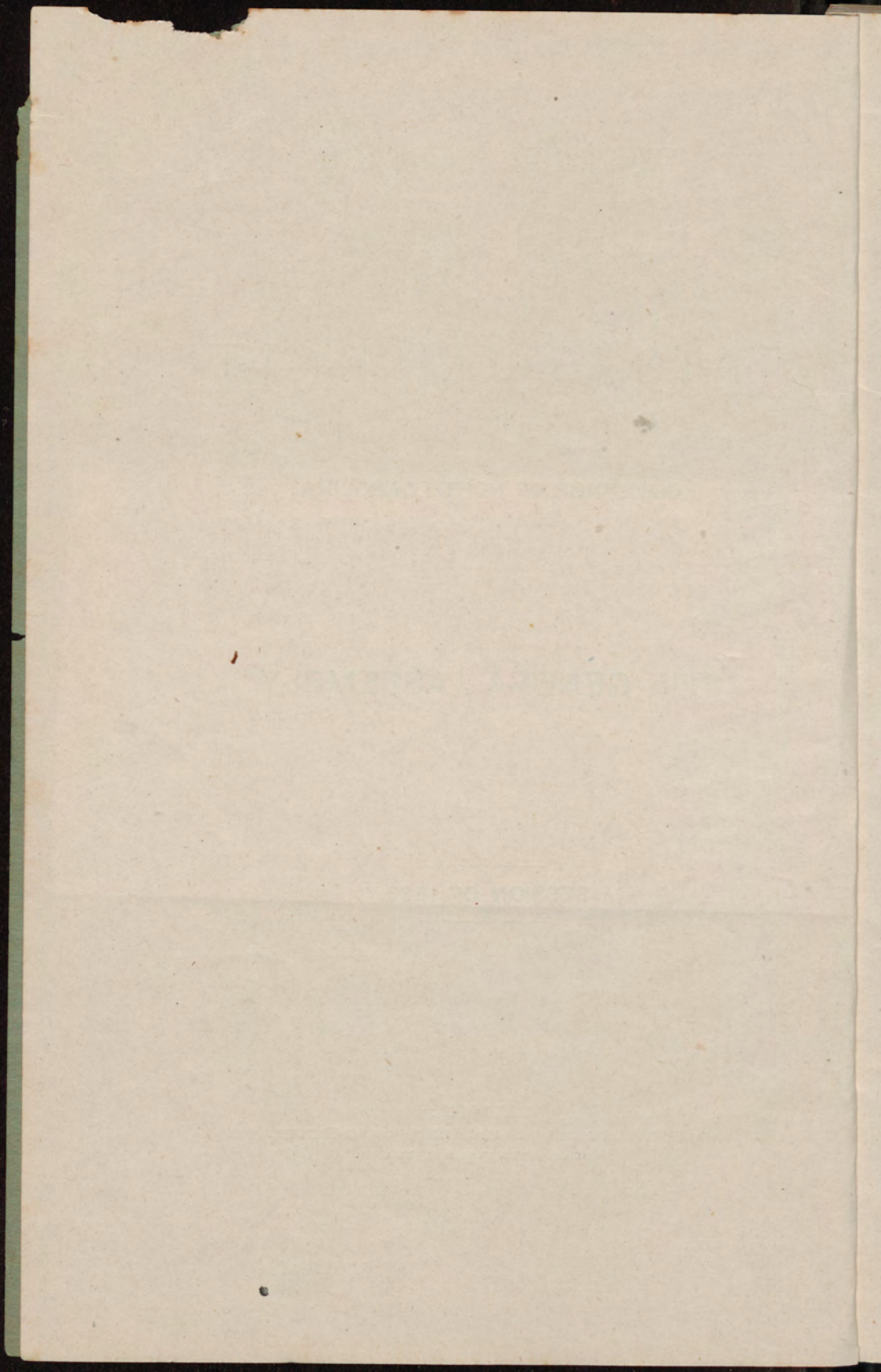
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*Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives :*

It is the duty, under the Constitution of North Carolina, of the occupant of the Executive Chair to communicate to you a summary of the material facts in the history and operations of the various departments of State since the adjournment of the General Assembly, with such considerations in reference to the public welfare as may seem pertinent to the well-being of the people and the honor and prosperity of the Commonwealth.

This service has fallen to me to perform, by reason of the sorrowful dispensation of Providence whereby the late distinguished and patriotic Governor of the State, Daniel G. Fowle, was suddenly called from his arduous duties in the public service on the seventh day of April, 1891. On the succeeding day, April the eighth, I took the oath of office at the hands of the Chief Justice, in obedience to the law, and participated in the solemn ceremonies with which the people laid to rest the eminent statesman, so long and honorably identified with the history of his State. Rarely, if ever, within the period of a gubernatorial term of four years, have the chief executive and judicial officers of North Carolina been so thinned by the hand of death. The Governor, in the midst of the honored career referred to; the able and devoted Secretary of State, who has left

an imperishable monument in the collected Colonial Records of North Carolina; the industrious and experienced Treasurer, who had given a lifetime to his complicated labors; two Chief Justices of the Supreme Court, renowned in the forum and upon the bench, associated no less with national legislation than with their responsible judicial duties at home; and another Justice of that exalted tribunal, peculiarly dear to the whole people as an exemplar of private virtue and official probity. Nor can I omit to add to this shining roll of the departed great the name of the soldier and statesman who left the Executive Office at the beginning of the present term to enjoy the sweets of private life but a brief period before his summons from earth.

Recalling with pain these sore bereavements, and bereft of the wise counsels and patriotic efforts of the departed, let us yet rejoice that such names are enrolled in the history of the State, for the encouragement of her children and to stir a generous emulation to repeat such examples of purity and patriotism.

The vacancies thus created by death were filled by appointment as follows: Captain Octavius Coke succeeded Hon. W. L. Saunders, by appointment of Governor Fowle; Hon. James C. MacRae succeeded Hon. Joseph J. Davis as Justice of the Supreme Court, by my appointment; in like manner, Chief Justice Augustus S. Merrimon was succeeded by Justice Shepherd, and the vacancy thus created filled by the appointment of Hon. Armistead Burwell; to the position of Treasurer of the State, held by the late Hon. Donald W. Bain, Colonel Samuel McD. Tate was appointed.

#### FINANCES.

The Funding Act, chapter 98, Laws of 1879, which had been extended by the last Legislature, expired on July 1, 1892. The amount of bonds taken up by this act amounts

to \$11,405,545, for which four per cent. bonds have been issued amounting to \$3,298,950. There are yet outstanding of bonds that should have been funded \$1,221,500. If this Funding Act be extended, the amount of new four per cent. bonds required to take up the balance is \$316,820. The bonds known as construction bonds, bearing six per cent. interest, have been, by Act of March, 1879, taken up by a new six per cent. bond to the amount of \$2,720,000, and \$36,000 is the remainder of the issue which have not been presented for exchange. The dividends arising from the State's stock in the North Carolina Railroad Company are applicable to the payment of interest upon these six per cent. bonds. As the railroad stock yields \$180,000 annual dividends, there is, after paying interest on the six per cent. debt, an excess of \$16,800 annually, which remains in the Treasury. Of course, if the \$36,000 of the six per cent. construction bonds are presented for exchange, the interest charge upon them will be payable out of the dividends, and thereby reduce the present surplus to that extent.

From the above it will be observed that there have been issued in exchange for old bonds of four per cent. bonds, \$3,298,950; issued in exchange for old bonds of six per cent. bonds, \$2,720,000.

There are still outstanding of bonds which should have been exchanged, of forty per cent. class, \$318,500; of twenty-five per cent. class, \$539,700; of fifteen per cent. class, \$363,300; making a total of \$1,221,500, which would require of the four per cent. bonds to carry out the exchange \$316,820—thus making the possible four per cent. debt \$3,615,770.

As I conceive that it is best that the State debt should be settled in accordance with the Act of 1879, I respectfully recommend that this law be extended until the first of January, 1895.

I find the balance in the Treasury at the close of the fiscal year, November 30, 1892, to be: Educational fund, \$28,568.83; public fund, \$310,400.93.

From the public fund there is due and to be paid various appropriations, \$225,198.30, leaving a balance in the Treasury of the public fund, \$85,202.63.

There is in the Treasury, also, belonging to the State as an investment, in four per cent. bonds \$146,750, and in Alexander county bonds \$13,750, making a total of \$160,500.

The Board of Education has, as an investment, in four per cent. bonds \$99,250, and likewise in bonds recently bought \$30,000, which cost \$30,661, with accumulated interest; and in cash and bonds in the Treasury \$28,568.83; or a total of bonds, and cash and bonds, of \$157,818.83.

The estimated value of real and personal property furnished me by the Auditor is \$242,449,891.

I see from Governor Fowle's message to the General Assembly two years ago, that the estimated value of real and personal property was \$227,000,000, making a gain of \$15,500,000 in the last two years.

Tax valuation on railroads, steamboats and canals is \$20,141,760, an increase over two years ago of \$7,820,056.

#### PENSIONS.

The Auditor reports that he has issued warrants for the year 1892 to pensioners as follows:

|                | Class. | Number. | Amount Paid Cash, per Capita. | Total.       |
|----------------|--------|---------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Soldiers ..... | 1      | 51      | \$ 68 00                      | \$ 3,468 00  |
| Soldiers ..... | 2      | 236     | 51 00                         | 12,036 00    |
| Soldiers ..... | 3      | 367     | 34 00                         | 12,478 00    |
| Soldiers ..... | 4      | 1,239   | 17 00                         | 21,063 00    |
| Widows .....   | 4      | 2,818   | 17 00                         | 47,906 00    |
| Total .....    |        | 4,711   |                               | \$ 96,951 00 |

## BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

This is a comparatively new enterprise in this State, but has assumed considerable proportions in the last few years. There is no legislation in relation to these organizations. I think there should be appropriate legislation requiring such organizations to bear their proportion of the public burdens, and at the same time protecting the interests of our citizens against the mismanagement of their affairs under charters obtained from other States.

BALTZER AND TAAKS *v.* THE STATE.

The case of Baltzer and Taaks against the State of North Carolina is an exceedingly important suit, now pending on appeal in the Supreme Court of the United States. This action was brought by the plaintiffs in the Supreme Court of this State to establish an alleged claim against the State in favor of the plaintiffs as the holders of certain bonds issued by the State, known as Special Tax Bonds.

Under the Act of 1863, chapter 14, the State issued to the Raleigh and Augusta Air-Line Railroad Company, then known as the Chatham Railroad Company, two million dollars in bonds, and the Chatham Railroad Company delivered to the Public Treasurer, under the provisions of said act, two million dollars of its mortgage bonds in exchange for the bonds issued by the State. The railroad company disposed of two hundred and ninety-seven (297) of the bonds issued by the State to it, as above, and of these two hundred and ninety-seven bonds the plaintiffs hold one hundred and forty (140), the par value of which is one hundred and forty thousand (\$140,000) dollars.

The act under which the bonds were exchanged, as above, provided that the railroad company might at

any time discharge the mortgage bonds deposited by the company with the Public Treasurer, by substituting in lieu thereof the bonds issued to the company by the State, or by any other State bonds. The company, under this provision, desired to obtain from the State the mortgage bonds which the company had deposited with the Public Treasurer, and to effect this purpose the company delivered to the State seventeen hundred and three (1703) of the bonds which the State had originally issued to the company under the act, but were unable to deliver the remaining two hundred and ninety-seven (297) because these the company had disposed of. This made it necessary for the company to obtain other bonds of the State, and the company did so obtain two hundred and ninety-seven (297) valid bonds of the State; and with these added to the seventeen hundred and three (1703) above mentioned, the company had two million dollars in State bonds which they delivered to the Treasurer, and regained the two million dollars of mortgage bonds which they had originally deposited with the Treasurer. All the bonds so delivered to the State were burned. By the amendment to the Constitution of the State, Article 1, section 6, the General Assembly is prohibited from assuming or paying any of the two million dollars of bonds originally issued to the railroad company by the State. These bonds are of the class known as Special Tax Bonds, and are universally regarded as invalid and constituting no legal obligation of the State. The plaintiffs, holding one hundred and forty (140) of these bonds, instituted this action, alleging that they were entitled to recover of the State, not the value of the bonds which they hold (for they have no value) but the value of one hundred and forty (140) of the bonds which the railroad company deposited with the State in lieu of the bonds which are held by the plaintiffs, the bonds so deposited by the company having been among the bonds which were acknowledged by the State as being among its valid bonds.

The Supreme Court of North Carolina dismissed the action for want of jurisdiction, holding that the Court has no jurisdiction even to recommend to the General Assembly the payment of a bond which the Constitution prohibits the General Assembly from paying, and from this decision the plaintiffs have appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States, where the case is now pending.

I have briefly mentioned the facts involved in this litigation for your information, and because the suit involves a very large sum, to-wit, two hundred and ninety-seven thousand (\$297,000) dollars; for, if the plaintiffs shall succeed, the holders of the other bonds in like condition will also institute suit.

#### BANKS AND CURRENCY.

During the period of depression, which has affected alike mercantile and agricultural communities, our financial difficulties have been aggravated by the system of banking and currency for many years past. There have been many impracticable demands made upon the State and National governments by those who have been taught that legislation could remove the ills from which they suffer. Some of these losses and deficiencies result from natural causes: over-production and over-filled markets; the change of channels of trade; the opening of new areas of production; the keener competition from increased railway communication; the growth of new wants at home; the taste for the expensive and luxurious; and the lack of diversified industry and home production.

But, undoubtedly, two great factors in financial depression consist in high tariff and the present banking system. The residents of the great centres of commerce do not fully appreciate our needs. Men to whom money is easy, on call, at very low rates, having so large a portion of their wealth in convertible securities, cannot realize the

obstacles in the way of the agricultural communities, who seek for money for legitimate purposes at eight per cent. and lower.

The National banking system must go with the bonded debt of this country, and even much faster, so far as it is a factor in furnishing currency. If the affairs of the country shall be brought back to an economical basis, and the pension system reduced to its just proportions, rapid payments will occur again upon the principal of the debt, with a necessary shrinkage of the amount of bonds of the United States as a basis for banking.

The Democratic party has recognized this by incorporating a demand in its national platform for the repeal of the ten per cent. tax on State banks. The people have endorsed this by submitting to the party, after March 4 next, the entire responsibility of executive and legislative power, and it is reasonable to suppose that a repeal may take place before the next General Assembly of this State shall convene.

State banks are older than the Constitution of the United States. For example, the charter of the Bank of North America, by Massachusetts, was anterior to the formation of the Union. There is no reason whatever why a State bank should not be founded upon securities intrinsically as valuable, and as readily convertible in the money market, as United States bonds. The legislation against them by the United States was originally manifestly to give increased value to the bonds amid the uncertainties of war. The supposed interests of limited communities, and an unreasonable apprehension of loss to note-holders, have alone stood in the way of repeal of this pretense of taxation, but in reality prohibition, long since.

State bonds, municipal bonds, first-class securities, long and well approved in financial circles, ought to be sufficient basis, and I am frank to say that the charters of such banks ought to be so liberal and unencumbered that

they can loan to the mercantile and farming communities on proper security at not more than six per cent. With the present keen competition in trade, and small profits, six per cent. is sufficient, and the cry of the people for lower rates than they have been required to pay is reasonable.

But banks are ventures in business, not charitable institutions. If conditions are imposed which destroy reasonable profits, State banks will not be organized; or, if begun, will be quickly abandoned. I recommend the establishment of a uniform banking law, to become effective in the case of favorable legislation by Congress, without the necessity of waiting two years; all charters should be alike, with equal privileges to all, under a general law, and a financial board should be created to supervise the same, from the State officers.

Much apprehension has been expressed of this measure, because note-holders of banks established in remote localities upon improper security, in times of slow and difficult communication, suffered losses from the failure of said banks. But are the losses of stockholders and depositors of no consequence? It is certain that more money has been lost in North Carolina by the failure of National banks than by the breaking of any State bank, or banks, that ever existed in this Commonwealth.

These banks will meet a special want in preventing the congestion of money at the great centres, and the deprivation of the outlying communities in times of depression and financial distrust. If absent, they will go home, where no fear of their soundness will interrupt their circulation.

A significant sign of the times is the speech of Mr. Fairchild, Secretary of the Treasury under Mr. Cleveland, recently delivered at Boston, and equally significant is the applause received from business men. He declared "that the bank-note problem must be faced, and said, with equal emphasis, that there is no reason why the government should prevent a man from selling his personal obligation

to pay one dollar, or another man from receiving it. He claimed that the people had found that the bank-note system oiled the wheels of commerce as did the promissory note. He said there is no more sense in depriving the American people of one of the most useful devices of modern times, because sometimes someone suffers, than there is in depriving them of any other well known device of commercial facilitation."

To those who desire a system so devised as to favor the circulation throughout the Union of the notes of State banks, without immediate return for redemption from financial centres, what has been called the Alabama plan provides for a bank circulation based upon one-third specie, one-third State bonds, and one-third stock notes of subscribers, at six per cent., the stock to be held as collateral; redemption agencies to be established in New York, New Orleans, Louisville, and all bank centers in Alabama; all banks of the State to deposit five per cent. of circulation as a redemption fund for any broken bank of their number; the State Treasurer to hold the one-third of the State bonds, and to invest the specie third in four per cent. State bonds to be compounded semi-annually; the whole forming a fund more than large enough to redeem all notes at the expiration of the twenty years of charter. It is anticipated that notes would continue to circulate, or be held to secure accumulated interest at settlement upon expiration of charter.

I desire to emphasize no particular scheme or system, but earnestly recommend due preparation for the financial change impending, to give our citizens equal advantages with those of other States, keeping in mind that the great requisites are soundness of basis, flexibility of the currency, and such inducements for the use of capital that it will seek this channel, to the great relief of those who are developing the interests, agricultural, mechanical, and commercial, of our whole people.

## REVISION OF THE LAWS.

I direct your attention to the report of the able and learned Attorney General upon the subject of the revision of the Constitutional and Statutory laws of the State. The practical importance of this subject cannot be over-estimated, and, perhaps, no subject that you will be called upon to consider will be of greater consequence to the people of the State. It is of the greatest importance that our laws, touching the people as they do in every relation of daily life, should be plain in their language, convenient in form, and accessible, without money and without price, to the humblest citizen. It is apparent that the present Code no longer subserves the purposes of its compilation, and that the work of a new revision should be at once undertaken.

By reference to the report of the Secretary of State it will be seen that the number of copies of the Code of 1883 now on hand amount to a few hundred only, which that officer says will not supply the demands of the State for more than one year, and that a new publication of that Code to fill out the demand would cost as much as the publication of a revised Code.

I earnestly recommend that your Honorable Bodies take this matter into immediate consideration, and provide for the appointment of an appropriate commission to do this work.

The Attorney General also calls my attention to the necessity for a revision of the Constitution of the State, and suggests a method by which that could be best accomplished. I commend to your careful consideration that portion of his report pertinent to that subject. If the General Assembly shall see fit now to undertake this work of Constitutional revision, I suggest that it may well be committed to the same commission which may be charged with the revision of the Statutory law.

## LAW OF HOMICIDE.

I especially urge you to enact a statute creating degrees in the crime of murder. We have never changed the old common law rule in respect to homicide. While the distinction between murder and manslaughter is well drawn in the law books, experience daily demonstrates that it is not adequate to the efficient administration of the law. Our system takes no note whatever of the various elements of difference in the crime of murder, but it visits upon him who takes the life of a fellow-being from sudden impulse, but without technical provocation, the same dreadful results that follow the perpetration of the crime under circumstances of the most atrocious deliberation and malice. The result is that juries are often placed in the position of convicting a fellow-citizen of a crime for which death is the penalty, when their human instincts impel them to a milder punishment or acquitting the offender entirely. It is, perhaps, no reproach to their humanity or patriotism that they most frequently choose the latter alternative. If our law recognized different degrees in murder, this result would not so often occur. I believe that most of the States of the Union have adopted the rule that I have suggested, and experience has demonstrated that it works well. A bill for this purpose was introduced in the last General Assembly and passed the Senate, but it failed to be considered by the House of Representatives. My attention has been often called to this defect in our laws, in the exercise of the pardoning power conferred upon the Governor by the Constitution.

## UNIFORMITY IN STATE LAWS.

The object of this legislation is to secure in the States of the Union a uniform system of laws, regulating the most

important and frequently recurring conditions of our society. The intimate relation into which the people of one State are brought with those of their sister States of the Union by the marvellous development of the means of inter-communication, makes it highly desirable that they should have a simple but uniform standard by which their business relations shall be measured. As it is now, each State has its own local system, in which no consideration is given to those of the others. As a result, there is great confusion, conflict, and frequently serious pecuniary loss. Particularly is this so in the proof of the execution and authentication of deeds, wills, and other instruments upon which the titles of property depend, and in the laws regulating marriage and divorce, and those regulating the transmission and collection of commercial paper through the banks. These evils have become so oppressive that the business interests of the country have united in an appeal to the various Legislatures of the States to devise some means by which they can be remedied; and it has been thought that the most available method is that the subject be investigated and a plan recommended for adoption by a board of commissioners to consist of representatives from each State. This plan, as I understand it, when perfected, will be submitted to each of the States for adoption. The movement has the hearty support of some of the ablest statesmen and jurists of the Union, and has the endorsement of the American Bar Association and the National Board of Trade. I recommend that the General Assembly of North Carolina co-operate in this movement, and to this end provide for the appointment of Commissioners to confer with those from other States.

I am advised that a statute was enacted by the State of New York in 1889, appointing a commission composed of three persons to consider this topic and confer with similar commissioners that might be appointed in other States. Similar statutes were enacted subsequently by the States

of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Delaware, New Jersey, Georgia and Mississippi. The commissioners appointed under these statutes met at Saratoga, New York, on the 24th day of August last, and have submitted an elaborate report, a copy of which I transmit for your information.

#### THE BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES.

The full and comprehensive report of the Board of Public Charities, of which Dr. Charles Duffy, of Craven, is chairman, contains a summary of the reports of the several Asylums and State Hospitals, the Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, the State Penitentiary, the North Carolina Soldiers' Home, and the Oxford Orphan Asylum, in reply to the inquiries of the Board. It also presents, for the first time in the history of the State, a complete account of the construction, present condition and management of the county prisons and the homes for the aged and infirm throughout North Carolina. By a system of visitation established by the Board, through the aid of two hundred and fifty patriotic citizens, many of whom are among the most eminent in the State in every walk of life, and who give their services for the public good without compensation, the poor, the imprisoned, the orphan, the insane and the veteran have been visited from time to time, their needs ascertained, and steps taken for the removal of inconveniences and the improvement of such institutions as required change, repair or rebuilding. Those who have been familiar with the condition of many of the jails and "poor-houses" are aware of the great necessity for this inquiry and supervision, which had never before been extended over the State. Thus far only a beginning has been made, but it is with satisfaction that I refer you to a careful perusal of the report, to note the construction already in certain

counties of improved jails and homes, with modern appliances for proper heating, ventilation, water supply, etc.; improvement in diet, clothing and care of the helpless and infirm; the investigation of alleged inhumanities, etc. The tabulation of reports, whereby the county commissioners may compare their own with others, seems a valuable feature of this work.

There is scarcely anything in the public service that has been more imperatively required in order to fulfill our whole duty as a civilized and Christian people to the unfortunate of every class, and the thanks of the State are due to those who have contributed their self-sacrificing labors.

The suggestions of the Board in reference to the public institutions which have had their personal inspection I commend to your attention. The Board also presents the necessity for the establishment in North Carolina of a reform school for the charge of juvenile criminals.

#### NEED OF A STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

In the report of the North Carolina Penitentiary for the biennial term ending November 30, 1890, no less than 362 convicts under its control are said to be less than twenty years of age, and 56 under fifteen. According to reports from Sheriffs of the counties to the Board of Charities, upwards of 75 were in jail on December 1, and as they were usually committed to jail for short terms when of tender age, that number probably represents three times as many for the year. The Sheriff of one county (Mecklenburg) reports 50 under twenty years in his jail during the current year. Four under fifteen years are now in Wake jail, and many more at its work-house. Now there must be added the considerable number that escape sentence for first offences, owing to the commendable reluctance of Judges to place these youthful offenders in

association with hardened criminals, thus, in the majority of instances, dooming them to additional lessons in degradation and thereafter a life of crime. Something to stay this current of evil, loss of honest and industrious citizenship, and recruiting of the ranks of the enemies of society from the rising generation, is urgently needed. About forty such reform schools and reformatories have been established in the various States, except among our immediate neighbors of the Southern Atlantic States. Their statistics show the reformation and restoration to society of three-fourths to four-fifths of those committed to their care, and such institutions are constantly gaining in popular appreciation in England and America. I invoke your earnest consideration of the views of the Board of Charities, a committee of which body, in co-operation with those of various influential Christian, benevolent and educational bodies, will memorialize you upon this subject.

THE NORTH CAROLINA INSANE ASYLUM AT RALEIGH.

In calling your attention to the wants of this venerable Institution, I congratulate the State on its present able and satisfactory management in the interest of suffering humanity.

By law this Institution, with its limited capacity of only 204 rooms of 10 x 10 feet dimensions, is the sole receptacle of the insane from all the counties east of Person, Durham, Chatham, Moore and Richmond—the eastern boundaries of these counties being the dividing line between this Asylum and the State Hospital for the Insane at Morganton.

The report of the Board of Directors, and the comprehensive and exhaustive report of the Superintendent, Dr. William R. Wood, made to that body, fully explaining the urgent necessity existing for Infirmery and Hospital accommodations, with other important improvements

imperatively requisite in the Engineer and Laundry departments, are worthy of your careful consideration. From these reports it is unquestionably evident that there is pressing need for more extended accommodation for the rapidly accumulating insane of the eastern division of the State. The average number of insane provided for by this Institution during the past two years was 304 and a fraction, which number of inmates is far in excess of the number for which it was originally designed. Aside from this one fact of its wards being always too greatly overcrowded for the patients to enjoy to the fullest extent all the advantages conducive to their comfort and restoration, I doubt if its condition and management could be improved, except by increasing its dimensions and facilities, and will only add that something should be done, and done quickly, by the State to provide further accommodations commensurate with the many urgent demands constantly being made upon its too limited resources.

There are at the present time between 1,700 and 1,800 insane persons in our State needing all the comforts and advantages of asylum life. Only about one thousand of these experience the benefit of our charitable institutions. It is estimated that of the remainder one-third of them are partially cared for in the County Homes, or poor-houses, one-fifth confined in the county jails, and that largely more than one-half are actually unprovided for at all by either State or county authority. This estimate does not include idiots, imbeciles and numerous epileptics, whose friends are more or less persistent in their efforts to have them properly cared for in this and other asylums.

Fully one-half of all this suffering humanity justly deserves, and should have, accommodation in the North Carolina Insane Asylum, which, with its present limited space, is already too much overcrowded for the safety or wholesome treatment of its inmates.

In view of this sad, deplorable condition of so many of our unfortunate fellow-citizens, I do not deem it inconsistent with a conservative and beneficent public policy to urge upon the General Assembly the propriety and advisability of appropriating the sums necessary for increasing the capacity of this Institution, indicated for the purposes specified in the report of its Board of Directors.

#### THE STATE HOSPITAL AT MORGANTON.

The remarks in relation to the Insane Asylum at Raleigh, so far as management and successful administration are concerned, apply with full force to this great Institution, which has gradually increased in size and receptive ability until, from its original accommodations for 450, it now has under its care 522 patients, and has bestowed its benefits upon 650 during the past year.

No special appropriation has ever been made beyond the sums required for construction and support. But out of the appropriation for support in the past two years an associate dining-room has been constructed for the female patients, adjoining the south wing of the Hospital, 52 feet wide and 112 long, two stories high, at a cost of about \$14,000. By reason of allowing the separate dining-rooms in the wards to be changed to patients' rooms, this will provide for eighty additional female patients, at a *per capita* cost of \$175 only. Not only is this the case, but the Superintendent states that the advantages of the associated dining-room combine "less waste, more intelligent supervision, better conduct, getting rid of the odor of food in the wards, and cleanliness," and that the experiment has proved a success.

The Superintendent therefore urges the building of a similar associated dining-room for male patients in connection with the north wing, for which it is estimated that a special appropriation of \$9,000 per annum for two years

will be needed, or about \$18,000. The reasons therefor are that, on that side, the grading will be more expensive, the walls higher, and some extra boiler power will be required. The excess by economy in the use of the appropriation will not be available for use by reason of the increase already made of eighty patients, demanding hereafter the full annual appropriation of \$90,000, as at present, without taking into account further improvements.

The Hospital lands have been enlarged 80 acres, making in all about 500, of which 200 is in satisfactory cultivation.

The report contains valuable data in reference to the success attending the treatment of insanity in its early stages, and the present condition of the State in dealing with the problem of the care and cure of the insane.

All the improvements projected in the previous report seem to have been successfully carried out.

The police power given by the last Legislature has worked well.

The experiment of the admission of inebriates has not been satisfactory, but repeal of the law is not recommended.

I congratulate you upon the efficient administration of this great charity.

#### THE EASTERN HOSPITAL AT GOLDSBORO.

This Institution, confessedly the first ever especially constructed for the colored insane, has now in charge 272 patients, the total number during the year having been 338. It is gratifying to observe that the large mortality, formerly supposed to be incidental to the ravages of disease among the class for which the Institution was built, has decreased, and under the careful and judicious administration of Dr. J. F. Miller the percentage of deaths to the number under treatment has sunk to  $5\frac{2}{10}\%$ , and the percentage of recoveries of the number admitted is about

40 per cent. The Superintendent repeats the same sad account in the history of the insane everywhere, that the demand for accommodation outruns the available room. Various improvements are mentioned in detail, and the needs of the Institution recapitulated. A well of 305 feet in depth has been sunk, furnishing an abundant supply of water for all purposes, clear and pleasant to the taste. A three-story brick building has been erected, to be utilized as a workshop, laundry and associate dormitory, and it is contemplated to make the present laundry an associate dining-room, and thus make some additional room for patients. The last annual appropriation was \$33,000. Accommodation for 30 patients has been added, making the capacity of the Institution 280 patients, for which there will now be absolutely needed \$35,000, according to the estimate of the Superintendent. The per capita cost is perhaps as small as any institution in the country, viz., \$117.85. The Superintendent states that there is need of accommodation for 50 males and 50 females. To erect there two buildings and furnish them with water, heat, lights, sewerage and bed furniture, will require \$30,000. Machinery for the new laundry is also needed, and more land for the occupation of the patients, nearly all of whom are farmers. The building constructed was, however, nearly all done, except painting and turning, by the labor of the patients, under competent direction.

NORTH CAROLINA INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB AND  
THE BLIND AT RALEIGH.

This Institution, which has always enjoyed the fostering care of the General Assembly as one of the greatest public blessings, has closed another season of arduous labors, the past year having witnessed the largest number under its charge in its history, there being a daily average

of one hundred deaf and dumb and sixty-five blind in the white department, and sixty-three in the colored. These have been cared for and instructed at a per capita cost of about one hundred and ninety (\$190) dollars, the annual appropriation being forty thousand (\$40,000) dollars. The number of blind in the State, as reported, is 459 white and 266 colored. Forty deaf-mutes and eight blind are applying for admission, as per files, besides the large number of others whose applications have been discouraged, in view of the crowded condition of the Institution. Only such repairs as were absolutely necessary have been made. Only one death has occurred, and no epidemic disease. At the very best, it is not anticipated that the new Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, located at Morganton, can be opened for inmates before the autumn of 1893, if then, and it will be necessary to make provision for both classes in this Institution until that time.

In view of the contemplated change, it would be desirable during the summer months of vacation to make such improvements as the Board recommends for the benefit of the blind. The advantage of the introduction of a very full and satisfactory water supply from the city water-works is obvious. The pains and care bestowed upon the moral and intellectual instruction of these unfortunates is most commendable, and the daily religious exercises observed by all. The blind also attend the churches in the capital on Sunday, while the deaf-mutes have a lecture and scripture lesson and Sunday-school at the Institution.

Permit me to call your attention to the necessity, as pointed out by the efficient President of the Board, that the blind are far more helpless than the deaf and dumb, and that a larger per capita cost must always be expended for them. It may be reasonably expected that the deaf and dumb, when appropriately situated, may contribute very largely to their own support by farming, gardening,

care of live stock for the dairy, etc. In that way the annual cost of their care in an Institution may be considerably reduced; but no such expectation can be realized in the case of the blind, shut up in hopeless darkness. Long years of painstaking labor must elapse before they can acquire a moderate capacity of self-help. As their infirmity is so great, it calls for more generous aid from those blessed with sight, and I doubt not that it will receive it at your hands.

THE NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB,  
AT MORGANTON.

The act creating this Institution was passed near the close of the session of the General Assembly of 1891, and provided that it should furnish free tuition and board for white deaf and dumb persons between eight and twenty-three years of age. The Board of Directors selected organized April 23, 1892, electing a Secretary and Treasurer and an Advisory Superintendent, the latter without salary. The site selected was a tract of 213 acres, within three-fourths of a mile of the court-house. The building faces north, 39 degrees east, and the sun can shine into every room during the day. The plan is that of a building 256 by 162 feet, of three stories. See Report of the Board of Public Charities for details of the structure and its 150 rooms. Water supply is hoped for by a gravitation plant of 25,000 gallons daily. The progress already made consists of the foundation of the entire buildings laid, and the walls ready to put on second-floor joist, with all wood and iron work necessary thus far. About 1,200,000 brick have been laid, with window and door frames in place, leaving about one-third of the brick work to be finished; also yet to be roofed, floored, plastered and finished. Thus far \$25,000 have been expended; \$20,000 from the State, and \$5,000 from the citizens of Morganton. It will

require \$60,000 to place the building in readiness for occupancy, including heating, lighting, water supply, and furnishing. It will accommodate 250 pupils, and it is desired to occupy it by September 15, 1893. It is modelled after the general plan of the main building of the Philadelphia Institution (for Pennsylvania), believed to be the best adapted for such purposes in the world. The Advisory Superintendent has the names and addresses of over 600 persons under the age of instruction (twenty-three) who are deaf-mutes, in North Carolina, and estimates the whole number at 800. It is proposed to teach many branches of industry, farming, gardening, cabinet-making, printing, etc., in the new Institution.

#### THE OXFORD ORPHAN ASYLUM,

under charge of Rev. Dr. W. S. Black, is pursuing its beneficent work by the support and education of 213 orphan children, about equally divided as to sex. During the current year 25 have been admitted, and 23 discharged by homes for the adopted, and positions secured for others. The average age of admission is eight years, and the period of stay in the Asylum about nine years. Besides the branches of a good English education, various trades are taught, and domestic arts, and about 100 acres land are kept in cultivation.

The Institution receives from the State annually \$10,000, from the Grand Lodge of Masons \$2,500, and voluntary contributions from private individuals and religious bodies; but the voluntary support is less than heretofore, on account of the increase of orphanages. Many are refused for want of room, and fifteen in excess of proper accommodations are now cared for. During the year \$2,040 was expended for needful repairs, improvements and additions. In reply to the question of the Board of Public Charities as to the cost of maintenance of fifty children,

if taken from those now reported in the county homes, growing up in degraded associations and without education, the Superintendent replies that \$5,000, a per capita of \$100, would accomplish the object. From one-half to two-thirds of this is now used by the counties to pay for the bare existence of these unfortunate orphans.

#### THE NORTH CAROLINA SOLDIERS' HOME.

The question of a Soldiers' Home was discussed by our citizens for about fifteen years, and some attempts made to realize it, until in October, 1889, the "Confederate Veterans' Association" adopted a resolution that a home for helpless disabled veterans was a necessity, and by August, 1890, had secured in money and good notes about \$3,000. By instruction of the Executive Committee, the Secretary, W. C. Stronach, Esq., of Wake, who has been foremost in this good work, opened the Home to applicants in the building first used therefor. The General Assembly, by Act of February 16, 1891, appropriated \$3,000 per annum, and donated what is known as the "Camp Russel" property. It consisted of five acres of land, and some old buildings built of undressed pine. These were reconstructed, and now make a comfortable summer residence, but it lacks much in winter. The accommodations of the Home have not met with public expectation, as the rooms, intended for forty, now contain fifty-four disabled veterans, five of whom are helpless, at a weekly per capita cost of \$1.20. They are indebted to the kindness of the city physicians and ministers for medical attention and religious services. There have been seventy-four admissions, seven deaths and thirteen discharges. Applications for admission are increasing. The Superintendent asks, through the Board of Charities, for an appropriation of \$10,000 for suitable buildings, \$6,000 for annual support, and a sufficient salary for a resident Superintendent, who

should also act as Steward, and be a man of character and education.

The gratitude of all good citizens is due to those who have begun the work of rescuing from destitution and bodily suffering the tottering heroes who surrendered their all to obey the command of North Carolina, and whose bodies were spent and broken in the service. I believe this pious undertaking will be encouraged by you to such an extent as you feel the State is now able to furnish the means, in connection with all the claims that honor and justice and the best interests of the whole people demand.

In presenting the various objects of State charity to your notice, I sympathize with you in a jealous regard for the rights of the taxpayer; nor do I urge you to the adoption of any measures that will involve unnecessary and improper burdens upon the patriotic and law-abiding people of the State; but we must not lose sight of the increase of population and the aggregation of real and personal property, which annually advances; the new subjects of taxation that will hereafter increase the financial resources, the demands of the enlightened age and time for wider philanthropy, the actual financial saving in the diminution of suffering infirmity, crime and ignorance. We render our State a happier home for its people; we place it in its proper rank among the most humane and progressive communities of the world. Viewed purely from the standpoint of the self-interest that moves the world of business, there can be no doubt that every dollar ever expended by North Carolina in works of humanity and charity for the suffering of her population has been fully repaid.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, which is herewith submitted, shows that the general machinery of the system is in good working condition.

The Superintendent recommends but few changes. He emphasizes the fact that, under a Constitution requiring in the most mandatory terms an annual four months school term, we have only thirteen weeks.

The Supreme Court, in a case from Bladen county, has affirmed the former decision to the effect that the General Assembly cannot constitutionally require the County Commissioners to exceed the constitutional limitation of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  cents on property and \$2.00 on the poll. The Court, however, intimates that, if the question were before them, they might find some way by which the General Assembly could themselves comply with the constitutional requirement, in the following language: "Were the question presented to us of the power of the General Assembly to deal with the matter, and provide adequate means for the necessary expenses incident to the maintenance of the public schools, under the requirement of Article IX, by general taxation, unfettered by any limitation in Article V, section 1, in the same manner as they may provide for a casual deficit, or for the payment of the public debt or interest on the same, or for the suppression of insurrection or invasion, we might find a solution of the apparent difficulty which has resulted in the failure of some county to maintain the schools for at least four months in the year. But, as the question may never arise, we will not discuss it."

The Superintendent urges that this mandate of the Constitution shall be complied with by an increase of the levy for schools on the part of the General Assembly from the present 15 cents on the one hundred dollars and 45 cents on the poll, to 20 cents on property and 60 cents on the poll. This, he estimates, will give the required four months, and at this figure he thinks we can rest the *general* school levy indefinitely.

The Superintendent also recommends that section 2654 of The Code be so amended as to allow the different com-

munities to vote additional taxes, and sufficient to continue their schools as long as they may desire. This section, as it now stands, allows a vote of only 10 cents on the one hundred dollars, and requires one-third of the freeholders to petition before the vote can be commanded.

#### THE UNIVERSITY.

Among the public institutions of North Carolina, there is none that brings to our people a larger harvest of blessings than the State University. For nearly a century it has existed as the chief glory and best possession of the State. Other public institutions, for the restraint and punishment of criminals, or for the care and support of the deaf and dumb and the blind, and the insane, have necessarily made heavy drafts upon the Treasury, giving our people in return the satisfaction which comes from the performance of a humane, Christian duty. But the University, through the bounty of philanthropists, and by wise and prudent financial administration, has added to the wealth of the State year by year, until it now embraces more than half a million dollars in property, of which not \$25,000 came from the State Treasury. The University is the best business investment ever made by the State. But what words can express, or what figures describe, the value of the service rendered by this Institution for nearly a century, the service of training and guiding for each generation those incalculable human forces, character and intellect, which are greater than all material wealth, and which are essential everywhere to the maintenance of society and the preservation of civil and religious liberty. In the darkness of the Revolution, before the day of liberty had yet dawned, our ancestors framed the Constitution of the State, and with wisdom, amounting to prescience, built the foundations of the University upon the rock of the Constitution. As we behold to-day the work of their

hands, and rejoice in the growth of the University, we may well exclaim, "Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

#### THE UNIVERSITY AND THE CHURCH COLLEGES.

Eight years ago, as a member of the House of Representatives from Alamance county, it was my privilege to aid in making an appropriation for the support of the University. No act of my public life was animated by a stronger desire to promote the welfare of North Carolina, or guided by a clearer vision as to what was best for her interests. It was declared by some at that time that the success of the University would be the destruction of the church colleges. These prophecies are, happily, unfulfilled, as I then declared they would be. During the eight years that have elapsed every church college in the State has increased its endowment fund, its equipment for instruction, and the number of its students. The conflict between these institutions and the University is entirely imaginary. Each helps the other by stimulating friends to greater energy and philanthropy, as well as by stirring up among the people a wider and deeper interest in higher education. When the University has a thousand students, every church college will have twice as many as now. The State of North Carolina needs a University quite as fully as any denomination within its borders needs a college. The whole is greater than any of its parts. Let us have both Colleges and the University, and let it be understood that Church and State are, and forever must be, separate and distinct, not only in government but also in education. It would be an outrage, on the one hand, for the State to obstruct or hinder the growth of a church college; and the church colleges, on the other hand, should regard the State

University not as a hostile rival, but as a friend and co-worker in education, precisely as the State government should be regarded by the churches as a friend and co-worker in maintaining society. My friendship for church colleges is indicated by the fact that I am a member of the Board of Trustees, and, for a long time, both of the executive committee and of the finance committee, of Davidson College. I am loyal to the college of my church, and I am loyal to the University of my State.

The University is a State Institution as fully as the Penitentiary, the Asylums, the Legislature, or the Courts, and it deserves from the State the same wise and fostering care. It is managed by a Board of Trustees elected by the Legislature; and its management is open to public investigation, criticism and correction. I am happy to say that its management is free from bias, prejudice or prepossession, political, social, local or religious. The youth of the State are cordially welcome to its fine opportunities for culture, regardless of whether they be rich or poor, Democrats, Republicans or Populists, Baptists, Methodists, Catholics, Hebrews, Friends, Christians, Lutherans, Episcopalians or Presbyterians.

#### THE NEEDS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

The University is doing its full duty by the State. It now has 300 students, and its fame is extending over the Union. But the State is not doing its duty by the University. It has always been my ambition as a public man and as a private citizen to aid in promoting the best interests of our people and in developing our native State, and there is nothing that appeals so strongly to my sense of duty, or to my conception of what is best for North Carolina, as the development of the University. This development should be effected by the aid of the State, which cannot always expect philanthropists to do her

work. Such departments as are essential to a great University should be added to the Institution. Among these are a Department of Normal Instruction for the training of male teachers, and a Department of Pharmacy for the training of pharmacists. There is no Institution in North Carolina for the training of white male teachers, although provision is made for the training of white female teachers, and also for the training of colored teachers of both sexes. This is a serious gap in our educational system, as is pointed out by our wise and faithful Superintendent of Public Instruction. I cordially endorse his suggestion that a Chair of Normal Instruction be established at the University for the training of white male teachers. Such an arrangement, by utilizing departments of instruction in other branches already existing at the University, will not only provide at small expense suitable normal training for teachers, but will give to this profession the power, the enthusiasm, the culture and the ambition that spring from a great University. I have rejoiced to see the influence of the University steadily exerted in behalf of popular education, and I am confident that such a department would find there a welcome home. The University should be both the head and the heart of our educational system.

A Chair of Pharmacy at the University and a small laboratory, both sustained at very little expense, would suffice to establish, in connection with the other existing departments, a thoroughly equipped School of Pharmacy. The importance of such a school is universally recognized. The necessity of technical training for pharmacists is established by the laws of our State, and the only question is whether scores of our young men shall be forced annually to go elsewhere for instruction which could be given here quite as efficiently, and far more economically. This profession, too, would be much aided by the broad University culture, as well as by technical training.

I consider it the proper policy of our State to group its professional schools at the University. Such an arrangement gains both in economy and in power. We have already Schools of Medicine, of Law and of Engineering at the University. Let there be added Schools of Pharmacy and of Normal Instruction.

The number of students at the University is already too large to be accommodated in the present buildings, and there are sure indications of a large increase next year. There is an imperative need of a new dormitory, and I earnestly recommend its immediate erection. There is need also of a small building, isolated from the others, to serve as an infirmary, where the sick may be provided with suitable comforts and nursing.

The large property now existing at the University should be put in perfect repair. The State must see to it that buildings donated by philanthropists are not allowed to decay for lack of roofs. Such material comforts and conveniences as are now ranked among the decent arrangements of life must be provided for the choicest youths of the State, while they are receiving intellectual, physical and moral culture that would do credit to any University in America. It is the plain duty of the State to repair all its buildings at the University, and to supply them with water, lights and other conveniences essential to health and decency. Doubtless the Institution has other needs. If so, they should be supplied.

Let the State perform its duty to the University. There is reason to believe that this Institution is entering upon a noble career of enlarged honor and usefulness; that it will grow and expand until it becomes again the great Southern University. Its halls will be filled with hundreds of students from our sister States, and it will be the centre of Southern culture and refinement.

Every consideration demands that we pursue no narrow nor niggardly policy in dealing with this noble Institu-

tion; nor is it less our sworn duty, for the Constitution commands us to support and maintain the University.

THE STATE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL AT GREENSBORO.

The recent establishment of the Normal and Industrial School marks an epoch in our educational life. It is, in one respect, a notable departure from the policy pursued heretofore by this and many other States. For more than a century North Carolina has acknowledged her obligation to provide for the higher education of men, but until a few months ago there was no institution where the State offered to her women educational privileges beyond those provided in the public schools. When we consider the subject upon its own merits, and apart from influences of habit and prejudice, it is surprising that, as a people, we have been so slow to appreciate what was the just heritage of the noblest part of our population. The elevation of woman is the supreme test of the enlightenment of any race. It is the grand corollary of the demonstrated truth of our holy religion. It is cause for general rejoicing that such a manifestly unjust and short-sighted policy is to be continued no longer. It is especially gratifying to me that the history of the present administration will include the inauguration of our first State Institution offering the advantages of a liberal education to women.

The Normal and Industrial School is located at Greensboro, where thirty thousand dollars was voted unanimously by the people, and a beautiful and valuable site given, to secure the location. The Institution began its first year's work on the 5th of October with a large number of matriculates. The present enrollment is 198. The reports of the officers of the Institution, to which I ask your attention, inform me that no effort has been made to secure this large patronage. On the contrary, a large number applied for admission who could not be received,

and the attendance would have gone beyond three hundred already, if the boarding accommodations had been sufficient. The patronage comes from every section of the State, and the large number of applicants indicates a general need for such an Institution. The Normal and Industrial School, as the name implies, offers a course of study with the special purpose of fitting young women for the teaching profession and for industrial pursuits. Its main purpose is to prepare women "for the school-room, the home, and the business office." To do this its work must necessarily emphasize the practical side of education. It is to this fact, probably, as much as to the cheaper rates, made possible by the State's appropriation, that the large attendance is due.

I would recommend that the General Assembly deal liberally with their Normal and Industrial School. Every dollar invested in such an Institution as it gives promise of becoming will repay the State ten-fold. Moreover, there is no reason why the State should deal less generously with its daughters than it does with its sons. This is true at all times; but under present conditions, when the State has two Institutions for men of the white race, and six for both sexes of the colored race, when the leading religious denominations have endowed colleges for men but none for women, the Normal and Industrial School ought to find it necessary only to show its needs for carrying out its great purposes, to secure a liberal response from an intelligent body of legislators.

I respectfully call your attention to the report of the Board of Directors. The report shows the total value of property not mortgaged to be \$62,077.11, on which there is a debt of \$9,475.44. It also shows that the Board purchased from Messrs. Pullen and Gray, for \$9,000, three and one-half acres of land, on which they (Pullen and Gray) had erected, with all necessary appendages, one house with ten rooms, and another with twenty-two rooms.

For this sum the Board of Directors gave their obligation, payable October 1, 1893, and a mortgage on the same to secure its payment. The Board asks for an appropriation to pay these two debts, \$18,475.44. The whole value of the property is \$71,077.11. They ask an annual appropriation of \$15,000. With this appropriation they will gradually increase the accommodations for dormitories and class-rooms, and provide the necessary additional teaching force.

I believe that it is a conceded fact that, as the University has increased in its usefulness, and in the number of students in attendance, the denominational colleges have also largely increased their endowments and added to their number of students. This being so, is it not reasonable to suppose that this Institution, aided by the State, for the education of her daughters, will cause a similar state of affairs in our denominational female seminaries?

THE NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND  
MECHANIC ARTS.

The interesting report of the present organization, and the progress of this Institution, designed to supply a great want by training skilled mechanics and agriculturists for the workshops and farms of North Carolina, announces the approaching graduation of its first class, and the tone of confidence in the evidence they will present of the practical value of the Institution heralds, it is hoped, the growth of an abiding State pride in its gradual development to the highest degree of usefulness.

The President of the Board of Trustees, one of the ablest and most efficient of the friends of the college, points out that, practically, after January 1, 1893, the Institution is without any pecuniary aid or appropriation from the State, since the \$7,500 received as interest on the landscript fund, contributed by the United States

towards its establishment, is not derived from the taxation of the people. The means formerly obtained from the fertilizer fund of the State Agricultural Department being no longer available, the Trustees ask for an appropriation of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) annually for support, and state that such sum is the least that the Institution can proceed with, as now constituted, without the erection of additional accommodations, which have been postponed for some years, until the State is better able to appropriate, and the College itself has demonstrated the necessity to the people.

They further ask that the tract of land known as the Camp Mangum property, to which they relinquished a claim from a former grant of the General Assembly, in favor of the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, upon a proposal to create thereupon an Industrial School for the Deaf and Dumb, be restored to them, to be utilized by the College. This is to take effect, provided no farther provision for the Deaf and Dumb is to be made involving the use of said land.

The above requests would seem to be reasonable in view of the need of utilizing the means already provided for, by large expenditures from the United States Government, and from the former operation of the fertilizer tax. It would seem to be poor economy to deny now the annual support to render the admirable service to the State which the Trustees and Faculty are prepared to give. I therefore cheerfully endorse their requests, and recommend them to your consideration and action. The entire appropriation by the Assembly of 1891 of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) was expended in the construction of dormitories, barns, etc., and the addition of engine, tools and machinery, as detailed in the report, all of which are now available for use.

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

By act of the General Assembly, an Agricultural and Mechanical College for the colored race was established, and Messrs. J. M. Early and others elected as a Board of Trustees. At their first meeting in Raleigh, June 23, 1891, organization was permanently effected by the choice of Mr. W. H. Pace as President, and J. S. Leary as Secretary. After various meetings, and the examination of propositions offered by various towns to secure the location of the College, that of Greensboro was accepted, including twenty-five acres of land within the city limits and the sum of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000). On these grounds a three-story brick college, 108 by 78 feet across the centre, is now being built; it is in the form of a cross, hip-roofed, with dormer windows, of uniform red brick laid in red mortar, and trimmed with white granite. The value of the property donated to the State is estimated at fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000). J. O. Crosby has been chosen President, and his report is herewith transmitted. The present annual appropriation is two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500). The College authorities state that an increase of the annual appropriation will be required, and in addition thereto the sum of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000), to include six thousand dollars (\$6,000) each for a building that will accommodate from eighty to one hundred students, for two dormitories and workshops that will cost not less than four thousand dollars (\$4,000).

As the College was not permanently located until April 27, 1892, its active operations were begun by the use of Shaw University as an annex, and the services in part of two of the professors of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts at Raleigh. Instruction in horticulture, mechanical drawing, agriculture and other subjects was given to about two hundred students,

and seventy-seven in the various workshops, which were supplied with a six-horse power engine and suitable machinery.

#### THE COLORED ORPHAN ASYLUM AT OXFORD.

This Asylum was established eight years ago. The last Legislature, Chapter 530, Laws of 1891, appropriated the sum of one thousand dollars annually, to be paid quarterly, for its support, and required the Directors to make a detailed account of the operations of each year, stating fully all receipts and expenditures, to the Governor of the State, which report shall be transmitted by the Governor to the General Assembly at each session. The report is herewith submitted. Fifty children are being cared for, and petitions are coming in daily. They are instructed in the common branches of English, and are taught to work on the farm, needle-work, etc.

#### STATE PENITENTIARY.

I respectfully call your attention to the Biennial Report of the Directors of this Institution, which shows that, by giving them credit for the value of the permanent improvements made on the farms, and for crops, stock, and other valuable property purchased and now on hand, the Institution has been more than self-sustaining during the past two years. The report shows (Exhibit B) what these assets consist of and their value. The report also shows number of farms, where located, number of acres of each, annual rental, and option price.

The Board did not adopt the present scale of farming as a matter of choice, but of necessity, foreseeing, as they did, that railroad work would cease certainly for a time. Without this provision, the larger portion of the convict force would for the greater part of this last year have

been locked up within the prison walls in absolute idleness—an expense without hope of return, and not in execution of the sentence under which they were committed.

Being without railroad work has enabled them to put the farms in excellent condition, for which the State will be reimbursed in the future. Should railroad building be resumed, these farms could *now* be cultivated with the class of convicts graded as farm laborers—the old and young, women and diseased, with only a few able-bodied men for the heavy work. The Board unquestionably recommend that these lands be bought at the very reasonable option prices taken at the time of their lease. In this opinion I fully concur, as I can conceive of no plan by which those convicts described above can be better employed. The Committee on Penal Institutions of the Legislature two years ago thought favorably of the purchase of the Roanoke farms, but delay was suggested and adopted on account of the reported unhealthfulness of the locality. That delay has demonstrated from actual experience, as the physicians' reports show, that, with proper drainage and thorough sanitary rules adopted and enforced, a health record hardly equalled elsewhere can be obtained. For that purpose the Board recommends the issuing of four per cent. bonds in amount sufficient to pay for them, and that said bonds be charged to the Penitentiary, and this Institution be required to set apart sufficient sums from its earnings to pay the semi-annual interest as it shall fall due. If this be done, it will be a saving from the rents now paid of \$3,303.65, which might be set aside as a sinking fund for the redemption of these bonds.

Two years ago they recommended the establishment of some industry in the Penitentiary for life prisoners, those who are disposed to be insubordinate and dangerous, attempting to escape and inciting others to do so, and a certain other class of feeble men, who are almost worthless on the farms, and that industry they suggested should

be the manufacture of plug tobacco. For this purpose they have all the necessary buildings, with boiler and steam-heating fixtures, and the only additional cost will be the plant, at from ten to fifteen thousand dollars, and a sufficient sum for working capital.

This industry would not be in competition with any mechanical or skilled labor, and would be exactly suitable to our prison population. If this industry is deemed unadvisable some other must be adopted, for at least five hundred men will be out of work of any kind upon the completion of the diking on the Caledonia farm, and whatever that industry may be, an appropriation will be needed for the purchase of the plant and material. From experience with the disabled class in farming, the Board thinks that, with the better and more valuable class of labor, the able-bodied, it can be made to pay, certainly very nearly so, and an equipment for this purpose would cost less than that for any other.

Permit me to repeat that unless there is a revival of railroad building in the State (which does not now seem to be in sight), you will be *compelled* to establish a plant of *some* kind in order to give employment to about 500 able-bodied convicts, or keep them idle within the prison walls at the expense of the taxpayers.

There is much complaint on the part of the citizens of Northampton and Halifax counties because of the turning loose upon them of criminals who have served out their sentence, who remain among them because of the want of means to reach their homes from whence they came. This, I suggest, could be remedied by enacting a law to the effect that the Penitentiary authorities give them a ticket to the nearest railroad station to their homes, with necessary rations, in lieu of commutation money as now allowed for good behavior. This arrangement would be but very little additional cost to the State, if any.

The Board having exhausted the clay on the Brickyard farm, and not being able to utilize it profitably, recommend its sale. In this recommendation I concur, and would respectfully ask that you pass an act authorizing its sale.

#### THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The General Assembly, at its session in 1891, passed an act establishing a Geological Survey of the State of North Carolina.

On the 17th of March, 1891, the Geological Board, as authorized by said act, met in the Executive office and organized by electing Professor J. A. Holmes, of the University of North Carolina, State Geologist, who was commissioned as such on May 1, 1891, on which date he entered upon the duties of his office.

The survey has, therefore, been in operation only a year and a half. During this time the work has had to be planned and organized, the men had to be appointed and made acquainted with and drilled in new methods of investigation in new fields of labor. The first reports, embodying the results of the work, will soon be printed. Of course it is now, before a single report has been distributed, too early to discuss the practical benefits to the State resulting from this work and expenditure. But even during this short time, and under these circumstances, and during an absorbing political excitement liable to cause undue caution in making investments, the survey has answered a constant demand for information concerning our mineral resources, and a careful estimate shows that more than half a million of dollars have been invested in our mineral products. This alone is sufficient to show that the last General Assembly, in re-establishing the Geological Survey with almost unparalleled unanimity, made no mistake. During the next few years the

conditions for investments in the Southern States will be most favorable, and the demand for accurate information concerning the climate, soil, forests and mineral resources of each of the States will be greatly increased. In preparing to meet this demand for information, North Carolina should do her full duty. She cannot afford to do otherwise. At a time like this, a geological survey is not to be considered a luxury which a rich State may enjoy; it is, for a State like ours, an essential feature in our progress. We do not possess great coal fields like Pennsylvania, which would force themselves unaided into notice, but our mineral products are more varied, and require more time and labor for their discovery and description, and, in the aggregate returns, the results more than compensate for the required expenditure. Thus far the work has been largely limited to the Western counties, this being the only region of which we have accurate maps, but it is the intention of the Board to extend the investigations to all parts of the State as rapidly as possible; and it would be a wise policy—a saving of money in the long run—to increase the appropriation for the survey, so that its work may be extended over the State to completion, and the results published more rapidly than will be possible on the present basis.

The United States Geological Survey has continued the topographic survey of the State, and has already mapped the counties extending from the Tennessee boundary line into the Piedmont region—about one-fourth our total area—at a cost of about fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). In a few years more we may expect to have a map made from the actual surveys of the entire State, on a scale large enough for all practical purposes, and one that will be of incalculable benefit to our people.

The following reports will be published sometime during the month of January, 1893, and copies will be furnished each member of the General Assembly, as provided by the act establishing the survey:

1. Biennial Reports of the State Geologist for 1891-'92; to include (1) an historical account of the former geological surveys, and (2) a statement of the methods, results and expenditures of the present survey.

2. BULLETIN No. 1.—Iron Ores in North Carolina, by H. B. C. Nitze.

3. BULLETIN No. 2.—Building Stones in North Carolina, by J. V. Lewis and J. A. Holmes.

4. BULLETIN No. 3.—Minerals and Mineral Localities of North Carolina, by W. C. Kerr, F. A. Genth and others.

5. BULLETIN No. 4.—The Timber Trees of North Carolina, their Distribution and Uses, by Gifford Pinchet and W. W. Ashe.

THE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT AND FERTILIZER CONTROL  
STATION.

Your attention is respectfully called to the Seventh Biennial Report of this Department for the two years ending December 31, 1892.

The work of this Station, organized by act of 1887, for the purpose of carrying on experiments to aid in the advancement of our State's agriculture, as well as to assume chemical control of the fertilizer trade in the State, has continued to be one of great usefulness. How well it has performed its latter duty, the increased value of fertilizers sold and the decreased cost to purchasers, abundantly show. Farmers buy now, and with far more confidence, for three million dollars, more and better fertilizers than they could buy for four million in 1877. The work of the Agricultural Experiment Station, and the consequent value to our farmers and others, has been largely increased by the aid given it by the general government. Its agricultural, its chemical, its botanical and entomological, its horticultural, its meteorological divisions, all are working for the agricultural interests of North Carolina, and the results recorded, besides being of great permanent value, are deservedly appreciated by our people.

## RAILROAD COMMISSION.

The General Assembly, at its session of 1891, passed an act entitled "An Act to provide for the general supervision of railroad, steamboat or canal companies, express and telegraph companies doing business in the State of North Carolina." Chapter 320, Laws of said session.

The Legislature elected (as provided by the above-named act) Major James W. Wilson, of Burke county, to serve for two years; Captain T. W. Mason, of Northampton county, to serve for four years, and Mr. E. C. Beddingfield, of Wake county, to serve for six years. This Board met in this city on April 1, 1891, as required by law, and organized by electing Major James W. Wilson chairman, and Mr. H. C. Brown clerk.

Your attention is respectfully asked to the annual reports of the said Commissioners submitted to your honorable bodies.

Whatever may have been, at the time of the passage of the act, the different views as to its advisability, there is now but one opinion that its wise and conservative enforcement of the law has accomplished great good, and at the same time maintained a most friendly relation with the corporations.

In a brief way I will call your attention to what it has accomplished, as shown by the reports. I find all proper complaints for abuses for overcharges of freights, under their jurisdiction, have been adjusted; better depot facilities have been established at many points, and at other points depots have been ordered to be erected; freight rates have been reduced at a saving to the shippers of about two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) per annum; passenger rates about two hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$220,000) per annum; express business has been simplified, and rates reduced; telegraph business has been simplified, and rates reduced about fifty (50) per

cent. My attention was called by the Commission to the fact that steamboats plying within the waters of North Carolina had never been listed for taxation, and that, in the act creating the Commission, no power had been granted it to assess the same. I promptly directed them to be listed, thus adding two hundred and ninety thousand dollars (\$290,000) to the taxable property upon which the revenue for this year is being collected. Pullman cars, though heretofore assessed in the Machinery Act for taxation, had escaped the same; they are now bearing their proportion of the public burden. The Seaboard System has now relinquished all claim to exemption from taxation; the Wilmington and Weldon, claiming entire exemption, was taxed by the Commission on its main line from Halifax to Weldon, and on all its branch lines, believing that the exemption clause was not applicable to these lines, and in their opinion they have been sustained by the Supreme Court of the United States—a decision of incalculable advantage to the State in many ways other than the great increase of taxable property.

On the establishment of the Commission the corporations were assessed for taxation at \$12,321,704; by the Commission at \$20,141,760; showing an increase of \$7,820,056; making an increased revenue to the State and counties of about seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000), and indirectly the much larger sum, as shown above, in the saving by passenger, freight and telegraph reductions.

#### RAILROADS.

##### *Raleigh & Gaston and Seaboard & Roanoke Railroads.*

The General Assembly of 1891 (chapter 323, section 38) levied a tax of twenty (20) cents upon each share of the capital stock of the Seaboard and Roanoke Company

for each year from 1862 to 1892, and upon each share of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad Company of twenty-five (25) cents for the then current and future years.

The Seaboard and Roanoke Company refused, upon demand, to pay these taxes, alleging that, by the plain terms of its charter, it was exempt from such taxation, and that, even if the power to impose these taxes did exist, no General Assembly had ever thought proper to exercise it hitherto, and that in consequence the Legislature of 1891 could not then go back and levy and collect taxes for such a long period in the past; but, in obedience to what I conceived to be the plain command of the law, I caused an action to be instituted against it for the recovery of the whole amount assessed by the General Assembly. The cause was removed, upon the application of the defendant, to the Circuit Court of the United States for the Eastern District of North Carolina, where it was tried last spring, and resulted in a judgment for the State for the whole amount claimed, to-wit, \$67,148. The defendant at once served notice of an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, but, pending the proceedings on appeal, it made a proposition for settlement upon the following basis: It proposed to pay all the costs of the litigation and seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) in cash, and that it would surrender for all time to come its claimed exemption from taxation, and would also procure from the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad Company (which was under its control as a part of its railway system) a similar surrender of its claimed exemptions, if the State would remit the balance ascertained to be due by the judgment of the court.

I was advised by the Attorney General and the special counsel employed to assist him in the prosecution of this suit, that the appeal presented very serious questions, and, while they were inclined to think that the judgment would be affirmed, it was possible that it would be

reversed, and that, in all probability, a considerable time would elapse before a final adjudication could be had. It being impossible to convene the Council of the State, on account of absence from the city of several of its members, and illness of others, I called into consultation the gentlemen composing the Board of Railroad Commissioners, and submitted the proposition to them for their advice. After a thorough investigation and consideration, the Board of Railroad Commissioners unanimously advised that the proposition be accepted, as did the Attorney General and the special counsel employed to aid in the prosecution of the suit. My judgment agreed with theirs. While we recognized that the sum remitted was considerable, we believed that the great and important element in the transaction was the surrender by these companies of their exemptions from taxation. This claim had been for years a constant source of conflict and irritation between the railroads and the people; and we conceived that the securing of the removal of this source of contention, and the bringing of all the property of these railroad companies within the tax-bearing property of the State, was more valuable than the sum of dollars and cents which had been remitted to secure it, even if we had been finally successful in litigation. Influenced by these considerations and advice, I directed that the proposition should be accepted, and it has been ratified. The money has been paid, the stockholders of the two companies in formal meeting have surrendered their exemptions, and filed the records thereof in this department, and the suit has ended.

I herewith transmit certified copies to your honorable bodies of the proceedings of the stockholders of the Seaboard and Roanoke and the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad Companies, showing the surrender of their exemptions from taxation, and also the final decrees of the courts, containing the terms of the compromise agreement.

*Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company.*

The President of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company makes a gratifying report of its condition as compared with the past, and its successful operations, whereby for the first time in its history, a dividend has been declared. In comparing the operations of the road for the past three years of the present administration with the three years preceding I find an increase of receipts of twenty-three per cent., and a decrease of expenses of sixteen per cent. The percentage of operating expenses to gross receipts was fifty-four per cent. (In this calculation, taxes and interest are not included.) This admirable showing is less in cost than that of any other road in the State, whose reports I have examined.

On September 12, 1889, when the present management took charge, its debt (not including mortgage debts) was \$56,115.98. This has all been paid, and in addition thereto \$65,000 has been expended for the following items of equipment: Twenty-seven flat and box cars, two new engines, two first-class passenger coaches, one parlor car, seventy-five tons steel rails, a new depot at LaGrange, and certain extraordinary repairs. Taxes have been increased to the extent of \$3,094.07. This company has no exemptions from taxation granted by its charter, but its property is assessed in the same manner as all other roads in the State having no claims to exemption. The interest on the bonded debt of \$325,000 has been paid, and nothing is owing but current accounts.

The present condition of this valuable property, in which the State has so large an interest, is described as very satisfactory by the Board of Internal Improvements, whose report is herewith submitted. On the 8th and 9th of September, 1892, I met the said Board and accompanied them in their close, personal inspection of the road-bed, bridges (every one of which was walked over and care-

fully scrutinized), terminal arrangements, shops, wharves, etc. Their language is: "In fact, all the road-beds, bridges, culverts, etc., appear to have had careful and continuous attention, and the officers and employees having this work in charge deserve especial credit for the thoroughness with which they have performed their work." And they furthermore say: "Too much praise cannot be accorded to the officers of the company for the management of its finances." The dividend, though small, is the beginning of what may be looked for as a substantial direct return to the State for her aid in the construction of this important line, and I congratulate the people, who chiefly own the stock, upon the wise and judicious and energetic administration of W. S. Chadwick, Esq., as President. In this connection it gives me pleasure to note the following resolutions unanimously adopted at the stockholders last annual meeting:

*Resolved*, That the stockholders of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company, in general meeting assembled, do hereby express their hearty approval of the able, conservative, and business-like administration of President W. S. Chadwick and the present Board of Directors, whereby they were enabled to earn and pay a dividend of two per cent. upon the capital stock of the company—the first in the history of the road, after being in operation thirty-four years.

*Resolved*, 2, That it is the opinion of the stockholders that the business interests of this road will be best subserved by continuing in office the present executive head of the company, under whose successful management this company has been put upon a dividend-paying basis, to the great benefit both of the State and private stockholders.

*The Wilmington and Weldon Railroad Company.*

During the summer of 1891 an action was brought by the State on the relation of D. W. Bain, Public Treasurer, against the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad Company, the purpose of the action being to recover taxes claimed by the State as due on the various branch roads of the

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad Company, as well as taxes on that portion of the main line which extends from Halifax to Weldon in this State. This action is still pending in the Federal Court, to which it was removed by the defendant, and has never been tried,

A suit was brought in the Superior Court of Halifax county (also during the summer of 1891) by the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad Company against the Sheriff of Halifax county, for the purpose of enjoining the said Sheriff from collecting county taxes on that portion of the main line between Halifax and Weldon, and the branch road known as the Scotland Neck Branch, and situated in Halifax county. The suit was carried from the Superior Court of Halifax county to the Supreme Court of the State, and from that Court, by Writ of Error, to the Supreme Court of the United States. In the Superior Court it was held that the Scotland Neck Branch was liable for taxes, but that the main line from Weldon to Halifax was exempt. In the Supreme Court it was held that both the Scotland Neck Branch and that portion of the main line from Weldon to Halifax (a distance of about eight miles) was liable, and this decision of the North Carolina Supreme Court was affirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States.

It is to be hoped that this vexed question will be settled by your honorable body in some way that will be fair and just both to the State and to the railroad company.

#### THE OYSTER LAW.

The oyster industry is of very great importance to our State generally, but more especially to a very large number of our citizens who live near the oyster beds, and who are almost entirely dependent on this industry for a support. The different interests involved are various and conflicting, so much so that the subject has been one

which has puzzled the various Legislatures which have attempted to pass such laws as would do justice to all. This is the case not only in this State, but in Maryland and Virginia also. One thing is certain, that non-residents should not be permitted to take oysters from the public grounds of the State, as they were doing before the laws of 1891 were enacted, authorizing the Governor to put a patrol boat on duty. During the session of the last Legislature, there were a large number of boats (some 300) owned and operated by non-residents, taking oysters from our waters. The Legislature passed an act, chapter 11, Laws of 1891, appropriating \$15,000 for the purpose of driving off these oyster pirates and enforcing our laws. The duration of this law was for ninety days only, and was intended to give the Governor power to act until a more permanent law could be matured and passed, which was done. See chapter 338, Laws of 1891.

Out of the \$15,000 appropriated, Governor Fowle used \$6,500 and gave the Shell Fish Commission orders to purchase a patrol boat. This order was never countermanded, and I knew nothing of it until the Commissioner reported to me that he had made the purchase, and sent bill for my approval, with instructions to send check to Mr. Samuel Fowle, as Mr. Fowle had paid for the boat. Before this bill reached me, the law under which Governor Fowle was acting had expired by limitation, and I did not feel that I had authority to pay it. Article 5, section 1 of chapter 338, above referred to, reads as follows: "As soon as practicable after the passage of this act, the Chief Commissioner shall proceed to secure, by purchase or otherwise, a boat suitable for patrolling the waters and protecting the oyster interest of the State, and shall pay for the same out of any funds that may come into his hands belonging to the oyster fund. He shall furnish said boat with all such furniture, tableware, arms and ammunition as may be necessary to equip the same and

make it efficient, etc." At the time the boat was purchased, the oyster season had not commenced, consequently the Commissioner had no revenues in hand with which to pay for the boat, but felt sure he would have a sum sufficient by the first of October. Under the circumstances the State Treasurer and myself agreed that the best thing to be done was to make a note signed by the Shell Fish Commissioner as principal, with himself as Treasurer, and myself as Governor, as sureties, said note to run until October the first. The Citizens National Bank advanced the money on this note, where it is now held. As the law seems not to have met the expectations of the Commissioner, the needed revenue has not been raised to an amount sufficient to execute the law and pay for the boat. There has been paid \$804, leaving a balance of \$6,696. I would respectfully recommend that you pass an act authorizing the Treasurer to take up this note, and charge to the Oyster Survey account.

About the first of November I had an enquiry from some parties wishing to purchase the boat, and I, with great hesitation, ordered its sale, which fact was made known to the State Geologist, who immediately wrote me on the 14th of November, as follows: "As my work is now limited to a different field of labor, perhaps it may be out of place for me to say anything about the oyster question, or the boat; but even a casual study of the oyster problem during the past several years leads me to the very definite conclusion that the sale of the 'patroller' will at once bring about a repetition of that unlimited and disastrous dredging by Virginia and Maryland boats, which was stopped by force mid-winter two years ago; it will remove the possibility of carrying on a survey of the oyster grounds, which ought to be made, inasmuch as Winslow's work was largely preliminary to more accurate work that ought still to be done; and will prevent the work which it is hoped the Biologist of the Commission

may undertake looking to the extension of the oyster beds by artificial propagation; and lastly, it would prevent the carrying out of an arrangement which I believe would, if carried out, result in great benefit to the State, viz., the use of this boat while it is on patrol duty this winter (and without seriously interfering with its patrol duties) in completing the collection of a series of specimens of oysters, soil from the bottom of the sounds, photographs of the seacoast region, and other materials illustrative of the oyster region and the oyster industry in this State, for the State's exhibit at Chicago. It seems to me that the next Legislature cannot fail to do its duty in so important a matter; and that we will have very little trouble to get them to purchase (or pay for) this most excellent and cheap boat soon after the Legislature assembles. I earnestly hope that the way may be clear for saving the boat, and that in the near future something may be done looking to the extension as well as to the protection of the oyster industry."

On receipt of this I countermanded the order of sale, knowing, as I do, that the boat is absolutely essential to the enforcement of our laws and the protection of the oysters. In this opinion I am sustained by Governor Fowle, as you will see by reference to his last message.

I respectfully call your serious attention to the report of the Shell Fish Commissioner, which is herewith submitted. You will observe that he recommends several amendments to the laws now in force. Whether they will, if enacted into laws, solve the many difficulties now existing, I am not able to decide. Living remote from the oyster beds, I feel unable to make such recommendations as will be just to all concerned. There are so many differences of opinion and conflicting interests, that it will require the wisdom and earnest consideration of your honorable bodies to frame such laws as will best subserve the interests involved. I would call your attention to the

message of Governor Fowle on this subject, made to the last General Assembly.

#### THE STATE GUARD.

I respectfully call your attention to the full and complete reports of the Adjutant General of North Carolina, and his associate officers, covering the affairs of the State Guard for the year ending December 31, 1892. I have always been an advocate for the proper maintenance of the State Guard, and believe the present system to be far cheaper and much more efficient (if time, which should be money, is considered) than the old militia system of *ante-bellum* days.

It is indispensable to the preservation of peace, life and liberty, and for the protection of the property of the citizens of any State. In verification of this fact, three States during the past year have been compelled to rely solely upon this arm of the public service and safety for the protection of their citizens in the lawful enjoyment of their rights, and the proper enforcement of their just laws.

When I was suddenly called, on the 8th of April, 1891, to assume the Executive chair of North Carolina, the first official act of my administration was to quell a riot by ordering out, at the request of the Sheriff, a company of the State Guard. When the troops appeared upon the scene of the disturbance, order was promptly restored, and a very serious riot was prevented, which, but for the timely presence of the troops, would have resulted in bloodshed, and perhaps great loss of life and property. This is but one of the many similar instances of possible disturbance in which our citizens have received incalculable benefit and protection, even by the mere presence of troops of our State Guard.

The State Guard is composed of the very best young men of our country, and deserves not only the recognition and encouragement, but the prudent and wise fostering care of the State. Under existing laws these men serve the State without compensation, and they are ready and willing at all times to respond, at the risk of their personal safety and lives, to the orders of the Commander-in-Chief. They pay all the expenses of their daily subsistence when they are ordered annually to go into camp for purposes of drill and to increase their military efficiency, the entire State appropriation for the encampments being barely sufficient to pay railroad transportation of the troops and incidental labor upon the grounds during the encampments. Since I have been Governor and Commander-in-Chief, I have officially visited every encampment as a matter of duty to the State and interest in the Guard, and can say from my personal knowledge that the annual encampments are by no means occasions of frolic or recreation for either officers or men, but they are times of arduous and constant work, such as pertain to a soldier.

The National State Guard is considered by the General Government of such prime importance that the Adjutant General of the United States and the Secretary of War have most earnestly recommended that the Government appropriation of \$400,000, now made by Congress to be issued to the States in arms, clothing and ammunition, be increased to \$1,000,000, in order to properly equip the National Guard and render it in the greatest degree effective.

I do not deem it necessary further to elaborate the importance of this matter, but I sincerely recommend and hope that you will carefully consider and estimate the great value of the State Guard to the people of North Carolina, and enact such needful laws as shall properly promote its highest efficiency.

## THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The Fourth Biennial Report of the North Carolina Board of Health shows, on the whole, a gratifying state of affairs as to the health of our people. During the past two years the State has not been visited by any serious epidemic, and the death-rate has been small, comparing most favorably with other sections of the country.

The work of this department of the State government, being negative in character, not doing positive good so much as preventing evil—the greatest of all evils, sickness and death—is not apt to impress the superficial observer with its full value. Some idea of it can be gathered from the fact that, according to the estimate of political economists, the life of each adult is worth the State one thousand dollars; so that if only three lives should be saved each year through its efforts, our State would be more than reimbursed for its outlay. It also advances the material interests of the Commonwealth by collecting mortuary statistics, thereby affording a more reliable basis than mere hearsay on which prospective immigrants can found a judgment of the healthfulness of our State—a matter that they rarely overlook.

The act relating to the Board of Health is in need of amendment, and I would commend to the careful consideration of the General Assembly any suggestions on this line that may be made to them by the Board—a disinterested body composed of some of our best citizens, seeking no selfish ends, but only the good of the community. This matter is of more than usual importance just now for the reason that, in the opinion of those best able to judge, an outbreak of cholera in this country next spring or summer is extremely probable, and every means should be provided to prevent its lodgement and spread amongst us. I would suggest the advisability of the appointment of a special joint committee to confer with the health authorities in

regard to the needed sanitary legislation. In this connection I would earnestly recommend the provision of better quarantine arrangements for the port of Wilmington.

In the death of Dr. Thomas F. Wood, of Wilmington, the late Secretary, who was, I learn from the report, the originator and chief supporter for many years, at a sacrifice of his own private means, of sanitation in North Carolina; and in that of Dr. S. S. Satchwell, of Pender county, the first President of the Board, and always a zealous worker in this field, the State has lost two loyal and valuable citizens.

#### STATE QUARANTINE.

The report of Dr. W. G. Curtis, Quarantine Physician of the port of Wilmington, contains gratifying assurances of the concert of action between the local and State Boards of Health at this period of possible danger of serious epidemic cholera. Many vessels from Hamburg and other infected ports were detained and successfully treated during the past season. But the quarantine must be maintained with great fidelity during the coming year. It is stated that the point of greatest danger in this invasion of Asiatic cholera has not yet been reached. The Quarantine Board, through Dr. Curtis, asks the attention of the General Assembly to the propriety of providing facilities for the unloading and disinfecting of vessels and cargoes arriving at Wilmington with infectious diseases.

Such a disinfecting plant consists of two wharves: one for ballast, the other to receive the vessel alongside, with frame building containing cylinder, wherein a steam heat of 230 degrees is applied to all objects subject to infection. A sulphur furnace and tank of bi-chloride of mercury is provided for treating the vessel itself. A hospital building, prepared for any patients requiring treatment, and another structure in which to place crew or passengers under observation.

Such equipment has been provided at Charleston, and is now being prepared at Tampa and Pensacola, with a possibility of its general adoption by the ports of the South, through the action of the several States. The Board is of the opinion that this measure of precaution is eminently needed at the principal port of North Carolina, in view of the great losses possible to the State by epidemic ravages in the region of which Wilmington is the centre of trade, as well as the long continued indirect damage to the trade of our people by its effect upon the reputation of the port.

“COLONIAL RECORDS.”

There have been distributed a comparatively small number of this valuable work, although all have been distributed that the law provides for. The demand for purchase amounts to nothing. As there is a large amount of valuable information pertaining to the colonial history of this State, reflecting great credit on our ancestors, which we should take pride in disseminating, and thereby dispelling a large amount of falsehood, reflecting discredit upon our people, I deem it wise that we should adopt a more liberal system in regard to the locating this valuable work. If I may be permitted to suggest a change to the present law, I would advise that a full set of this work be deposited gratuitously with each State in the United States, and in every private library in this State, of five thousand volumes or more, or such other number of volumes as your honorable body may deem advisable.

ENROLLED BILLS.

By reference to the Report of the Secretary of State, it will be seen that he calls my attention to the fact that a number of inaccuracies occurred in the enrollment of

the laws passed by the last Legislature, which resulted in one case to a considerable loss of revenue to the State, and in others annulling the real intent of the statute.

I feel assured that it is only necessary to call your attention to this matter to enable you to adopt such a system of enrollment of your bills as will make a recurrence of this impossible in the future.

#### PARDONS, COMMUTATIONS AND REPRIEVES.

Number of pardons in the last two years, 95; commutations, 14; reprieves, 4; total, 113. Of these, eight pardons and one reprieve, were granted by Governor Fowle. Three reprieves were granted in order to gain time for considering the merits in capital cases; one on account of condition of prisoner's wife. Of the ninety-five pardons, fifty-five were granted from among the convicts confined in the penitentiary, thirty-five from among those confined in county jails and work-houses—twenty or more of the latter being pardoned on account of the bad health of prisoners, brought on by their close confinement and the bad sanitary arrangements of the county jails.

#### NORTH CAROLINA AT THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

Reflecting men are aware that the expositions at Boston, New Orleans and Atlanta made by the Agricultural Department of our State were far-reaching in their beneficial influences, in that they not only attracted capital and awakened inquiry for our timber, and ores, and other products, but also by their moral influence in placing North Carolina in the front line of progress among her Southern sisters. This result showed itself not only by the substantial advance of our credit, but through many marks of appreciation familiar to our men of affairs.

It is most earnestly to be desired that the same good work shall be repeated on a grander scale in the sight of

the people of the whole Union and the civilized world at the Columbian Exposition. Blessed by Divine Providence with such extraordinary natural resources, combining almost everything in field and forest and mine that the temperate zone of the Western World can produce, united to the wealth of our seacoasts, and the exquisite climate we enjoy, it is only needful that the advantages of North Carolina should reach the eye of the stranger to draw hither steadily the men whose skill and capital will pile up our taxable wealth, and bring the elements of prosperity into such of our undeveloped districts as will richly repay the hand of industry. The strength of the State is in her men of intelligence and character. Multiply these and all else is added.

Fully persuaded of the grand field for enterprise within our borders, I have felt the deepest interest in the effort to convey some idea to mankind at large of the resources around us. The failure of an adequate representation of North Carolina at that august assemblage of the products and industries of the world, in my humble judgment, would be a grievous mistake, while such a successful display as it is yet fortunately within the power of the State to make would do her such honor and credit that every man of business would reap the benefit of it, and many an acre of her land find a market otherwise unattainable.

I respectfully invite your attention to the following correspondence:

OFFICE BOARD WORLD'S FAIR MANAGERS,  
RALEIGH, November 25, 1892.

To His Excellency GOVERNOR THOMAS M. HOLT, *Raleigh, N. C.*

DEAR SIR:—In pursuance of section 2199, chapter 1, Volume II of The Code, the Board of Agriculture, having first taken the opinion of the Attorney General, in writing, as to the power and duty of said Board to make an illustrative exposition of the State's resources at the Columbian Exposition, to be held at Chicago in 1893, was advised by said office, that it was its duty to make such illustrative exposition, a copy of which said opinion is on file.

Immediately thereafter, the Board of Agriculture, at its December meeting, 1891, deeming that it was expedient and its duty to make such exposition, utilizing such material as had heretofore been accumulated in making expositions in Boston, New Orleans and other places, resolved to enter upon the work.

The Board of Agriculture, before committing itself to this enterprise, had reasonable assurances that the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), appropriated by the General Assembly of North Carolina at its session of 1891 (chapter 590 of the laws thereof), would become available at some time in the near future, for the purpose of making a creditable exhibition at the said Chicago Exposition. Believing that the said appropriation would become available, and would be paid at a convenient season, according to the declared intention of the General Assembly, the said Board of Agriculture has continued this work up to the present time, and has in this way kept alive the organization of the Board of World's Fair Managers, as established by the General Assembly.

The means and resources in the control of the said Board of Agriculture being now exhausted, and the prospect of utter failure and abandonment of the work staring us in the face, unless the sum appropriated shall now be paid, the Board of World's Fair Managers of North Carolina respectfully ask your Excellency for aid in securing the immediate payment of said appropriation, or so much thereof as may be needed from time to time to carry out the purpose of said act.

(Signed) WILLIAM F. GREEN,

*President Board World's Fair Managers for North Carolina.*

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
RALEIGH, November 28, 1891.

COLONEL W. F. GREEN,

*President Board World's Fair Managers, Raleigh, N. C.*

DEAR SIR :—I have your communication of November 26, and have carefully considered the matters to which it relates.

I have always regarded the money refunded to the State of North Carolina, under the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to credit and pay the several States and Territories and the District of Columbia all moneys collected under the direct tax levied by the Act of Congress, approved August 5, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," as a *trust fund*, to be jealously held and protected for the use, *First*, of those persons or their representatives who had paid the tax mentioned in the Act of Congress aforesaid; and, *Second*, after those claims were satisfied, for the benefit of the State of North Carolina.

It is obvious that the first class should be given precedence in the application of the fund, and only any surplus remaining after those claims were satisfied would become the property of the State, and

subject to be appropriated by the General Assembly, Hence it was that I have hitherto steadily refrained from allowing any portion of that fund to be used in aid of the Columbian Exposition, under the Act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, passed in 1891, inasmuch as it has not heretofore been made to appear probable to me that any such surplus would be left.

It now seems probable that there will be a surplus remaining; and inasmuch as the General Assembly will soon convene, and as there seems to be an almost universal desire by the people of the State that North Carolina should be fittingly represented at the Columbian Exposition—a desire so emphatically expressed by the last General Assembly in the statute to which I have referred—I have determined, in deference to what seems to me to be a laudable wish on the part of our people, to have an opportunity to exhibit not only to the people of the Union, but to foreign nations as well, the resources and possibilities of our State, to direct a transfer on the books of the Treasury of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) of the fund paid to the State under the Act of Congress aforesaid, to be applied by your Board in aid of the North Carolina exhibit at Chicago next year, all expenditures to be made, however, by that Board in strict compliance with the terms of the statute of North Carolina.

I cannot fail to be conscious that the State, by this action of mine, is assuming a delicate responsibility, but I have an abiding confidence that the enlightened public sentiment of the good people of the State will sustain me, and that the public spirit and patriotism of the General Assembly, soon to convene, will dictate such legislation, if any should be required, as may be necessary to support my action. After the considerations, labors and expenses which the Department of Agriculture, a function of the State government, has undergone in order to carry out the supposed wishes of the people of the State, and the information your letter gives me that your resources are now exhausted, I am impressed with the conviction that it is my duty to put so much of the fund as I have indicated at the disposal of your Board for the purpose of making a proper exhibit of the resources of the State; and I believe that I would be subjected to *legitimate criticism*, if, after all the effort which has been made, and money expended, I should *now* allow this great enterprise to be abandoned. As a citizen and the Chief Executive of the State, I would regard such a result as a calamity to all of our people.

I have every confidence that the Board of World's Fair Managers will see to it that the fund is honorably and judiciously applied to the object for which it is appropriated. I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed)

THOMAS M. HOLT,

Governor.

In view of the reasons heretofore stated, and the now great probability, perhaps certainty, of the lapse to the State from the fund herein referred to, I recommend the passage of an act appropriating the original amount as fixed by the last General Assembly directly from the State Treasury, out of funds not otherwise appropriated. This will probably constitute a loan, in effect, for a few years, as by the terms of the Act of Congress after six years the unclaimed tax will revert to the State. Thus, the substantial end will be accomplished, and all legitimate criticism from Congress, or any other source, will be estopped.

The experience of a few towns, within a limited sphere of operation, shows that transformation can be wrought by the development of facilities for home manufactures. It is along this line, especially the establishment of small manufactories and the fabrication of bulky articles, whose transportation hither is expensive, that there is much to be expected of such an exhibit as the proposed appropriation is sufficient to accomplish.

#### THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

Many political economists think that the enterprise of greatest moment to the people of the Union, and especially of the Southern States, is the construction, now in progress, of the Nicaragua Canal. Its object is to shorten commercial routes to the Pacific more than 10,000 miles, by using Lake Nicaragua and the San Juan for 169½ miles of the route, and excavating 26¾ miles of canal and building six locks.

The people of California, in convention assembled, in March last, called upon the Governors of the several States to send delegates to a convention in the interests of this work, at St. Louis, in June last. Among those appointed from North Carolina was Dr. Thomas D. Hogg, of Wake, who attended the meeting at his personal

expense, and with the same liberal spirit of the patriotic citizen, attended a recent meeting, to further the same object, in New Orleans. He has forwarded an interesting report to the Executive office, from which I present a few facts for your consideration.

It should be stated, in the first place, that this is purely a business proposition for the development of the trade of the United States, and the probable substantial control of the markets of Western South America and Central America and Mexico, with very greatly increased commerce with Japan, China and other nations of the East, no less than the Australian States. Along with this is the management and immediate supervision of the grandest inter-national waterway of the world. Both political parties have advocated its encouragement in their platforms. The President of the United States, so lately as the 11th ultimo, received a committee of the convention with these words: "The world is calling for it. I cannot see how anybody can possibly find grounds of objection. The lack of the canal retards the progress of the world. It is our coast line. If we do not proceed, England or some other power will. We should not permit this. All parts of this country are equally interested. It touches all."

In order to reduce the cost of construction, with money reasonably cheap, and thus prevent undesirably high tolls, and to obtain national control of the canal now under construction by a private company, which expended six millions of dollars the first year of the work, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States Senate have proposed this plan, and agreed upon it unanimously: The charter is granted by the United States Government, which reserves the right to repeal or amend; the main office to be in New York, and all affairs to be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. One hundred millions of dollars of stock is allowed to be issued; \$7,500,000 to

the States of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, with one director; \$70,000,000 of stock to be deposited with the United States Secretary of the Treasury. They are to execute mortgage on all their property and the concession to secure said bonds, bearing 3 per cent. interest, endorsed by the United States, to be paid to the company upon certificates of the engineers (probably United States Army officers) that so much work has been done. Bonds thus issued must bring par, and the canal be finished for the \$100,000,000, or less. All examining engineers agree that \$80,000,000 will cover the costs. After paying fixed charges and expenses, tolls can be made not to exceed \$1 per ton, which is one-half of that of the Suez Canal, enjoying a revenue of \$12,000,000 yearly.

What is needed to secure the completion of the canal in four years is the passage by Congress of the bill unanimately formulated by the Senate Committee. The Legislatures of several States have taken action by unanimately requesting all their members to support the bill. This matter is, therefore, respectfully brought to your consideration, with the hope that it may receive examination and your favorable action.

In this connection, I call your attention to its enormous importance as a means of relief to the cotton growing interest. All are familiar with the depression produced by an over-supply, with our present facilities for marketing this staple. But economic changes of vast influence are often rapid. To quote from a well-informed publicist: General Grant is quoted as saying, "In a few years China and Japan will consume more cotton than is now produced in the United States." In 1888 Japan imported 84,257 pounds of American cotton, which increased to 2,366,000 in 1890, and reached 7,072,562 pounds in 1891, most of which was shipped from New Orleans to New York, thence by rail to Vancouver, and by steamship to Kobe, Japan. If a shorter all-water route was opened between

New Orleans and Japan, does anyone doubt that the demand for American cotton would be marvellously increased?

THE CONFEDERATE MONUMENT ASSOCIATION.

The Confederate Soldiers and Sailors Monument Association has advised me of the construction of the pedestal, eighteen feet in height, on an appropriate site in the city of Richmond, upon which thirteen granite blocks are to be placed emblematic of the Confederate States and Missouri and Kentucky, the whole to be surmounted by an heroic statue of a private soldier, to reach the height of ninety feet, placed upon a natural elevation of one hundred and fifty feet, and forming a grand testimonial of devotion to the memory of the private soldiers, the real heroes of the struggle, who won immortal fame for their leaders and their States.

Each State has been requested officially to contribute the cost of its block, not to exceed two thousand dollars for each, the name of the State to be carved thereupon. Photographs of the structure, so far as built by private aid and the contributions of the city of Richmond, and also of the plan for completion of the monument, have been sent to me, and may be inspected in the Executive Office, where they will hang. It does not appear necessary to say more than the simple truth, which history attests, that such a monument would "commemorate the valor, patriotism and deeds" of a greater number of heroic dead from North Carolina than from any of her sister States, and it would rise almost in sight of the bloody fields where those gallant spirits sealed anew the claim of her children to have sprung from the soil of patriots and freemen. Vast numbers of Carolinians sleep their last sleep under its shadow, and no block of that memorial could testify to purer worth and more glorious death. I respectfully commend the proposal to your sympathy and consideration.

## CONCLUSION.

In a message embracing so many subjects, whilst necessarily long, it is only possible to touch briefly upon some of them, and others, which cannot be specifically mentioned at this time, will appear more fully discussed in the documents of the various departments accompanying this message. I call your attention to these reports, embodying a careful review of the administration of each department of the State Government for the past two years.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives, my term of office is about to expire. I have endeavored to discharge the important duties incumbent upon me to the best of my ability, and I cannot permit the occasion to pass without expressing my high appreciation of the service of the officers associated with me. Our relations have been harmonious, pleasant, and, I trust, profitable, and, whilst it is a source of regret to sever ties so pleasant, yet I congratulate the State that the duties of the office will soon be turned over to one who loves the State, and will carefully look after her every interest, and see that her laws are faithfully and impartially executed.

I also congratulate the people of the State on their wise selection of the members of this General Assembly. Composed, as it is, of representatives of the various interests of a great State, there must necessarily be diversity of opinion on the various subjects which will be presented for your consideration; but I feel satisfied that to such a body of representative North Carolinians the vital interests of this grand Commonwealth may be safely entrusted, and I hope your labors here for the welfare of our beloved State may be crowned with such success as will advance her general prosperity.

THOMAS M. HOLT.

January 4, 1893.

