

Only fourteen members of Napoleon's grand army are now living.



## THE HOMESTEAD

An Act to lay off the Homestead and Personal Property Exemption.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact, as follows:

Section 1. *Homestead, when and how exempted.* Whenever the real estate of any resident in this State shall be levied on by virtue of any execution, or any other final process, obtained on any debt, such portion thereof, as may be occupied by the owner as an actual homestead, and which he may then elect to regard as such, including the dwelling and buildings thereon, shall be exempt from such levy, except in case of an execution or other final process issued for the collection of a debt contracted:

1. For purchase of said homestead.

2. For such work and labor done for the owner of the homestead, as may constitute a laborer's lien.

3. For such labor done on the premises as may constitute a mechanic's lien.

4. For taxes accruing on said homestead.

Sec. 2. *Sherrifs to summon appraisers.* Before levying upon any homestead thus owned and occupied, the sheriff or other officer charged with such levy shall summon three disinterested persons, qualified to act as jurors, to whom he shall administer the following oath: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have no interest, near or remote, in the homestead exemption of C. D., and that I will faithfully perform the duties of appraiser (or assessor, as the case may be) in valuing and laying off the same. So help me God."

Sec. 3. *Duty of Appraisers.* The said appraisers shall thereupon proceed to value the homestead, with its dwelling and buildings thereon, and lay off to said owner such portion as he may select, or any agent, attorney, or other person, in his behalf, not exceeding in value one thousand dollars, and to fix and describe the same by metes and bounds.

Sec. 4. *Appraisers to make return.* They shall then make and sign, in the presence of the officer, a return of their proceedings, setting forth the property exempted, which shall be returned by the officer to the clerk of the court for the county in which the homestead is situated, and filed with the judgment roll in the action, and a minute of the same entered on the judgment docket.

Sec. 5. *The levy to be made on excess.* The levy may be made upon the excess of the homestead, not laid off according to the provisions of this act, and that the officer shall make substantially the following return upon the execution: "A. B., C. D. and E. F. summoned and qualified as appraisers or assessors (as the case may be), who set off to X. Y. the homestead exempt by law—Levy made upon the excess."

Sec. 6. *Appraisers to elect.* In case no election is made by the owner, his agent or attorney, or any one acting in his behalf, of the homestead to be laid off as exempt, the appraisers shall make such election for him, including always the dwelling and buildings used therewith.

Sec. 7. That whenever any resident of this State may desire to take the benefit of the homestead and personal property exemption as guaranteed by article X of the Constitution of this State, such resident (or his agent or attorney) shall apply to any Justice of the Peace or the county in which he resides, and said Justice of the Peace shall appoint as assessors three disinterested persons qualified to act as jurors residing in said county, who shall, on notice by order of said Justice, meet at the applicant's residence, and after taking the oath prescribed in section two of this act for appraisers, before some official authorized to administer an oath, lay off and allot to the applicant a homestead, with metes and bounds, according to the applicant's direction, not to exceed one thousand dollars in value, and make and sign a descriptive account of the same and return it to the office of the Register of Deeds.

Sec. 8. That said assessors shall set apart of the personal property of said applicant, to be by him selected, articles of personalty not exceeding in value the sum of five hundred dollars, and make and sign a descriptive list thereof and return the same to the Register of Deeds.

Sec. 9. That it shall be the duty of the Register of Deeds to endorse on each of said returns the date when received for registration, and to cause the same to be registered without unnecessary delay. The said Register shall receive for registering the said returns the same fees that may be allowed him by law for other similar or equivalent services, which fees shall be paid by said resident applicant, or his agent or attorney, upon the reception of said returns by the Register.

Sec. 10. That if any person entitled to a homestead and personal property exemption, die without having had the same set apart, his widow, if he leave one, then his child and children under the age of twenty-one years, if he leave such, may proceed to have said homestead and personal property exemption laid off to her, him or them, according to the provisions of sections seven and eight of this act.

Sec. 11. That when any person entitled to a homestead and personal property exemption, shall file his or her petition before a Justice of the Peace, to have the same laid off and set apart under the provisions of sections seven, eight, nine and ten of this act, the said Justice shall make advertisement at the court house door of the county in which the petition is filed, notifying all creditors of said applicant of the time and place when and where the said petition will be heard; and the same shall not be heard, nor any decree made in the cause in less than six months nor more than twelve, from the day of making advertisement as above required.

Sec. 12. *Appraisal of personal property.* Whenever the personal property of any resident of this State, shall be levied upon by virtue of any execution or other final process issued for the collection of any debt, and the owner, or any agent, or attorney in his behalf,

shall demand that the same, or any part thereof, shall be exempted from sale under such execution, the sheriff or other officer, making such levy, shall summon three appraisers as herebefore provided, who, having been first duly sworn, shall appraise and lay off to the judgment debtor, such articles of personal property as he, or another in his behalf select, to the value of five hundred dollars, which articles shall be exempt from said levy.

Sec. 13. *Return of the same.* Return shall be made of such appraisal and setting off of personal property, in the same manner as is required in section four of this act, upon the laying off of a homestead exemption.

Sec. 14. *Who to be appraisers.* The persons summoned to appraise the personal property exemption shall take the same oath and be entitled to the same fees as the appraisers of the homestead, and when both exemptions are claimed by the judgment debtor at the same time.

Sec. 15. *Tracts not contiguous, included.* Different tracts or parcels of land not contiguous, may be included in the same homestead, when a homestead of contiguous lands is not of the value of one thousand dollars.

Sec. 16. *Costs, how charged.* The cost and expenses of appraising and laying off the homestead or personal property exemption, when the same is made under execution, shall be charged and included in the officers' bill of fees upon such execution or other final process; and when made upon the petition of the owner they shall be paid by such owner and the latter cost shall be a lien on said homestead.

Sec. 17. *Liability of officer.* Any officer making a levy who shall refuse or neglect to summon and qualify appraisers as heretofore provided for, or who shall fail to make due return of their proceedings, or who shall levy upon the homestead or set off by said appraisers or assessors (as the case may be) except as herein provided, shall be liable to indictment for a misdemeanor, and he and his sureties shall be liable to the owner of said homestead for all costs and damages in a civil action.

Sec. 18. *Liability of appraiser.* Any officer or appraiser or assessor (as the case may be) who shall wilfully or corruptly conspire with any judgment debtor, or other appraiser, or assessor (as the case may be) to undervalue the homestead or personal property exemption of such debtor, or shall assign false metes and bounds, or make or procure to be made a false and fraudulent return thereof, shall be liable to indictment for a misdemeanor, and shall be answerable to the judgment creditor for all costs and damages in a civil action.

Sec. 19. Any officer or appraiser or assessor who shall wilfully or corruptly conspire with any judgment debtor, or other appraiser, or assessor, to undervalue the homestead or personal property exemption of any debtor or applicant, or shall assign false metes and boundaries, or make, or procure to be made, false and fraudulent return thereof, shall be liable to indictment for a misdemeanor, and shall be answerable to the party injured for all costs and damages in a civil action.

Sec. 20. *Judgment creditor dissatisfied.* If the judgment creditor for whom the levy is made, or judgment debtor, or person entitled to homestead exemption, shall be dissatisfied with the valuation and allotment of the appraisers or assessors (as the case may be) he may, within ten days thereafter, or any other judgment creditor, within six months, and before sale under execution of the excess, notify the clerk of the township thereof, and file with him a transcript of the return of the appraisers or assessors, as the case may be, and thereupon the clerk shall notify the other trustees of the township to meet him, at a time specified, within ten days, on the premises, to reassess and allot said homestead. At the time specified the trustees shall meet on the premises and having first taken the oath prescribed for appraisers they shall view and examine the homestead laid off, and make their report as required in section twenty-four of this act.

Sec. 21. *Who disqualified to act as appraisers.* If any trustee, or any person summoned as an appraiser, shall be related by blood or marriage, to the debtor, or judgment creditor, or shall be a party in interest, in any action against the former, he shall be disqualified to serve in the valuations of the homestead or personal property exemption, and another person qualified to act as juror shall be summoned and qualified in his place.

Sec. 22. When the homestead or personal property exemption is made or reallotted on the petition of the person entitled thereto, the township trustees shall make their report as required in section twenty of this act, to the register of deeds, specifying what changes, if any, they have made in the former valuation and allotment, who shall register the same, as required in section nine, and when said homestead and personal property exemption is made, or reallotted, under execution by a judgment creditor, the township trustees shall make said return to the clerk of the Superior Court who shall file the same and make a minute thereof on the judgment roll and the execution docket.

Sec. 23. *Cost of reassessment, how paid.* If the board of trustees shall confirm the former appraisal or shall increase the exemption allowed the judgment debtor, the levy shall stand only upon the excess remaining, and the judgment creditor shall pay all costs of the re-allotment. If they reduce the amount allowed the judgment debtor, the cost shall follow the execution and the levy shall cover the excess then remaining.

Sec. 24. *How executed.* Any appraisal or allotment by the trustees of a township may be set aside, on application of any party interested, for fraud, complicity or other irregularity. The proceedings shall be upon petition, as in other special proceedings, and the applicant shall give bond to the opposing party for costs and damages.

Sec. 25. *Fees.* The following fees and no other shall be charged in this proceeding:

Each appraiser for laying off homestead or personal property exemption, or both, one dollar; officer for summoning and qualifying appraisers and delivering returns to clerk, one dollar; clerk of Superior Court, for filing return and entering minute on execution docket, twenty-five cents; for making transcript for township clerk when required to do so, fifty cents; township clerk for summoning trustees, fifty cents; township clerk for transmitting return, twenty-five cents.

Sec. 26. *Acts Repealed.* All acts or clauses of act in conflict with this act, or providing other means for the laying off a homestead or personal property exemption, are hereby repealed.

Sec. 27. *Form.* The following forms shall be substantially followed in proceedings under this act:

(No. 1.)

I. *Appraisers Return.*

1. When the homestead is valued at less than one thousand dollars, and personal property also appraised.

"The undersigned, having been duly summoned, and sworn to act as appraisers of the homestead and personal property exemption of A. B., of \_\_\_\_\_ township, \_\_\_\_\_ County, by C. D., Sheriff (or Constable or Deputy) of said County, do hereby make the following return: We have viewed and appraised the homestead of said A. B., and the dwellings and buildings thereon, owned and occupied by said A. B. as a homestead, to be one thousand dollars (or any less sum) and that the entire tract, bounded by the lands of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is therefore exempted from sale under execution according to law. At the same time and place we viewed and appraised, at the values annexed, the following articles of personal property selected by said A. B. (Here specify the articles and their value to be selected by the debtor or his agent,) which we declare to be a fair valuation, and that the said articles are exempt under said execution. We hereby certify that we are not related by blood or marriage to the judgment debtor or the judgment creditor in this execution, and have no interest near or remote in the above exemptions.—Given under our hands and seals this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_.

O. K. (L. S.)  
L. M. (L. S.)  
R. S. (L. S.)

The above return was made and subscribed in my presence, day and date above given.

C. D., (Sheriff or Constable.)  
(No. 2.)

II. *Petition for Homestead before a Justice of the Peace.*

In the matter of \_\_\_\_\_ Before \_\_\_\_\_ J. P. A. B. \_\_\_\_\_ County.

A. B. respectfully shows that he, she, or they, (as the case may be) is (or are) entitled to a homestead exempt from execution, in certain real estate in said county and bounded and described as follows (here describe the property) the true value of which he, she, or they, as the case may be, believe to be one thousand dollars including the dwelling and buildings thereon. He (she or they) further shows, that (she or they as the case may be) is (or are) entitled to a personal property exemption from executions, to the value of (here state the value) consisting of the following property (here specify) he, she, or they (as the case may be) therefore prays your worship to appoint three disinterested persons qualified to act as jurors or assessors to view the premises, allot, and set apart, to your petitioner his homestead and personal property exemption, and report according to law.

(No. 3.)

III. *Personal property alone appraised.*

The undersigned having been duly summoned and sworn to act as appraisers of the personal property of A. B. of \_\_\_\_\_ township, \_\_\_\_\_ County and to lay off the exemption given by law thereto, by C. C. (sheriff or other officer) of said county, do hereby make and subscribe the following return:

We viewed and appraised at the values annexed the following articles of personal property selected by the said A. B. to-wit: \_\_\_\_\_ which we declare to be a fair valuation and that said articles are exempt under said execution.

We hereby certify, each for himself, that we are not related by blood or marriage, to the judgment debtor or judgment creditor in this execution and have no interest near or remote in the above exemption.

Given under our hands and seals this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_.

O. K. (L. S.)  
L. M. (L. S.)  
R. S. (L. S.)

The above return was made and subscribed in my presence, day and date above given.

C. D., (Sheriff or Constable.)  
(No. 4.)

IV. *Certificate of qualification to be endorsed on return by Sheriff.*

The within named, F. F., G. H., and J. R. were summoned and qualified according to law as appraisers of the \_\_\_\_\_ exemption of the said A. B. under an execution in favor of X. Y., this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_.

D. D., (Sheriff.)  
X. V. }  
E. F. }  
A. B. }

Executions issued \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_  
Homestead appraised and set off and return made \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_

Sec. 28. *When to take effect.* This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this 7th day of April, A. D. 1869.

NEW YORK, April 3d, 1869.

To my customers and the Public:

Thankful for past favors, I take this method of saying I hope to return in a few days with the most complete and best selected stock of goods I ever bought, which shall be sold at reasonable prices. I invite an examination before purchasing elsewhere.

Very respectfully,  
C. G. YATES.

NOTICE.

All persons owing for LAND, conditionally sold by me, as agent of C. M. or W. R. Croston, must pay before the 1st day of May, or suits will be brought in every case.

JAS. W. ALBRIGHT.  
April 7, 1869. 613w

## The Patriot.

GREENSBORO, N. C.

THURSDAY, April 15, 1869.

CONGRESS ADJOURNED.

Both Houses adjourned on the 10th, at 12 o'clock, sine die.

The political disability bills failed, neither Senate nor House bill having passed both Houses.

The whiskey and tobacco bill has passed, extends the time for withdrawing spirits from bond to June 1869, and subjects it to 1 cent a gallon per month, after the 10th of April, and forfeits it if not removed on or before the 30th of June 1869. It also provides for refunding the tax on tobacco in certain cases.

The President has issued his proclamation, calling the Senate to meet on executive business.

LEGISLATURE ADJOURNED.

The General Assembly of North Carolina adjourned, at 7 o'clock, on the morning of Monday, the 12th, and every body, of every party is, or ought to be, glad of it.

The Captions of Acts passed will be published in next paper.

The most important Acts will be, from time to time, printed in the Patriot.

The Homestead Law is published this week, and will be found convenient to officers and people, for reference.

The publishers of the Patriot have printed blanks for use under this law.

GRANT'S FIRST MESSAGE.

On the 7th inst. President Grant sent the following message to Congress:

To the Senate and House of Representatives: While I am aware that the time in which Congress proposes now to remain in session is very brief, and that it is its desire, as far as is consistent with the public interests, to avoid entering upon the general business of legislation, there is one subject which concerns so deeply the welfare of the country, that I deem it my duty to bring it before you.

I have no doubt that you will concur with me in my opinion that it is desirable to restore the States which were engaged in the rebellion to their proper relations to the Government and the country at as early a period as the people of those States shall be found willing to become peaceful and orderly communities, and to adopt and maintain such Constitutions and laws as will effectually secure the civil and political rights of all persons within their borders.

The authority of the United States, which has been vindicated and established by its military power, must undoubtedly be asserted for the absolute protection of all its citizens in the full enjoyment of the freedom and security which is the object of Republican Government. But whenever the people of a rebellious State are ready to enter in good faith upon the accomplishment of this object, in entire conformity with the constitutional authority of Congress, it is desirable that all causes of irritation should be removed as promptly as possible, that a more perfect Union may be established and the country restored to peace and prosperity.

The convention of the people of Virginia which met in Richmond on Tuesday, December 3, 1867, framed a constitution for that State which was adopted (endorsed?) by the convention on the 17th of April, 1868, and I desire respectfully to call the attention of Congress to the propriety of providing by law for the holding of an election in that State at some time during the months of May and June next, under the direction of the military commander of the District, at which the question of the adoption of that constitution shall be submitted to the citizens of the State; and if this should seem desirable I would recommend that a separate vote be taken on such parts as may be thought expedient, and that at the same time and under the same authority there shall be an election for the officers provided under such constitution, and that the constitution, or such parts thereof as shall have been adopted by the people, be submitted to Congress on the first Monday in December next for its consideration, so that if the same be then approved the necessary steps will have been taken for the restoration of the State of Virginia to its proper relations to the Union.

I am led to make this recommendation in the confident hope and belief that the people of that State are now ready to co-operate with the national Government in bringing it again into such relations to the Union as it ought as soon as possible to establish and maintain, and give to all its people those equal rights under the law which were asserted in the Declaration of Independence in the words of one of the most illustrious of its sons.

I desire, also, to ask the consideration of Congress to the question whether there is not just ground for believing that the Constitution, framed by a Convention of the people of Mississippi for that State, and once rejected, might not be again submitted to the people of that State in like manner, and without the probability of the same result.

U. S. GRANT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7, 1869.

Whereupon, the House of Representatives immediately passed a bill conferring upon the President the power to submit the constitutions framed by the conventions of Virginia, Texas and Mississippi to the registered voters of

said States, respectively, as such times as he may deem best; also giving him the authority to submit to a separate vote such provisions of said constitutions as he may deem best. Members of the Legislatures and State officers to be chosen at the time of the vote upon constitutions. In the Senate amendments were passed, and concurred in by the House, that if the constitutions shall be ratified at such election, before the States shall be admitted to representation in Congress their several legislatures shall ratify the fifteenth article proposed as an amendment to the U. S. Constitution; and further, that the proceedings shall not be deemed final, until approved by Congress.

SWALLOWING THEIR OWN PHYSIC.

We think we rather like the provision, in the act authorizing the popular vote of Virginia, Texas and Mississippi on their new constitutions, compelling their new Legislatures to adopt the proposed Fifteenth Article (negro suffrage) before said States can be admitted.—It gratifies a little honest spite, inseparable from the human nature in us.—It is a nice little bit of reconstruction that fits the States of Ohio, Indiana, California and some others. It is clear that the negro cannot come in as "a man and brother" in these States, until the Congressional and party screws are applied. It is truly refreshing to see them kick and cuff, and spit and spew, while Congress holds their feet and hands and pinches their noses until they force down the nauseous dose! It is all in vain that they cry out to their own party, "you act in bad faith; your Chicago platform only pledged the party to nigger suffrage in the rebel States, while the loyal States had the constitutional right to regulate the matter for themselves. We intended, and still intend to reject this Fifteenth Article, so odious to our people; but what good will our rejection do, when you compel the States of Virginia, Texas and Mississippi to choose negro suffrage for us as well as themselves?"

A pitiable case, brethren, a pitiable case! but as you have fixed up the phre, so you must take it!

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NOTICES.

The communication from R. H. S. on the comparative growth and improvements of our State, and of the West, will be published next week.

A bill which passed the House for a railroad to the Pacific, (merely granting the right of way,) by the El Paso or southern route, met decided opposition in the Senate. The ostensible reason given for this opposition is a very singular one, to wit: that it would be a precedent for not granting subsidies to other roads hereafter.—The road now nearly completed has been roundly subsidized, and is likely to be snowed up two or three months in the year. The southern road would be passable all the year.

The Old North State newspaper, at Salisbury, ventilates thoroughly the subject of publishing bankrupt notices. The U. S. District Judge, Brooks, made a rule that these notices should be published in the Raleigh Standard and Asheville Pioneer, (the papers appointed to print the laws of the United States.) And the rule has been tenaciously adhered to, although the Old North State and other papers would have printed them for half the prices charged by these Radical favorites; and they would thus have been seen by the creditors of the bankrupts.—The Salisbury paper shows that the unfortunate bankrupts, and their creditors, have been thus "done" out of about forty thousand dollars, which goes into the pockets of party printers, through this judicial decision.

General Webb has been appointed military commander of the district of Virginia, in place of Stoneman (resigned, or removed, because he was a gentleman.) Webb at once restored Wells to his place of civil Governor of Virginia—of course.

It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good. It is ascertained that next year's census will give to the southern States, on account of the enfranchisement of the negroes, an increased representation in Congress equal to forty-eight members. The increase for North Carolina will be equal to four members. The most important point of consideration, before the select committee of Congress, is whether to recommend an increase of the basis of representation, or of the number of representatives.

The New York Tribune exults, with uncommon unction, in the nomination and confirmation of a "nigger" to be the "postmaster for the proud capital of the chivalric State of South Carolina," and that the Government pays him \$83,200 a year for handing out letters to the ladies and gentlemen of Columbia.—The same number of the Tribune contains a statement, prominently set forth, that "there is no 'respectable' hotel in this Christian city, [New York,] so far as I know, where a colored man or woman, at any rate of compensa-

tion, will be received,"—a fact which the writer ascertained after having "addressed a letter to the proprietors of all the first-class, respectable hotels, inquiring in regard to their accommodation for colored people."

The bill for the disestablishment of the Irish church passed the British House of Commons by 118 majority.—It is believed that the Tories will not be bold enough to marshal their undoubted majority of Peers against the equally undoubted majority of the people. The passage of this measure, with the suffrage reform already effected, marks a revolution in Great Britain more important than any since the Norman conquest. Its full, and we trust, peaceable, fruit will yet be seen by the present generation.

The Washington Chronicle is indignant at the execution of some Cuban rebels, and the expatriation of others, by the Cuban Government, under sentence of a military commission.—The National Intelligencer reminds the Chronicle that our Cuban neighbors have the high example of the United States Government for their policy.—There is this difference in favor of Cuba: the military commissions there exercise their authority in time of war; while in our country these military tribunals are held in time of peace, and result in banishments and deaths, while the civil courts are confessedly competent to the free and full exercise of all their functions.

Mr. Miller, post master at Raleigh, a Union man who honestly took the test oath, has been turned out, and Calvin J. Rogers appointed in his place. The Sentinel says, that at a feast given to Captain York and his company, of Wake, during the war, Dr. Young, the present general ticket agent at the Shops, charged Capt. York and his company to bring him a lock of Old Abe's hair, on their return from the war. And I charge you, said Calvin J. Rogers, to bring me his head. The price paid for Radical recruits is a reward for treason. Thousands upon thousands of honest old Union men are under punishment of the degrading ban of Congress!

As the war waxes hot in Cuba, we begin to hear of Spanish wrongs to Americans. Exactly so! We recollect that, in 1846 or thereabouts, when our adventurers, filibusters and other rulers were turning their greedy eyes to the Rio Grande and to the Pacific coast, we began, for the first time to hear of the wrongs of Mexico to the United States. And, lo, the poor Indian has committed divers unpardonable wrongs as strip after strip of his land has become desirable to us.

Many instances of rapes and murders of white girls by negroes have lately come under notice in the newspapers. The details are too horrible to be copied. In one instance, in Dooley county, Georgia, the culprit was taken out of the jail by the people and burned to death. In another case, in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, the criminal was guarded in jail by the military, to prevent the execution of the popular vengeance. The behavior of a negro which might have resulted in this crime, recently caused some troubles in the neighboring county of Alamance. It is matter of wonder, that summary vengeance is not visited upon offenders of this sort, white or black!

Certain of our citizens were "doing the polite" to certain visitors from the North and from the West, during our late Superior court week. While in the court room, attention was arrested by two negro occupants of the jury box. Astonishment, mingled with indignation, was expressed severally by these northern and western visitors, and the remark made that such things were not, and could not be, permitted in their States. Reminders were left upon their memories—firmly but politely made, for our friends were gentlemen incapable of rudeness—that the people of the States from which these visitors came had voted upon us a thing which they indignantly refuse to accept themselves.

The colored lieutenant Governor of Louisiana was upon the floor of Congress for some time, on the first instant, and received marked attention from Senator Sumner and others. The Republicans of the House were, one by one, marched up and introduced: some of them were particularly obsequious.

The joint committee of Congress on Ordnance have elicited some curious facts in regard to the management of the Ordnance Bureau. The variety in the calibre, or bore, of the heavy guns and small arms, to suit the fancies of the officers, or the interests of contractors, is astonishing. Twenty different calibres of ammunition were furnished the Burnside expedition, ranging from 41 to 69 hundredths of an inch. The remarkable statement is made, that "during the war, the army has frequently found itself on the field of battle, facing the enemy, with ammunition one hundredth of an inch too large to be inserted in the gun."

J. B. HUNTER, N. C. Spotswood Burwell, N. C.  
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Ketchikan

THE  
RELATIVE STANDING  
OF LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES,  
Compiled from the reports of the Companies to the Insurance Supervisors of New York, for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1867.  
ISSUED BY THE  
Universal Life Insurance Company,  
OFFICE, 69 LIBERTY ST., NEW YORK.

"It would be entirely idle to establish a standard of reserve, and compute the liabilities of a Company in accordance with it, unless we went one step farther, and required the Company to respond in life and legitimate assets.—Report of Hon. John E. Sanford.

The true test of solvency is not the amount of assets which a Company may have, but the relative ratio of its assets to its liabilities.

A Company may have \$5,000,000 of assets, but if its liabilities are \$5,000,000, it is just as insolvent, as the Company which owes \$500,000, and has no assets.  
So also, a Company having \$5,000,000 of assets, and \$4,500,000 of liabilities, is in no better condition than the Company which has \$100,000 of assets and owes \$200,000.

Relative Standing  
OF 27 Life Companies doing business in N. Y.

NAME OF COMPANY	Orig'd.	Assets	Liabilities	Ratio of Assets to Liabilities
Aetna, Conn.	1873	134	57	46
Berkshire,	1851	129	109	65
Brooklyn,	1864	131	86	66
Charter Oak,	1860	142	129	63
Com'l Mutual,	1836	107	91	91
Continental,	1865	134	97	40
Equitable,	1859	121	121	103
Germania,	1851	127	123	103
Globe,	1864	120	120	66
Guardian,	1859	124	125	21
Home,	1860	135	74	69
John Hancock,	1862	131	89	64
Kiekerbocker,	1853	116	105	62</







