

THE GREENSBORO PATRIOT.

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(JNO. B. HUNSEY, Editor & Proprietor.)
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PROHIBITION A FAILURE IN IOWA.

An esteemed correspondent writes that "because prohibition is a failure in the town of Keokuk is no reason why prohibition should be a failure in the great temperance State of Iowa."

Certainly; but does not public sentiment in "the great temperance State of Iowa" sustain the action of the Keokuk city council in declaring prohibition a failure in that city?

From a copy of the Grand Rapids Gazette we should infer so. The Gazette has lately obtained the opinion of seventy-five members of the State Legislature, Democrats and Republicans, and of a number of prominent private citizens, as to the operation of the prohibitory law in their respective towns and counties. From a few of the smaller towns, where public sentiment is and has been favorable to prohibition, the reports are favorable, but most of the reports are of a different tenor. Thus a member of the Legislature from the important town of Duluth reports that there is no effort to enforce the law there or in the county, "except by a few cracks. There are about the same number of saloons at present as there was last year. There is no effort on the part of any officer to enforce the obnoxious law." At Davenport the case is the same:

"No effort has been made to enforce the law in this county. I am told that there to-day are more places where liquor is sold than existed a year ago. The legislators saw fit to deprive our municipal authorities of all powers of license tax and regulation. Our population has been augmented by saloon keepers from other States who have gone into business here. The large majority of our people are disgusted with the prohibitory law and the men and political party that made it. The feeling of our people can be read on the face of the most recent election returns [several thousand Democratic]. Several of our heretofore rampant prohibitionists have personally told me that they are now thoroughly convinced of the nonsense and the folly of the practical workings of a pet theory. In my opinion fully nine tenths of the people of Scott county are in favor of a liberal, well regulated license law. While our city, perhaps, has more saloons than any other Iowa city, it also has the smallest proportion of crime and the largest amount of bank deposits of any city in the State."

At Denison "everything runs wide open, and no restraint and no revenue." At Carroll there are more saloons and there is more drinking going on than there was before July, 1884." At Marquette "the feeling of opposition to prohibition is much more general and pronounced than formerly." At Silas "no attention whatever is paid to the law. Alcoholic drinks are sold openly as before the passage of the law." At Muscatine there has been an increase of drunkenness since the law went into effect. In Fort Madison "a thirsty individual has no trouble in quenching his thirst, provided he possesses the necessary shels." In Van Buren county "liquors are sold under the guise of ginger pop and champagne cider. Drug stores all sell liquor. Less beer and more whiskey drunk than last year." At Columbia "more liquor is being consumed than before the law took effect." In Ottumwa the number of saloons has increased from twenty-three to thirty. Drunkenness increased 20 per cent. Breweries are at work all the time. In Plymouth county efforts are made to enforce the law, but "all the saloons are running in full blast. The number of the saloons is the same as a year ago, despite the hard times."

Most of the favorable reports come from places where the amount of drinking was small before the prohibitory law went into effect. The law has been in operation since last July. We regret that the facts are against prohibition. Prohibitory legislation is impracticable. The Iowa experience is the Maine experience. Rum drinking is a blighting curse, but Prohibition is not the remedy.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS.

A bill is pending in Congress "to establish agricultural experimental stations," which has called out memorials from various quarters praying for its passage. The appropriation of the annual amount of \$15,000 for each State is asked of Congress, or \$755,000 altogether. It is to be remembered, or rather it has not yet been forgotten, that Congress once gave \$7,000,000 for the establishment of agricultural colleges in all the States. The memorial in favor of the bill from the faculty of the Ohio State University states that it is "to provide such stimulus for agricultural improvement as the patent laws do for mechanics and the copyright laws for authors."

ENSLAUGE CONGRESS.

The fourth Enslavage Congress held its sessions last week in New York, and was attended by several hundred farmers, dairymen and others interested in the subject of enslavement. The discussions were varied and full of animation. The questions discussed involved the methods of planting, the process of constructing and filling silos, and the quality of milk and butter made from ensilage as compared with other processes. Very much of the time of the Congress was occupied with discussing the proper method of weighing a silo after the green crop has been placed in it. The experience of the majority of speakers was that it is best to put on sufficient weight to exclude the air as soon as possible after the silo is filled. A number of farmers present, however, gave it as the result of their experience that silos may be filled gradually, some of them having been as long as two weeks in getting the crops in without injury to the food. The weight of evidence seemed to be in favor of cutting ensilage crops when nearly ripe or quite ripe, to secure the best results. There was some talk of sweet ensilage, but no farmer present was able to say that he had seen any. The propriety of cutting ensilage crops fine was generally acknowledged; as was also the good effect of feeding it with other crops. Testimony was produced both for and against the safety of feeding horses on ensilage; some said their horses thrived on it, and some said the horses died. No exception was offered of the fact that one of the largest manufacturers of condensed milk has refused to purchase the milk from cows fed on ensilage fodder. It was stated, however, that efforts are making to induce other large condensed milk factories to adopt it, and a report on the matter was promised.

The Congress visited a couple of well known farms in the vicinity of New York. It likewise adopted a resolution stating that the observations carefully made of the system of enslavement and the experience gained in its practice during the past year have deepened the confidence of the members of the congress in its merits, and demonstrated that it furnishes a more economical food than can be obtained under any other system, and at the same time one that is perfectly healthful both to the animal and the product.

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?

What will or will not be accomplished in the four weeks' hurry that is to close the legislative history of the present Congress, it is of course impossible to say. Yet the current probabilities appear to have taken the following turn; that the Spanish and other commercial treaties will not be confirmed; that the postal telegraph bill will not pass; that the bill to suspend silver coinage, if it can be got through the Senate, cannot be got through the House; that the inter-State commerce bill will go into conference committee and there die; that the same result is likely in reference to the land grant forfeiture bill and to the readjustment of the great indebtedness of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads; that the Senate bankruptcy bill, a very important measure, will not pass the House, it having been virtually killed by the filibusterers last week; that the Blair educational bill is so entangled among the parliamentary rules as to make it very difficult of extrication, and its passage a very remote probability. The Nicaragua treaty lacked five votes of confirmation, but is still before the Senate for reconsideration. Besides passing the usual appropriation bills, Congress will do nothing.

—The anti-fence movement gathers strength all along the line. The fence must go.

A BILL TO PROTECT PROPERTY.

An important bill has passed the State Senate regulating sales of land under mortgages. It is important to both creditors and debtors and should be speedily enacted into a law. The bill regulates sales of land under mortgage and deeds of trust, and provides for advertising sales of real estate for four weeks in some paper published in the county in which the land lies, besides having notices of such sales posted in five different places for thirty days. It is a well known fact that property is often sold at a great sacrifice on account of slim attendance caused by a default in making proper publication. It is due alike to the creditor and debtor that this should be remedied and the sooner a law is enacted for the purpose, the better it will be for all concerned.

THE DYNAMITE ARGUMENT.

An Englishwoman, giving the name of Yseult Dudley, has shot O'Donovan Rossa in the back, on the streets of New York city. In the same city the store of a firm in which there had occurred a strike of clerks was damaged by an explosion supposed to have been caused by a package of dynamite placed in the building by one of the striking clerks. In Chicago the other day several mysterious parcels of dynamite were found placed in a public library.

Rossa and his friends insist that the woman who shot him is an agent of the English authorities, bired to assassinate him. This is not likely.

But the shooting of Rossa, and the other incidents alluded to as occurring in New York and Chicago, prove the truth that violence not only begets violence in retaliation and revenge, but also through a sort of moral contagion and imitation that always follow any criminal enormity.

The moral of it all is, that, as wrong brings wrong, right will bring right; and this moral is enforced by the facts which show that the weakest victims of human tyranny and injustice are now armed with a might that no force or precession can guard against or repress.

RASCALITY AT A PREMIUM.

In the absence of bankruptcy laws and where debtors are allowed to prefer creditors, rascality has free course to run and be glorified. In many of the States justice appears to have been lost sight of by the men who framed and enacted the laws for the collection of debts. Laws which enable a bankrupt to secure one creditor at the expense of another—to put into A's hands as security for debt the goods bought on time of B—are in the interest of rascality. Laws which give the bankrupt's effects to the first creditor who brings a suit and files an attachment, shutting out other creditors from any dividend are equally in the interest of injustice. The true theory of bankruptcy legislation assumes that the effects of an insolvent debtor belong to the creditors pro rata.

—The Senate has passed its own Inter-State Commerce bill, with the commission attachment, as an amendment to the Reagan bill, without the attachment, which means an unavailing conference and the postponement of all legislation on the subject.

—Capt. Couch, the leader of the Oklahoma colonists, owns a good farm in Butler county, Kansas, and is one of the well-to-do citizens of that section. He is a native of North Carolina and only thirty-four years of age.

—The Senate, last week, passed a bill making it a misdemeanor to sell or give cigarettes or cigars to boys under ten years of age. Why not add intoxicating liquors, and make the inhibition apply to boys under fifteen years?

AN AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION.

Mr. B. F. Grady, of Duplin, submits the following timely suggestions:

Here is what the census says: 1. The persons engaged in agriculture, from ten years old and over, in 1879, produced, per capita, in Massachusetts, \$372; in Pennsylvania, \$431; in North Carolina, \$143.

2. Lands devoted to Indian corn yielded in 1879, per acre in Massachusetts, 54 bushels; in Pennsylvania, 33 bushels; in North Carolina, 12 bushels.

3. The estimated value of all farm products, (sold, consumed, or on hand) for 1879, per acre of improved land was, in Massachusetts, \$11.35; in Pennsylvania, \$8.66; in North Carolina, \$7.88.

4. The cost of building and repairing fences in 1879, per acre, of improved land, was in Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties 69 cents; in Duplin and Sampson counties, 314 cents.

5. Deducting the cost of the fence repairing from the value of the farm products in 1879, we find that the average yield of an acre of improved land was, in Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties, \$9.30; in Duplin and Sampson counties, \$7.66.

6. The value of the live stock, from horses to hogs inclusive, on the first day of June, 1880, per capita, was: In Massachusetts, \$27.60; in North Carolina, \$8.04. These facts, it seems to me, appeal strongly to the General Assembly in behalf of struggling agriculture in North Carolina. But what is done is done with a knowledge of all the facts bearing on the subject, and also a knowledge of the causes of these facts; and my suggestion is that a commission of farmers be appointed by the General Assembly, with full power to inquire into the status of agriculture in North Carolina as compared with that in other States and countries, with special reference to its methods and its economics, and report the results of their labors for the information of the people of the State and the guidance of our law makers.

Treating All Creditors Alike.

Mr. Buxton has introduced a bill to secure creditors a just division of the estate of debtors who convey to assignees for the benefit of creditors. It contains two leading features—the first providing that no assignment made to secure debtors shall contain preferences and the second requiring the assignee to give bond for faithfully accounting for distributing the assets.

The latter requirement we think will meet with universal approbation, for without doubt there is a grievance to be corrected because of the want of diligence, to use no other term, of some assignees.—*Raleigh Observer.*

The former provision is of more importance, and it is to be hoped that Senator Buxton will press his bill. Preferring creditors, in the majority of instances, is legalizing rascality. We doubt whether the law would stand the test of the Supreme court. A similar statute has been declared unconstitutional in South Carolina.

—The *Raleigh News and Observer*, in mentioning the fact that Representatives Dunn and Rogers, of Arkansas, are both natives of North Carolina, is proud to know that Senator elect Jones is also of North Carolina stock, his father having emigrated to Mississippi from Wake county.

North Carolina in the Van.

(Raleigh Observer.)

North Carolina has long borne the reputation of being slow though sure. That she is sure all the world admits, but the assertion that she is slow is not borne out by the facts of her history. A very cursory examination will show that she has ever been either first or among the first of the States in whatever work seemed likely to redound to the common interest or glory of the Union.

In 1740 for example our people showed her energy and patriotism by sending a battalion on the expedition against Carthage; in 1754 and subsequently they sent troops to fight the French at Pittsburg and elsewhere and later they were the first to cross the Alleghenies and explore the wilds of what has since been called the "dark and bloody ground" of Kentucky.

In the trying times of 1765 we were behind none and when in 1769 the citizens of Wilmington resorted to arms "to remove the particular restraints imposed upon the commerce of that place," the action was without parallel in colonial history up to that time.

In revolutionary action our people were confessedly ahead of all the other colonies, and in 1787 our statesmen declined to accept the constitution until it had been made to conform to their views.

In 1818 we brought from England Mr. Alexander H. Fulton, an engineer of the world, and employed him for a number of years in the work of opening our waterways, and we know of no similar enterprise at so early a date on the part of any other State.

In 1810 Judge Murphy, chair man of the board of public improvements, reported to the legislature that in executing surveys an attempt had been made to gather information concerning the geology and mineralogy of the State, and in 1823 Prof. Olmstead, for a period of four years, was employed to study and report on the geology of the State. This was the first geological survey ever made in the United States by public authority.

When the practicability of railroads was demonstrated, North Carolina entered that field promptly. The statute books of 1823 are filled with charters of railroad companies, some of the enterprises suggested and in 1837 an internal improvement convention that was the greatest assemblage of intellect ever witnessed in the State, was held, and a State system of railroads was adopted. Was that not early for such operations? The Wilmington and Weldon road, to the stock of which Wilmington subscribed more than all the real estate in the town, was completed at the time of the war.

For public schools our people early made such provision as they could, and when in 1837 the Federal government deposited with the State \$1,500,000 revenue derived from the sales of public lands, they devoted the whole of it to the public school fund.

Our banking system was the first put on a sound basis, and having been perfected as experience justified, became the equal of any in the land.

The establishment of our insane asylum was an example to the rest of America, and amply proved the energetic as well as the humane spirit of our statesmen.

During the last war our State is admitted to have been the most careful of all the Confederate States of the comfort and effectiveness of the troops she sent into the field, and the brilliant valor and heroic endurance of those troops illustrated the wisdom of her thoughtful leaders, while it reflected the imperishable lustre on the cause of the Confederacy. She was alone in establishing a system of importing sugar for the purpose of supporting the maintenance of the government, and furnished her people corn, provisions and salt.

Since the war much has been undertaken over which we pass to mention the creation of the State agricultural department and the establishment of an experiment station, the second only in point of time in the Union.

Disraeli on Women.

The late Earl Beaconsfield was certainly one of the most cynical men of his day, nor is it altogether astonishing that his nature inclined in that direction. As Benjamin Disraeli, a member of a despised race, he found himself, at the outset of his political and literary career, at the greatest public disadvantage. He had to do every thing for himself. No one lent him a helping hand. The aristocracy, which was then far more influential than it is now, looked upon him with unconcealed scorn, and it pleased society from the very beginning to ridicule him. But his intense energies trampled upon all that opposed them. The privileged classes began by hating him. They ended by fearing him. He learned to know all their foibles, their weaknesses and their meanesses, and when he was in the plenitude of his power, as he was shortly before his death, he twisted the House of Lords around his finger at will, and was, in the truest sense of the word, triumphant alike over the accident of his birth and over the prejudices of caste.

He publicly declared that he ruled mankind by despising it, and his books, his speeches and his actions combine to prove that his cynicism was real, and not merely assumed for occasional use. Nothing more distinctly shows his habitual tone of thought than the contents of a well thumbed little MS. note-book, which has recently come to light. It is quite certain the contents were not intended for publication. Here is a budget of extracts:

"Coquettes give their blossoms to their lovers and their thorns to their husbands."

"When a woman has lost one battle she rarely wins another against the same foe."

"A blush often announces the departure as well as the arrival of shame."

Jefferson Davis Interviewed.

(New Orleans Special to Baltimore Sun.)

Upon being shown the letter published in the *Sun* from General Sherman, Mr. Davis said the General had the best opportunity of knowing his sentiments upon the subject, as he had spent some time with him. He is very severe on Gen. Sherman, and will in a short time present to the public an article on the subject, which is expected to be a very vigorous document. He says Gen. Sherman is not worthy of a reply, but in justice to his (Mr. Davis') friends and the cause he represented he will shortly give to the public a complete vindication of his course while serving as President of the Confederacy. Mr. Davis says Gen. Sherman has not furnished any proof to support his accusation that he (Davis) contemplated the establishment of despotism in the South during the war, and denies in the most emphatic terms that he ever wrote a letter upon which such an accusation can be founded. Most persons, and Gen. Sherman included, are laboring under the impression that Mr. Davis lost or had captured or stolen from him during the late unpleasantness all of his private papers, letters, &c., but this is not the case. Mr. Davis informed the *Sun* correspondent that he has in his possession copies of all the letters he wrote during the war, including his messages. These valuable records were saved for him by a Catholic priest, who recovered and hid them from him until after his release from prison. Mr. Davis' answer to the charges of General Sherman will contain several extracts from them.

During the conversation Mr. Davis spoke in very complimentary terms of Reverdy Johnson, Jas. Alfred Pearce and John P. Kenne dy, of Maryland. He said Reverdy Johnson was "a noble man," and one of the greatest this country has ever produced. James Alfred Pearce he regarded as a statesman of exceptional power and one of the ablest men of his time.

On being asked who was the greatest man he ever met in public life, Mr. Davis answered: "John C. Calhoun. He was a noble, genial, warm hearted gentleman withal. Alfred Pearce was a greater man, if we judge by results, but he was not learned. He was a safe man, and had more sound common sense than any man I ever knew. Gen. Taylor was also a great man, and one of the best friends I had in the world, but I did not support him for President. John Quincy Adams was also a great statesman, and perhaps the best equipped man I ever knew."

The extraordinary contest in the Illinois Legislature.

United States Senators for the terms ending in 1891 have already been chosen in twenty-two States. This duty remains to be performed in New Hampshire, where the Legislature does not meet until June, in Oregon, where the balloting is still in progress, and in Illinois, where a deadlock, occasioned by the almost exactly equal division of parties, has resulted in a prolonged contest, with some very curious features.

The Republicans controlled the Senate by a majority of one, and organized that body. The House was not organized until last Thursday, when Mr. Elijah M. Haines, a Democrat, was elected permanent Speaker. On the surface of things the Democrats had a majority of twenty-two days of preliminary wrangling. This would make a tie vote on joint ballot, provided the leaders on both sides were able to enforce strict party discipline. But the Senators, who are the personal attachments and animosities of a few members of the House on each side have to a certain extent broken the party lines. Logan leads among the Republicans, but there are a few Farwell men who declare that they will not vote for Black Jack under any circumstances. There are among the Democrats certain friends of Mr. Harrison who say that they will never vote for the Republican, William R. Morrison, who has received the caucus nomination.

Dark horses are snorting in the background. The intrigues of the several factions, the attempted combination with shabby partisans of the other side, the bitter personal hatreds influencing the course of several of the members, the occasional sickness of a legislator, and, above all, the occasional possibilities of a situation where, in effect, every individual holds the casting vote and the balance of power, are some of the elements of one of the most complicated political games ever played at any State capital.

The Fence Must Go.

(Resolution adopted by Greene County Farmers.)

That we, the land owners and non land owners, find that after trying the working of the present stock law for two years, that it is a great benefit to the farmers and farm labor in our county.

That prior to the enactment of the stock law in Greene county with a lawful fence enclosing it, and at present most of the fences have rotted down that have not been removed entirely.

That we find from the tax list that the value of livestock is nearly as much as prior to the enactment of the stock law, and the value increasing annually.

That under the old fence law it cost the farmers annually more than the value of the live stock running at large to keep the fences in repair.

—All diseases are now attributed to bacteria or bacilli. This germ theory has become a perfect craze.

Drink in the Time of the Crusaders.

(All the Year Round.)

The Crusaders were great toppers, and to them is due the bringing of spirits. The Arabs had reinvented distilling, but the process is described by Galen and Zosimus, writing in the second and fifth centuries respectively. It is thought to have been known to the old Chaldees, and from them transmitted to the Scythians—Tartars, who, like the Kurds nowadays, were always making inroads toward the Mediterranean. Alcohol is, of course, an Arabic word—probably the same as the Hebrew "kaal," Chaldean "khal," meaning anything highly subtilized, whether in powder or spirit. In the former shape it is applied to the finely powdered antimony, the "kohl" with which Eastern women paint their eyelashes. With the article, "al," it is the spirit, or, as Lucifer, in Longfellow's "Golden Legend," says:

"The elixir of perpetual youth."
Called alcohol in the Arab speech.

This, by and by, became a formidable rival to the older liquors, of which Girdleus Cambrensis has written: "Their constant habit of drinking has made the English famous among all nations. Both nature and custom make them drunkards. It is a strife between Ceres and Bacchus; but in the beer which conquers and dominates over them, Ceres prevails." Spirits, however, were not made or much drunk in England till the sixteenth century. Even abroad for a long time brandy was only used as a medicine. The efforts of chemists like Raymond Lully being devoted to rectifying what the Arabian Alchemists had taught them how to produce in a hydrated form. How is it that whisky (uisgebaugh-water of life) got into use so much sooner in Scotland and Ireland? It cannot be because mountains are unsuited to maltmaking, for such of Ireland is plain, and the Welsh have never exchanged their ancestral ewr, (beer), such as it is, for spirits. Moreover, good ales are still brewed in Scotland and Ireland, notably at Drogheda, and the old song about King Arthur's Court testifies that in early times

"The Scot loved ale-bellied blue-cap." I suppose the habit of spirit drinking was learned abroad. Scots of the Dugal Dalgetty class brought over that and other bad customs, and they were a numerous class, and from the colonists to Ulster were largely recruited.

(Low Latine, Scotland) had, by the way, in olden times, a far different meaning; it is, properly, a gathering where each paid his share, and thence comes to mean a public house. In King John's reign the Council of St. Alban's forbids "Viscounts, foresters, and others to hold Scot ales where they please."

A King's officer would hold a Scot ale within one of the royal forests, out of the rate of 1 c. of the common levy and thither he would compel men to repair, just as a publican nowadays is sometimes able to prevent a man from getting work unless he deals with the "house of call," where workmen assemble and wages are paid.

—Eighteen hundred dollars' worth of strawberries have been raised on two and a half acres of ground by a farmer of Delaware township, Camden county, N. J., and he accordingly has received a premium from the State Board of Agriculture.

Chinese Medicines.

(San Francisco Chronicle.)

In a list of 442 Chinese medicines given in one of the standard medical works translated by Dr. Hobson, of the London Medical Mission, I find such curious items as "dried red spotted lizard, silk worm moth, parasite of mulberry trees, ass's glue, tops of hartshorn and birds' nest, black and white lead, stalaetite, asbestos from stag's horn, human milk, ferns," all recommended as tonics; burned straw, oyster shells, gold and silver leaf, iron filings, and the bones and tusks of dragons are stated to be astrigent. The so-called dragon's bones, by the way, are the fossil remains of the Megatherium and other extinct animals which are found in various places, and which our new Anglo-Saxon ancestors esteemed so highly for medicinal purposes; indeed, any of our own forefathers might suppose, in glancing over these Chinese prescriptions, that he was reading the medical lore of Britain until the eighteenth century!

There is the identical use of ingredients, selected, apparently, solely on account of their bathosomeness. Nor are these the worst. There are certain diseases which the physicians declare to be incurable save by a decoction of which the principal ingredient is warm human flesh cut from the arm or thigh of a living son or daughter of the patient! To supply this piece of flesh is (naturally) esteemed one of the noblest acts of filial devotion, and there are numerous instances on record in quite recent years in which this generous offering has been made to save the life of a parent, and even of a mother in law!

A case which was held up for special commendation in the *Official Gazette* of Peking in 1870 was that of a young girl who had actually tried herself to eat the flesh from her thigh to save the life of her mother, but, finding her courage fail, she had cut off two joints of her finger and dropped the flesh into the medicine, which, happily, proved equally efficacious. "If," says the *Official Gazette*, "this act of filial piety is commended, it is the duty of a parent to reward the mother." This case called forth "boundless laudations" from the Governor-General of the Province of Kiang-si, who begged that the Emperor would bestow "some exemplary reward on the child, such as the erection of a great triumphal arch of carved stone, to commemorate the act."

How a Drunkard Reformed.

(San Francisco Call.)

"I had noticed that men who made a business of buying and selling wines in large quantities sampled them and ascertained their quality and bouquet by taking two or three mouthfuls in succession, rolling it around their tongues, as one might say, bathing their palate in it—in short, subjecting it to the severest tests by the organs of taste—and then ejecting it from the mouth without swallowing any. The remembrance of this came upon me one day when I was perfectly sober but terribly despondent. I resolved to try it. I did, and have met with the most gratifying success. You may laugh, but it is the solemn truth. I took a large drink of liquor, but instead of letting it pass into my stomach I checked it in my throat and gargled it for a minute and then spat it out. To my joy I found that just for it almost as much as appeared as though I had swallowed the liquor. I tried it again and again with the same effect. I was not made drunk. I have followed this plan ever since, and have not been drunk since, although I have gargled the liquor, never swallowing a drop, as many as a dozen or more times a day—the same number of drinks I used to take. The plan is a very simple one, and, as I believe, the only one for a slave to the cup."

"Has your appetite increased?" "On the contrary, it has decreased. By the means I adopted my brain has become clear and strong again, and my will power is as good as it ever was before I became a hard drinker. In gargling the liquor I get all the benefit of the flavor and still the satisfaction to my appetite, without losing my senses."

Killed by a Freight Train.

(Danville Register.)

Intelligence was received here late last evening that Mr. Aquilla Wilson, an old citizen of this county, had been killed on the railroad near his home. Mr. Wilson was in Danville yesterday with his wife, son and daughter, and the family were making some purchases at the stores here. About one o'clock they left in a vehicle for their home, which is near the Richmond and Danville railroad, some three miles east of Ringgold and eight miles from Danville. On arriving at Ringgold, Mr. Wilson decided to walk home down the railroad track, with his wife and children driving a greater distance along the country road. As he was going across the railroad bridge over Sandy Creek, three miles east of Ringgold and in sight of his home, the freight train approached at usual speed and Mr. Wilson seeing his danger hurried to get across before the train should reach him, but being an old man he stumbled and fell on the bridge and was run over by the train and his body shockingly mangled, death following instantly.

It is thought he might have been severely injured in the fall before the train reached him, and so disabled from recovering himself, but of this we have no positive information. It is also said that he was carried by the section master, or to attempt the passage over the bridge as it was near train track, but thought he could get over before the freight came.

Mr. Wilson was probably seventy-five years of age, and a well known citizen of the county.

Police Gazette Literature Published.

(Philadelphia Times.)

The Legislature has passed a bill, since the *Police Gazette* and *Illustrated News* sort of literature, of the following import:

Sec. 1. That any person who shall import, print, sell or distribute a book, pamphlet, ballad, printed paper or other thing containing obscene, indecent or impure language manifestly tending to the corruption of the morals of youth or an obscene, indecent or impure print, picture, figure or description, or any such thing, shall be fined not more than \$100, or imprisoned not more than six months, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 2. This act shall be in force from and after April 1st, 1885."

Southern Office Destroyed.

(Philadelphia Times.)

That there will be a general change of the Federal officers in the South can hardly be a matter of doubt. Civil service reform imperatively demands it, as nine-tenths of them have prostituted their powers to the meanest partisan or personal ends, and most of them are conspicuously lacking alike in competency and character.

Instead of regarding public office as a public trust, they have, as a rule, employed their positions not only in the most unscrupulous way in politics, but they have persistently and systematically disturbed the business and tranquility of the South, and inflamed the prejudices of the ignorant blacks to array themselves against the people from whom they must receive employment and sustenance. The civil service of the South, taken as a whole, has been one of the terrible causes of both races and it will stand out in history as one of the indelible blots upon the government. It will now be changed and reformed, and that will end all race organization in politics.

—A top dressing of wood ashes is said to be an excellent preventive of the yellows in peaches. It may be discovered yet that this disease is due to germs and bacteria and microbes.

THE CAPTURE OF KHARTOUM.

British operations in Egypt have received a severe and unexpected check in the capture of Khartoum by the Mahdi's forces. The capitulation took place on the 26th January, intelligence of which reached this country by cable on the 5th of February. Gen. Gordon held Khartoum and had expressed confidence in his ability to hold it indefinitely. In this calculation he allowed nothing for the treachery of the natives who had espoused the British cause. Seven thousand of the garrison deserted to the rebels, leaving only 2,500 faithful soldiers. With this small force Gen. Gordon attempted to hold the city against the Mahdi's army of 60,000, but after severe fighting, in which a large number of rebels were killed, he was compelled to surrender. This news caused great excitement in London and throughout Europe. The capitulation of Khartoum must of necessity inspire the Mahdi's troops to more vigorous resistance, and what looked like a walk-over for England now means desperate fighting. If the reports as to the number of the Mahdi's army be true, there is good ground for the apprehension that is said to prevail in London. Wolsley's forces are divided and his columns may be crushed out singly by sheer weight of numbers. Gen. Stewart's column, which has been reinforced from Korti, is near Metemneh, about ninety miles from Khartoum, and in striking distance of the Mahdi; while Earl's column is in the second grand bend of the Nile, where it may have to give battle to a determined foe any day. A junction between these two columns in time to save the former, were it attacked by a force sufficient to overwhelm it, would therefore seem impossible.

Khartoum is the capital of the Egyptian Sudan and is situated on the banks of the Bah el-Azrek, or Blue Nile, nearly at its junction with the White Nile. It has a population of 20,000, composed of Egyptians, Berbers, Arabs, Turks, Jews, Europeans and negroes. Khartoum carries on an extensive ivory trade, mostly in the hands of six of the larger merchants, which facilitates also the operations of the regular slave traders, who pour into the negro countries annually by thousands, on the roads over Kordofan and Darfour. The merchants of Khartoum maintain a great number of settlements in districts as near as possible to the present ivory countries, and among peaceful races devoted to agriculture. They have apportioned the surrounding territory among themselves, and have brought the natives to a condition of vassalage. They are represented by agents who command the armed men of the country, determine what products the natives shall pay as tribute, appoint and displace the local managers, carry on war or make alliances with the chiefs, and once a year remit the collected stores to Khartoum.

In this connection it will be interesting to know what a Mahdi is, Mahdi, or Mahadi, as D'Herbelot spells it, is an ancient title in the Moslem world which at first signified simply director of the faithful. But in the course of Moslem history, and especially Moslem history in Africa, it came to have another significance and related to an accepted prophecy of Mohammed. It necessarily refers to the African part of Arabic history. By this second, any significance of the word the Mahadi is a certain ancient leader come again. His appearance is the "second advent" of a prophet who lived in the old days and who in all the meantime has been with the immortals. Mohammed, the twelfth Imam, and the twelfth in descent from Ali, is the real original. He is the Mahadi who comes again every now and then. He was hidden from the world at an early age and communed only with his disciples through his lifetime, and finally did not die, but "went up," with the fixed intention of returning to revive the glories of Moslem. As in the Christian theory, and even in the history of several monarchies, this legend of a prince who is to return has afforded a favorite pretext for no end of impostures, so it did in Islam. The most famous of these in past ages was Abulcassem Mohammed Ben Abdallah, the founder of the Fatimid dynasty in Africa. Mohammed has prophesied that in three hundred years the sun would rise in the west, and as Abulcassem's glory was in 206 of the Hegira, it was held that the prophecy referred to him, and since then the idea of the Mahadi has commonly had relation to a revival of the glories of Islam in that Western world of Moslemism, the provinces of Africa held by the Arabs.

MR. CLEVELAND'S CABINET.

President elect Cleveland spent part of last week in New York city for the purpose of conferring with leading Democrats touching the composition of his Cabinet. Delegations from a dozen or more States called on him and presented as many names for Cabinet appointment. North Carolina was represented by Senator Vance and Congressman Skinner, who presented ex Gov. Jarvis' claims. The New York Times says "they bore with them a paper signed by nearly all the members of the North Carolina Legislature, urging the appointment of ex Gov. T. J. Jarvis to the Cabinet. Mr. Vance interspersed his advocacy of this appointment with enough anecdotes to put Mr. Cleveland in excellent humor over it, and he will at least have something pleasant by which to remember Mr. Jarvis."

Among other distinguished visitors, the *Herold* noticed the presence of "Col. John N. Staples, of North Carolina, who was Chairman of the Electoral College, and who wants to be made United States District Attorney in his State, also presented himself, but said nothing to indicate to Mr. Cleveland that he would surely be appointed."

Inauguration day is now only three weeks off, and it would be interesting to know Mr. Cleveland's conclusions about his Cabinet. But the politicians who called on him in New York last week confess they are entirely at sea about the Cabinet. Not one has received the slightest hint as to a single appointment. The visitors are divided in opinion as to the present situation. Some profess to believe that Mr. Cleveland had really made up his mind before he went to New York, and that his visit there was made to disarm the criticism that might be passed upon him had he not listened to the views of more members of his party before announcing his choice.

The other theory about the situation is that Mr. Cleveland is proceeding with great caution and deliberation, and that not a single appointment has yet been tendered and accepted.

The latter theory is, doubtless, the correct one. If any slate has been fixed no doubt it will be many times recast before the 4th of March. It is said that in all his appointments while Governor Mr. Cleveland made his decision at the eleventh hour. He rarely acted on first impressions, and made no appointment until the time came to fill the place. He gained a reputation for being secretive, but he was usually reticent only because he had not reached a conclusion. His mental processes could be discerned by no one, and his nearest friends were frequently surprised by his choice. When the Cabinet is announced the country will be surprised if not shocked.

THE SUDANESE WAR.

As was expected England is aroused over the fall of Khartoum (or Kartoum). The *London Times* says: "No words of ours are adequate to express the mingled feelings of dismay, consternation, and indignation which have been universally evoked by the news. The present situation is the result of a long course of disregard of the elementary maxims of statesmanship. The country is obliged to confess that everything has been done that could be done to add to the risks of defeat. Advice has been spurned, time wasted, and opportunity lost. The splendid valor of our soldiers, which offered the last chance for retrieving the mistakes of a bad policy was handicapped by the choice of a time of march which was at the same time long and difficult, and without the means of communication and without a base of supply. By the loss of Khartoum, which was his objective point, General Wolsley's whole expedition is in the air. The concentration of his forces is a first necessity which confronts Wolsley. But where shall he concentrate? His only effective base is Suakin, and to make this available Osman Digna must be vanquished and the road to Berber opened. General Gordon must be saved or avenged. The honor of the country must be vindicated at whatever cost."

The *Daily News* says: "Seldom in the memory of living man has news been received of such a disaster to England. The cry of 'Too late' against the Government is unjustified. The danger must be met by national resolve. We must act instantly and vigorously."

The *Morning Standard* says in its leading article:

"Let none forget Gordon's last act of heroism. Though knowing that he had traitors in his camp, he stood by the town and people committed to his charge, and sent his only means of escape to help the British expedition on its way to his relief. He has won undying fame for his country, if only by this act. The grievous blow which England has suffered must be met with calm reason, and not with panic passion. All party spirit must be dropped and a resolution taken by the whole country that the path of prudence and honor points to the recapture of Khartoum. If we shrink this duty the lives of thousands of British soldiers will have to be risked hereafter in trying to retrieve the blunder."

The *Morning Post* says: The mouse trap policy of the

Mahdi appears to have had a terrible success. It seems that the Mahdi's calculation was to lure the British army into a perilous position. The pressing question of the moment is, Can Lord Wolsley rescue General Stewart's column?

The *Daily Telegraph* says: "The situation is one of grave and complicated difficulty. The Mahdi must be crushed. The government has a misfortune to repair, but it has no disgrace to lament. All now needed is that statesmen rise to the heroic level of our soldiers."

The British Cabinet has decided to send a telegraphic order to India for the dispatch of the Indian troops to Suakin, and in the mean while to reinforce the garrison at Suakin by drafts of troops from England and the Mediterranean.

The consensus of opinion in the Ministry is in favor of a strong, active and vigorous policy. The Ministry will sanction any demand of Lord Wolsley which will aid in the defeat of the Mahdi and will secure the release of Gen. Gordon alive or wreak vengeance upon the Arabs if he is slain.

Speaking of the situation, Gen. R. E. Colston, of North Carolina, late a Bey in the Khedive's army, says the British army is in a terrible and disastrous condition, and he would not be surprised if it was totally destroyed. The fall of Khartoum, Gen. Colston thinks, is due to military blunders and to the utter incompetency of the present British ministry. In answer to the question, "What will the Mahdi do now?" he says he must have had a very large force concentrated near Khartoum in order to have been able to capture it, and now that his forces are loosed from there they will descend upon Stewart's little band, which must now be reduced to about 1,600, and will wipe them out. He would not be surprised if a mere corporal's guard were to escape slaughter. All the Bedouins, with whom the Mahdi is swarming, and who have been hitherto neutral, waiting to see who came out best, will now turn against the British. There will be a general rising of all the tribes everywhere. The situation does seem critical, indeed.

Who will be the first to offer the buncombe adjournment resolution?

It is believed in London that Gen. Gordon was killed at Khartoum.

The *Raleigh Observer* draws a distinction between "subscription list" and "circulation." Correct.

We have it from the best authority that Mr. Cleveland will select his cabinet from New York, Indiana, New Jersey, Connecticut, Virginia, Wisconsin, Arkansas and Delaware or Ohio.

The indiscriminate praise of everything and everybody in North Carolina has done and is doing a vast deal of harm. Are we a race of toadies? The few great men we have (and they are few anywhere) are lowered by an adulation which, not confined to them, is as senseless as it is ignominious. Let us have a rest.

Garfield completed his Cabinet in the third story of the Riggs House after he went to Washington to be inaugurated, and thought it a success because, like Barnum's happy family, all the animals could be put into the same room without biting each other.

Mr. Cleveland will stop at the Arlington.

Only twenty delegates attended the meeting of Superintendents of Public Instruction in Raleigh last week. The one way to build up good schools in North Carolina is to raise an adequate school fund. With money, will come comfortable school houses and well equipped teachers. Don't bother about the system.

The caucus vote for State printer was 63 for the *Raleigh Register*; 34 for the *Chronicle* 19. As the editor of the *Observer* is down for the Raleigh post office, it was deemed the right thing to distribute the patronage. The post office pays \$2,600. Postmaster Nicholson's term expires in June next.

W. R. Morrison is the nominee of the Democratic caucus in Illinois for Senator, but the three Chicago Democratic members of the Legislature—Sullivan, Dorman, and Mulcaugh—publicly announced that they cannot vote for him on account of his horizontal tariff folly. Unless he can get some Republican votes his Senatorial goose is cooked.

With the Richmond *Whig*, we have no tears to shed over the British defeat in the Sudan. It is true that the sentiment of the world was aroused in horror and condemnation at the British brutality which has been a worse scourge of mankind than barbarism itself. Look everywhere, and the earth is red with human blood, shed wantonly by British arms. Europe, Asia, Africa, America and all the isles of the sea have suffered terribly from England's cruel and remorseless greed and grasp.

The snowball on the Italian Alps is pronounced the heaviest within the memory of man. So far as known, 300 lives have been lost through the storms.

Congressman William McAdoo, New Jersey, will bid adieu to bachelor life to-morrow, at Bon Air, Va., taking for his wife one of the belles of that State, Miss Eva Lee Tardy, of Lynchburg.

The action of the Democratic caucus last week makes it certain that the State will have four additional circuit court judges and four additional solicitors. We know of 36 candidates for judicial appointment. The candidates for solicitor are too numerous for paragraphic mention. More judges, better judges and fewer perpetual motion lawyers, will do much towards simplifying the judicial reform problem.

The abolition of the 5th Collection District subjects the manufacturers to annoyance, in convenience and cost. It is the largest manufacturing District in the State and its abolition is either a piece of official shortsightedness or a cowardly way of disposing of an unworthy and troublesome collector. A petition is being circulated among the manufacturers asking the restoration of the District. It is purely a business movement, and has no politics in it.

A circular addressed to us by Mr. Winston, chairman of the Senate committee on Insurance, asks, Have you any suggestions to offer looking to relief from the present high rates of insurance, and consequently looking to a breaking up of the Southeastern Tariff Association? We reply that the Southeastern Tariff Association ought to be legislated out of the State, if such a thing is possible. It has arbitrarily imposed prohibitory rates of insurance, and if there is anything in our State insurance laws that encourages such highway robbery the remedy ought to be speedily applied.

General George B. McClellan will contribute two papers to *The Century* war series, one of a general nature on the peninsula campaign, and the second on the battle of Antietam. General Joseph E. Johnston, who until the battle of Seven Pines, commanded the Confederate forces opposed to McClellan in the same campaign, will write of the Confederate side, covering the period from Manassas to Seven Pines, dealing with both battles, and with his own relations and differences with Jefferson Davis. It will be remembered that General Johnston was wounded at Seven Pines, and was soon after succeeded in command by General Lee.

The bill (a printed in last week's *PATRIOT*) for the relief of the disabled confederate soldiers passed the House by a vote of 75 to 14. The Republican vigorously flamed the bloody shirt and voted solidly against the bill, with the honorable exception of Hugh Cole, the colored representative from Pasquotank county. Speaking in favor of the bill he said "though a Republican, and though he stood alone in his party, he heartily approved it, and would vote for it even if he sacrificed all his political prospects."

The bill will pass the Senate without a doubt.

A very interesting piece of news comes from New York. It is said that the President-elect has in effect determined on a plan for the regulation of appointments by which a sort of advisory or recommendatory board of democrats is to be formed in each State, and that all applications for appointments are to be deemed regular or irregular serious executive consideration at Washington will have to come through or receive the indorsement of those bodies. This brilliant idea is said to have originated in Illinois, and was adopted by Mr. Cleveland without a moment's hesitation.

The Dog is King.

Dr. D. H. Batts, one of our worst farmers, and a county commissioner, found his pasture dotted on Wednesday morning with the carcasses of his sheep, killed by dogs on Tuesday night.

This gentleman, a short time since, was the happy owner of a flock of two hundred and sixty sheep. Fifty now will cover his entire fold.

Two hundred and ten sheep, at \$5 a piece, would be worth \$500; at \$2, their value would be \$200. Just contrast the value of the dogs that destroyed them. Isn't it enough to make the heavens frown and flash the earth with indignation?

T. P. Braswell, of the Battleboro section, a most intelligent and live man generally, has lost so many sheep by the destroying dogs, that he has been forced reluctantly to abandon the field.

And thus when North Carolina could easily add wool growing as one of our most profitable industries.

This will never be, so long as demagoguism succeeds and legislators are afraid of their shadows. A suffering people once more appeal to them. Shall they appear in vain?

The snowball on the Italian Alps is pronounced the heaviest within the memory of man. So far as known, 300 lives have been lost through the storms.

The New Orleans Exposition.

Notwithstanding all the complaints that have been made, the great Exposition is admitted on all sides to be wonderfully interesting. The exhibits, as they now stand, will compare favorably in extent, variety and attractiveness with those of the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876, although some departments are yet incomplete. Visitors from the North seem never to be tired of roaming over the grounds, now that days of warmth and brightness have succeeded to the dismal weather which marked the opening weeks; the grass is of luxuriant growth, newly planted shrubbery is sprouting, rose twigs from California are beginning to leaf, and tropical plants of almost indescribable variety contribute their portion to ward making a scene of beauty which it would be hard at present to match in any part of the world.

The feeling of uncertainty regarding the financial prospects of the enterprise, on which, of course, largely depends the smooth working of the show in a great many respects, has been almost entirely removed by the action of the N. O. Cotton Exchange. Director General Burke asked that body for \$600,000, which was promptly raised and the money used for indebtedness for current expenses, that had got in arrears, owing to delays in getting things in order and the restriction of attendance by the bad weather of the first few weeks.

The main building, covering more than thirty acres, offers never ending subjects of interest to the visitor, as they will appreciate who remember the amount of time required to obtain any adequate idea of what was contained in the principal structure at Philadelphia, which was only about half its size. Here is presented a representative panorama, through its broad vistas, of the productions and resources of the United States and nearly all foreign countries. It is the greatest school for the dissemination of practical and useful knowledge in this world to-day; the mechanic, the engineer, the farmer—the producer in every walk of life—can here find food for study, with amplest exemplifications of the experience of others, and the would-be man of the world can, figuratively, go into all foreign countries and learn much of their productions and characteristics—all under the same roof.

In cotton working and other machinery the Patent Office makes a most interesting display, the growth and development of many of our industries being shown by means of the models of labor saving appliances. Perhaps the most historically interesting is the model of the original cotton gin invented by Eli Whitney. There is also a model of a contrivance for lifting vessels over shoals, patented by Abraham Lincoln; and another of the Hoe cylinder printing press.

The Chinese exhibit presents many novelties, some of which it is rather difficult for citizens to comprehend.

One significant feature in this department is the display of cotton cloth of all grades, from the coarsest bagging to a quality so fine as to be more valuable than silk goods. This is a "cotton centennial." It is true, but more than two thousand years before modern industry found profitable employment in working up this fiber for universal use, cotton was largely used in the domestic manufactures of India; and two centuries before the Christian era cotton cloth was either paid in tribute or offered in presents to the Emperors of China as a thing rare and precious, and some of these gossamer filaments are on exhibition by the side of the products of our modern factories.

The National Cotton Planters' Association will assemble in the Exposition building to-day, and President Arthur has accepted the invitation of the president of the association to be present. Cotton men from all parts of the world have responded favorably to the invitation sent out by the association through Secretary of State Frelinghuysen, and it will undoubtedly be the greatest assembly of cotton men the world has ever seen.

The horticultural department of the exhibition received an immense impetus from the recent convention in New Orleans of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society, which had been given the special charge of organizing such exhibits.

The society undertook to make a display which would give a large opportunity to study the effects of climate and soil, of latitude and longitude and altitude, in the modification of plant and tree growth, and upon the size, form, texture, quality, durability, and beauty of the fruits of the world; a task to which it has devoted the most earnest effort, and in which it has accomplished great results. Over 8,000 specimens of forest, fruit, and ornamental trees were planted in the exhibition park, the California tree exhibit alone including over 700 species. There is a valuable and complete classified collection of American grape vines, and one bed alone contains 20,000 hyacinths, the total planting of these bulbs by one house amounting to 230,000.

The facilities for the accommodation of visitors and to whom they were immediately after the opening. The buildings are about six miles from the heart of the city, and are reached either by the horse car lines or by steamboats on the river, but the work of getting to and from the grounds should, and probably will be, greatly lessened by the coming of the aditron road, expected during February, March, and April. The managers have late organized a department of information and accommodation for visitors, and are now furnishing lists of places where board and lodging can be had, with prices. The charges for furnish rooms, on the schedule thus made, runs from 50 cents to \$2.00 per day, and for board and lodging from \$1.50 to \$3.50 per day, with, of course, many other reductions for weekly or monthly guests. Circulars are also issued giving other valuable information to strangers visiting the city.

Obscene Literature.

(House proceedings February 6th.)

The special order, the bill to prohibit the sale of obscene literature, was taken up. The judiciary committee reported the bill unfavorable, while a minority of that committee reported an amendment to the effect that standard authors and works of art, &c., shall not be embraced within the bill.

Mr. Womack offered a substitute for the bill.

Mr. Winborne explained that the judiciary committee reported the bill adversely because it was too general; because it would not reach the evil intended to be suppressed. He opposed the amendment offered by the minority of the judiciary committee because it admitted standard authors, &c., which often were immoral. We must rely on the benign influences of Christianity to protect our people from immorality.

Mr. Womack thought that the original bill was too broad. He had sought guidance from the books of England and had drafted his substitute from the English statute.

Mr. Dixon was opposed to setting out on this line of legislation. The tendency is for too much legislation throughout the whole Union. It is to divest the citizen of his rights and to make the State everything. This bill is buncombe, only buncombe. This bill is insignificant, but it is the beginning. The next step will be to suppress the immorality of ideas and influences once loose cannot be arrested at will. Social forces cannot be controlled. As for this particular law, it cannot be enforced. There is no need of such a law—there is no evil to be remedied. The legislature has no business to be interfering with individual rights. The tendency is year by year to go further and further.

Mr. Barringer sent forward an amendment to the substitute.

Mr. Burke regretted the speech made by Mr. Dixon. He thought the question was one of morality, while he was sure the gentleman had not so regarded it. The statute of the United States prohibiting such literature to be carried through the mails is enforced. This bill is in the interest of virtue—of immorality. Its object is to prevent any person having publications, obscene or impure, from passing them into the hands of the people, especially the children. He favored the amendment because it perfected the bill. Is not the bill right in itself? The purpose is to preserve the innocence of youth. The publications obnoxious to the bill are vicious. When the gentleman remarked that the time would come when the laws of North Carolina would prohibit the introduction into this State of infidel publications, he shuddered. He hoped that such a law would come. He would vote for it. He referred to the Declaration of Rights of North Carolina, which acknowledged the existence of the Deity, and hoped that the day would never come when infidels would prevail. He referred to the occasion some years ago when this house vindicated the majority of the Deity and expelled a member who proclaimed himself to be an infidel—the whole people of North Carolina approved. Passing on to a discussion of the bill, he stated that the only object of the bill was to prevent the circulation of those obscene publications which we all wish to exclude, and the amendment removes all objections that some might entertain relative to standard authors, etc.

Mr. Tate remarked that he had the honor to represent Burke county on this floor on the occasion referred to 1875 and he was one of the few who voted against the course then taken. He was unalterably opposed to applying any religious test to a representative, but he so opposed the bill as far as the farthest to suppress indecent and obscene literature.

Mr. Barringer said that Mr. Dixon was unfortunate in citing the example of the French people during their revolution. The course of that people and their immoral ideas have been utterly repudiated. Go ask the minister, the professional man, every man in society, and the mother who is striving to rear her children in innocence and virtue, whether this bill should be passed. He denied that the legislature should refrain from seeking to promote virtue. It is true that the great province of the law making power is to protect life and property, but yet it has a higher function—to advance the moral condition of the people. He cited as an example the statute against gambling. The pulpit should not be left alone to mediate the principles of sound morality. The law will not be a dead letter, but whether or not, he would vote for the bill. He would do his duty, and it would ever be his duty as well as his pleasure to do all in his power to promote morality. Pass this law and no such literature debauching public sentiment will hereafter be offered for sale in North Carolina.

The bill was made a special order for next Friday.

Noticing the discussion the *Raleigh Observer* says that "Mr. Barringer's speech was very strong and tested by all the rules was at times eloquent. He moved the authors; he pleased them, he persuaded them."

Judge Lynch Presides.

Judge Lynch sat in Iowa last week and delivered judgment which was executed forthwith, and there are in the country today three atrocious murderers less than there were. An old man was generally and wantonly murdered in April, 1884, by three young men, one of whom was his own son, the others being the husbands of his daughters. There was no doubt of the facts, as one of the murderers had made a detailed confession. Yet the law's delay had saved the lives of these criminals for nine months, and was likely to save them a great deal longer. Lynch law was only invoked when the other kind of law had completely failed; and that is the moral of all these cases. Lynch law is the popular protest against a tenderness toward criminals that defeats justice.

War on Insurance Rates.

(Charlotte Observer.)

For sometime past the property owners and business men of the city have been complaining about the increase in insurance rates, due as they allege, to the last Legislature, passed by the late Legislature, whereby a few companies have been enabled to form a monopoly of the insurance business in this State. The law in question provides that no fire insurance company can do business in North Carolina without making a cash deposit of \$10,000. It further provides that if any property holder insures with any company not complying with this clause, that he cannot collect his losses. This clause, it is claimed, has given rise to an insurance monopoly, as a number of companies either cannot comply with the law, or do not care to do so, the result being that the few companies that accept it, have it in their power to "pool," and raise the rates, and these rates are bound to be accepted by all who desire to insure their property. Since the enactment of this law, insurance rates have steadily advanced, so that the circular of inquiry sent out by the Legislative committee on insurance found a quick and free expression from the business men of Charlotte.

The circular mentioned calls for the views of business men throughout the State on matters concerning the insurance law, and as soon as it was received at Charlotte, a call was made for a meeting of citizens at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce last night. The meeting was held and was attended by a number of our leading business men. Mr. H. C. Eccles was called to the chair and Mr. R. N. Tiddy was appointed secretary. Dr. John H. McAden read the circular of inquiry to the meeting. It asked:

1st. Ought the present \$10,000 deposit clause relative to Fire Insurance Companies be repealed?

2nd. Ought all Life or Fire Insurance Companies hereafter to be chartered and created for benevolent purposes be allowed to do business in this State without payment of tax?

3rd. Have you any suggestions to offer looking to relief from the present high rates of insurance, and consequently looking to a breaking up of the association known as the South Eastern Tariff Association (fully)?

4th. Ought Life Insurance Companies be required to deposit \$10,000 before doing business in this State?

5th. Ought the valued policy clause applying to permanent policy be stricken from Fire Insurance policies?

Hon. R. Y. McAden made a few remarks, giving some pointed reasons for the abolishment of the insurance law, and a general expression of views then followed, in which Geo. Thos. F. Drayton, as agent for the insurance companies took part. The meeting recorded its answers to the questions propounded as follows:

To the first, "yes," unanimously.

To the second, "no."

To the third, this resolution was applied: "That the law passed by the last Legislature placing restrictions upon insurance companies be repealed, and that the doors be thrown wide open for free competition."

To the fourth "no."

To the fifth "no."

On the adjournment of the citizens meeting, the Chamber of Commerce met and passed resolutions endorsing the action taken by the citizens and appointed Hon. R. Y. McAden to represent that body in the movement to repeal that law.

The Leazer School Mill.

(Raleigh Observer.)

The bill introduced in the house entitled "an act to amend the public school law, chapter 13 of the code," proposes some important changes which are believed to be improvements in the system as at present constituted. The bill was introduced by Mr. Leazer, and embodies views entertained by him and Maj. Finger, the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The powers and functions of the county superintendent, unfortunately reduced and contracted by recent legislation, are restored, and the superintendent, the real master-wheel of the system, is placed in a position to perform efficiently the important work devolved upon him.

The county board of education is constituted distinct from the board of county commissioners, and elected by the joint boards of commissioners and justices, with a view to their special qualification for the administration of the public schools. This board, so constituted, will direct the management of the county superintendent, who will be secretary to the board, and after 1886 its treasurer.

Another, and perhaps the most important feature of the bill is the establishment of the principle, that the county boards are required to furnish equal school facilities to all, but this does not involve the apportionment of the school funds per capita. The county boards by the terms of the bill are invested with much discretion in the appointment of the funds, with power to reapportion any unexpended balance now or hereafter remaining to the credit of any district, the only limitation upon this power being as to what part of the funds shall be so in their discretion and the constitutional inhibition that there shall be no discrimination in favor of or to the prejudice of either race.

This provision is expected to afford relief in the east by allowing the allotment of something like a just part of their own money to the whites who are discriminated against by the present *per capita* apportionment; and it will also give to the colored race in the west, where they are sparse, advantages they cannot now have. With this power limited to the boards of the funds and within the bounds of the constitution, it is expected that a degree of flexibility will be imparted to the system which can never be used to the injury of any one, and may be used to attain equal advantages where it is impossible now to reach so desirable an end.

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This provision is expected to afford relief in the east by allowing the allotment of something like a just part of their own money to the whites who are discriminated against by the present *per capita* apportionment; and it will also give to the colored race in the west, where they are sparse, advantages they cannot now have. With this power limited to the boards of the funds and within the bounds of the constitution, it is expected that a degree of flexibility will be imparted to the system which can never be used to the injury of any one, and may be used to attain equal advantages where it is impossible now to reach so desirable an end.

House Bills Passed Final Readings.

To prohibit the sale or gift of cigars or cigarettes to boys under 16 years old.

Bill amendatory of the Code, relating to tax collector. [Reenacts the former act, not brought forward in the Code, providing for tax collectors to be appointed by the courts; applies only to Charlotte county.]

Bill to expedite the execution of criminal process in certain cases. [When affidavit is made that a defendant charged with crime is not to be found in the county, speed capias may be issued to any officer, to be served in any county in the State.]

Bill to amend section 2829 of the Code, and to strike out section 2830, relative to trespassing on land in localities where the stock law prevails. [The above sections require the land owners to prove that posters were up at the time of the alleged trespass, which was alleged by the advocates of the bill to be a great hardship, rendering a conviction almost impossible.]

Bill to regulate the time of trial of cases, before justice of the peace. Prohibits magistrates from beginning the trial of cases after sunset and before sunrise.

To define the status of persons mixed blood. [Declares the child of a negro to the fourth generation to be a colored person.]

Mr. Poulfin explained the bill and stated that its provisions were in conformity with the existing law relative to marriage between the races.

Bill concerning public schools in the town of Fayetteville.

Bill to amend section 456 of the Code. (No real property shall be sold under execution unless notice shall be posted and advertisement be made in a newspaper, if there be any

