

THE WESTERN DEMOCRAT

W. J. YATES, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

November 16, 1868.

The Election.

In another column we publish returns from all the Counties in North Carolina but one, showing a Republican majority of 12,562. Some of the returns are official and some are not. We think the official returns will reduce Grant's majority to 10 or 11,000.

The Congressional delegation stands as follows: 1st District—C. L. Cobb, Republican.

2nd " David Heaton, Republican. 3d " O. H. Dockery, Republican. 4th " John T. Dewese, Republican. 5th " I. G. Lash, Republican. 6th " F. E. Shober, Democrat. 7th " Plato Durham, Democrat.

We think there is still some doubt about the result in the 7th District, but the election of Durham seems to be generally conceded. The latest returns give Durham a majority of 277.

We are gratified to know that one gentleman from Maryland who recently visited this place in company with a number of others on a tour of inspection, has purchased a farm near this City.

We have a letter from Col. Dechert of Hagerstown, Md., stating that another party of Marylanders will visit this section about the 20th inst.

It is very doubtful whether those Democrats who cannot take the iron-clad test oath will get their seats. Now that the Republicans have control of the Government for four years more at least, they might be magnanimous and abolish the test oath.

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The N. C. Legislature.

The Legislature re-assembles to-day. The following new members have been elected to fill vacancies occurring in the counties named:

19th District—Sampson, Cumberland and Harnett—John A. Oates, Dem., vice L. D. Hall, Rad., dec'd—Democratic gain.

22d District—Orange—Maj. John W. Graham, Dem., vice Hon. Josiah Turner, Jr., Dem., ineligible.

41st District—Burke, Caldwell and Watauga—Maj. A. C. Avery, Dem., vice E. W. Jones, Esq., Dem., ineligible.

12th District—Duplin and Onslow—J. G. Scott, of Onslow, Dem., vice Wm. A. Allen, Dem., ineligible.

24th District—Caswell—Stevens in place of Hon. Bedford Brown, ineligible, a Radical gain.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Wayne—Dr. Smith, vice Rhodes, Rad., resigned—A Democratic gain.

Caldwell—Maj. W. H. Malone, vice Col. J. C. Harper, Dem., ineligible.

New Hanover—G. Z. French, Rad., vice J. C. Abbott, promoted.

Harnett—Ben. C. Williams, Dem., vice N. S. Stewart, Dem., ineligible.

Haywood—W. P. Welch, Dem., vice Brown, ineligible.

Jackson—E. M. Painter, Dem., vice Col. Keener, banned.

CONGRESS. In the late elections the Democrats gained enough members of Congress to prevent the Republicans from having a majority of two-thirds, as heretofore.

The new Congress will not assemble until after the 4th of March next, and we shall not be surprised if, when it does meet, a number of those elected as Democrats and conservatives are not expelled or prevented from taking their seats so as to give the Republicans a two-thirds vote.

It is very doubtful whether those Democrats who cannot take the iron-clad test oath will get their seats. Now that the Republicans have control of the Government for four years more at least, they might be magnanimous and abolish the test oath.

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Mistaken.

Vice President Wade made a speech in Ohio recently, in which he said he opposed repealing the tax on Cotton because it came out of the pockets of the rich men—the class that ought to be made to help pay the National debt. Mr. Wade is very much mistaken. The tax comes out of the pockets of the laboring class—the men who work for wages; and for that reason the laboring class, white and black, ought to oppose those who favor taxing Cotton, or increasing taxes on any sort of property. If the farmer, merchant or property-owner is heavily taxed, he cannot afford to give high wages to employees, and will not do it. Congressmen and legislators who impose heavy taxes on the people, injure the laboring portion especially.

The Public Debt.

The following is the statement of the public debt of the United States on the 1st of November, 1868:

Table with 2 columns: Description of debt and Amount. Includes Debt Bearing Coin Interest, 5 per cent bonds, 1861, \$221,588,400.00; 6 per cent bonds, 1861, 283,677,300.00; 6 per cent 5-20 bonds, 1,602,312,250.00; Total, \$2,107,577,950.00.

Debt Bearing Currency Interest.

Table with 2 columns: Description of debt and Amount. Includes Certificates at 3 per cent, 68,325,000.00; Navy pension fund, at 3 per cent, 14,000,000.00; Total, 72,325,000.00.

Matured Debt not Presented for Payment.

Table with 2 columns: Description of debt and Amount. Includes 3 year 7-30 notes due Aug. 15, 1867, 2,966,950.00; Compound interest, 1,000,000.00; Total, 3,966,950.00.

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The Late Riot at Asheville.

The following is an exact copy of the report of the Coroner's Jury, who, for several days were closely confined in examining the case of the death of the negro who was killed in the riot at this place on the day of election. It substantially corroborates our statement of last week. The Jury was composed of some of the very best men in our community, of both parties, and the investigation was conducted with fairness and impartiality.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Nov. 9, 1868.

The Jury to inquire the cause of the death of James Smith, deceased, find that the said James Smith came to his death, while engaged in a Riot at Asheville, N. C., on the afternoon of Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1868, from a pistol shot in the right side of the face extending into the neck; said shot was probably fired by Milton Ledford, although shots were fired, about the same time, and in the same direction, from pistols in the hands of Jesse Crook, Gaston McDowell, William A. Blair and William Grubbs. The jury also find that the first stone or missile thrown came from the hands of said James Smith, deceased. The Jury further find that shots were fired, about the same time and in the direction of the white crowd, from a pistol in the hands of an unknown colored man, and a pistol in the hands of Simon Henry, colored.

The Jury feel it their duty to say that the civil officers neglected to take proper precaution to guard against the occurrence of this riot. We believe, had they done so, it could and would have been prevented.

G. M. Roberts, Foreman, J. W. Reynolds, A. H. Polk, S. G. Kerr, Isaac M. Broyles, Jno. B. Weaver, J. S. E. Summey, C. Cowan, W. M. Farriss, J. E. Ray, E. L. Cunningham, H. Lindsey.

M. A. BRANK, Coroner of Buncombe county.

We learn that the Commissioners appointed to locate the State Penitentiary have fixed upon a point at or near Lockville, on Deep River, Chatham County. There were various excellent inducements offered to the Commissioners to locate it near this city, at Selma, Johnston County, and perhaps at other points, which would, in some respects,