

THE GLEANER

GRAHAM N. C. March 11 1879

E. S. PARKER, Editor.

Congress convened in extra session this day week, by proclamation of the President.

The Democratic caucus has decided that the Legislature shall adjourn next Friday. The pay of members stopped last Saturday.

The President vetoed the bill to prevent Chinese immigration to this country and approved the bill reducing the tax on tobacco. The reduction of tax on tobacco to 16 cents will take place the 1st day of May.

EQUALITY IN TAXATION.

Will there be any more equality or justice in a fixed license tax for lawyers than there was in a fixed license tax for merchants?

Is it equality for the lawyer who makes five hundred dollars a year to pay the same tax as the lawyer who makes ten thousand dollars a year, any more than it is for the merchant who sells a thousand dollars a year, to pay the same as the merchant who sells twenty thousand?

DEBUT

It was charged that certain persons interested in the public printing made threats and promises to influence members of the Legislature in selecting a public printer. A committee of Senators with Senator Dortch as chairman, was raised to investigate the matter and report. This committee took evidence and reported last Saturday.

INTERVIEW.

The negro members of the Legislature wrote Gov. Jarvis a note making an interview with his Excellency, in regard to the interest and welfare of their race. The Governor wrote them a letter granting their request and the interview took place one evening last week.

THE LEGISLATURE

The constitutional limit of sixty days expired Saturday. The revenue law, the school law, the appropriation for the penitentiary, the bills to commute that portion of the State debt that was contracted for the building of the North Carolina Railroad, and the Williamson and Tarboro Railroad, are all yet pending.

ed that we might have had a better, let us remember that we seldom have the best of anything. The difficulties connected with legislation just now are not appreciated. We have never had, since we took note of public doings, a Legislature that did precisely as we thought it should, and probably never will have; and others we find are just as hard to please. We feel charitable, and guess it is a pretty fair Legislature.

CONCEALED WEAPONS.

The Legislature has passed an act making it a misdemeanor to carry concealed weapons, after the first of next July, we believe. We are no advocate of the habit of going armed, but we predict the law just enacted will be a dead letter on our statute book.

STOCK LAW.

Dr. Mebane writes us that he has had Alamance added to the list of counties whose people may vote for or against a stock law—that is a law making it a crime for a man's pig to get out of his pen—both on the part of the pig and the man, the pig laying himself liable to arrest and confinement in a pound, and the man to a fine and imprisonment in the common jail of the county.

THE B. R. TAX.

A letter from our faithful Representative, Dr. Mebane, informs us that the bill empowering our county authorities to reassess and collect taxes on the property of the North Carolina Railroad Company and the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company, for the years 1869 to 1875 inclusive, has passed the House, it having before passed the Senate.

Congress adjourned last Tuesday. It worked pretty much all day the Sunday before. A man in the gallery opened his mouth and rebuked grave Senators for their description of the holy day.

The first of a colony of Hollanders has arrived in Newberne. They are to cultivate the Speight and Donnell lands in Craven county.

A RETURNING AND INCOMING SENATOR.

The Wilmington Star, in every way an able and well conducted paper, and prominent as a candid journal, whose editors estimate of men is worthy of high consideration, in an excellently prepared article upon the incoming and retiring Senator, has this to say of Judge Merrimon and Gov. Vance:

To-day the term of office of Augustus S. Merrimon as United States Senator from North Carolina expires. A more faithful, conscientious, devoted Senator never sat in Congress.

We have known personally most of the leading public men of North Carolina during the last years; we have heard them on the hustings, in the forum, or in public assemblies; we have read their public addresses and political discourses, and we have this to say, and that quite deliberately: in the campaign of 1872, when Judge Merrimon was the Democratic candidate for Governor, he made a magnificent canvass.

As to Judge Merrimon's speeches in the Senate we have this to say, and that too quite deliberately; if any of the able Senators who represented North Carolina ever delivered abler speeches in that body, then we have failed to read them. We have read the speeches of Gaston, Badger, Graham, Clingman and others, and we can recall no speeches that were so thorough, so elaborate, so full of matter, so exhaustive of the subject, as Judge Merrimon's two speeches on the Louisiana matters.

Judge Merrimon has been in the Senate three years. During those years many outrages have been perpetrated upon the rights of the people and of the States; during that time many evidences of corruption have come to light. No man ever in the Senate has borne himself better. There has never been the slightest breath of suspicion to taint or mar his fair character.

His successor is a man of brilliant record and splendid prestige. He goes to the Senate from the Governor's chair of a great State. He has more national reputation than any of our public men. He has great versatility of talents—culture, humor, wit, eloquence, poetic sympathy, and literary skill.

The Observer, in its last Tuesday issue, after reviewing the condition of legislation of the present session, and noting the impossibility of the work necessary to be done, to be accomplished by the expiration of the sixty days (which expired last Saturday) for which members of the Legislature can draw pay, has some reasons to give wherefore members should not regard a short stay without compensation as a very great hardship; especially when the necessity is great.

These things being so, our friends will doubtless agree with us that they may give a few days to the State, free of expense in the State, inasmuch as their pay is 33 1/2 per cent more than was paid to legislators before the war.

From the Western Reporter we learn that Kops Elias Esq., a prominent lawyer of Franklin, had the misfortune to have his nose and elegant dwelling burned out. It was just completed, and cleaned out and Mr. Elias had only moved a part of his furniture into it.

clothing, and that board is as low or lower than it was in 1860. Nothing of all this recalled from the speeches and newspaper articles spread broadcast over the State, except to remind our friends of the record that has been made for them and their party; and that with such a record it will not do for the Democratic party to go before the people in the great and important contests of 1880, if their representatives, who re-trenched and re-formed all but themselves, left their work unfinished to save a few of the extra pounds of bacon or corn or cotton that their largely increased pay may have enabled them to buy.

No. Not a word of this is said in a spirit of unkindness or reproach. On the contrary this newspaper believes economy to be the duty, the party duty of every Democrat, for it holds that the doctrine of the Democratic party is that lawful taxation consists alone in depriving a citizen of his property for the public good, and that to take property for other than necessary expenses is highway robbery under the forms of law.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON D. C. March 4 1879.

In the Senate on Sunday there were half a dozen men, all perhaps honest, in their belief and conscientious in their action, who unnecessarily and wrongly interfered with the transaction of the public business. The first was the man in the gallery, who denounced the Senate for laboring on the Sabbath, quoting scripture to the effect that it should be turned into Hell, with all the saints that forget God.

In dealing with the District of Columbia Congress has been unexpectedly behind, but most of the schemes organized for the benefit of District men or "rings" have been killed. In this respect the forty-fifth Congress will stand well, not only as regards the District but the expenditure of public money, but it has not been corrupt.

Among the other schemes defeated was one to re-organize the pension system of the country. It was in effect to establish points in each State—sixty for the whole country—to which applicants for pension must come with their witnesses. The extreme hardship of the case is this. There are about 120,000 pension claims now on file, and a large number are being filed every year. This gives 2,000 to each post or place where the claimants and their witnesses would assemble.

AN INDUSTRIOUS COMMITTEE.

One of the most industrious committees of the House during the present session has been the committee on Indian affairs, under the leadership of its capable and indefatigable chairman, Hon. A. M. Scales of North Carolina, to whose labors much of what has been accomplished is especially due.

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An explosion of nitro-glycine, at Dutch Gap on the James river, below Richmond resulted in the death of Mr. Haggerty, government contractor for widening and improving Dutch Gap, and five or six negroes engaged in the work.

JNO. O. REDD, T. N. JORDAN, JOHN STADLER JOHNSTON, Henry Co., Va. Caswell Co., N. C. Rockingham Co., N. C.

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Durham Tobacco market. REPORTED BY H. A. BEANS, PROPRIETOR OF Beams' Warehouse. Durham N. C. March 1 1879. DARK, RED, COMMON, MEDIUM, GOOD, FANCY, RED LEAF, BRIGHT WRAPPERS. URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!