GRAHAM N. C. April 29 1879

E. S. PARKER, Editor.

CONGRESS,

The Army Appropriation Bill has passed the Senate, as it was sent from the House, and has gone to the President. In a short time the country will know whether its fate is an approval, or a veto from the Executive. The provision forbidding troops at the polls was very thoroughly discussed, the ablest Senators engaging in the debate. Davis of Illinois, the Independent Senator, made a very ablespeech in favor of the provision. Conkling made a three hours effort. against it, and many other Senators spoke also upon the measure. In the House, while much other business has been considered, public attention has been centered upon the Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation bill, with its provision, repealing the test oath of Federal jurors, prescribing the acted upon during the last session. The mode of their selection, and also a pros vision very much modifying the Federal and there is strong probability of it, will election laws. Many speeches were made be to make Mexican dollars as good as for and against these provisions. The door was opened to the fullest debate, which, after two weeks duration, closed last Saturday at five o'clock, and the House adjourned to meet to day, when the bill will pass. It will then go to the Senate where it will be debated for perhaps ten days, and will then pass that body. If Haves approves these bills--all right; but if he vetoes them. there will be consideration as to the course to be pursued.

MR STEPHEN'S SILVER BILL PASSED. -It may not be generally known that silver coin of less denomination than one doller, is not a legal tender, in sums of a greater amount than five dollars. For instance, and to illustrate, if you owe a man one hundred dollars, and there are twenty men who owe you five dollars, a piece, these twenty men can each pay you what they owe, in silver halves and quarters, making the aggregate of one hundred dollars, and you are obliged to take it, but when you go to pay your hundred dollar debt with these halves and quarters, you can't do it, unless your eveditor chooses to take them. In a word this subsidiary silver coin, as it is ealled, is not a legal tender for a greater amount than five dollars. Mr. Stephen's bill, which has passed the House, is intended to remedy this evil, and provides that silver money of less denomination than one dollar shall be a legal tender for twen y dollars, and that it may be exchanged for money that is a legal tender when presented in sums of twenty dollars or more. This last provision practically makes it a legal tender for any amount, as no one will refuse it when it can be exchanged for gold, at the option of the holder. It also makes minor coins, such as cents and nickles a legal tender at post offices to the amount of three dollars. It is a good bill, an l we hope it will become a law.

COL. WALTER L. STEED. -This gentleman, representing the Charlotte district in Congress, recently made a speech which has produced quite a sensation. Some of the press correspondents go so far as to say it is the best speech of the session. It was of the humerous sort, and in reply to charges of violence, lawlessness and intimidation in this State. Col. Steel has a large fund of information, and a memory that preserves, wonderfully, names of persons and incidents of history. In the minutia of his States history, especially, is he well informed. The small occurrences, with all their particulars, which usually form the news of the day, and fade from the memory, are treasured in the store house of his mind, ready for use as occasion may require; and these form very effective material for a speech half humorous, half earnest, seasoned with ridicule and drollery. Charges of political persecution in this State are too absurd and groundless to merit serious refutation, and the method Col. Steel adopted in meeting them appears to have been proper and effective.

General John Adams Dix, died at his home in New York, last Tuesday. He was in his eighty-first year. He had held many positions of honor and trust, both civil and military. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, was Secretary of War, under Buchanan, atter the resignation of Howell Cobb, was a Maj. Genl. in the Union army, during the war, was Foreign Minister, and closed his official cafeer when he retired from the Governorship of the great State of New York, having been defeated for a second term of the famous telegram to a Lieut. in New Orleans "If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him

Genl. Scales, who is recognized as one of the most useful Representatives in Congress, introduced the following im-

To abolishing the tax on brandy made from apples, peaches and grapes; also refunding special taxes collected on brandies made from apples, peaches and grapes which are in excess of \$50; also declaring the -tandard silver dollar to be the unit of value; also refunding certain direct tax on lands collected from citizens in the late insurrectionary States; also to punish crime in the Indian reser-

Our people we believe are thoroughly satisfied with their Representative, and we have never heard one word of complaint during General Scales's career, and he is now serving his third term. He is faithful to the trust reposed in him. In addition to the bills above enumerated, we see it stated that he has introduced the bill concerning Mexican dollars, which he was unable to have effect of the bill, if it becomes a law, any dollar. This should be done in some way. Some years ago the whole country was flooded with them; they escaped from the banks and corporations, were paid out for labor, and to the farmer for his produce, at par, and suddenly, by the edict of these corporations, they des preciated twenty five cents in the dollar, are held in small amounts by many who dislike to pay out for seventy five c.nts what they received for a dollar. While General Scales' bill does not propose to make them a legal tender, it proposes that revenue officers, post masters and other government receiving agents shall take them at par, and at once send them to the mint to be coined over into the legal tender dollar. They contain more silver than does the legal tender dollar, and it seems to us there can be no good reason why the course proposed by Genl. Scales, bill should not be pursued.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTION LAWS

The Federal Court, in session at Charleston, Judge Bond presiding with the District Judge, had before it a large number of persons charged with a violation of the Federal election laws. Much interest was felt in these cases, especially as the manner of selecting jurors indicated a political persecution, instead of a prosecution in vidication of violated laws. The attention of the whole country was directed to these trials, and sharp critieism of the conduct of Judge Bond had already been indulged. The whole affair suddenly collapsed last Tuesday, by Judge Bond's direction to the jury to return a verdict of not guilty as to the defendants then upon their trial. This instruction was given upon the ground that the counts in the information were that the parties alleged to have been interfered with had been molested on account of their race or color. This defect applied to all the counts but one, and that one had not been sustained by any proof. Upon this ruling from the bench the District Attorney moved a continuance of all the political cases to the next November term of the court, and, there being no objection by the defendants, it was so ordered.

CONCELLED WEAPONS,

It will be remembered that the recent Legislature passed an act, making it a crime to carry concealed, deadly weaplaw would be a dead letter on our statute upon it: book-that bad men would not regard the law, and good men would not be deterred by it from carrying weapons when they thought their personal safety required it. In trath it is often prudent, and sometimes necessary for good, quiet men to go armed. In our view as then expressed we notice some of our leading papers are concurring. We must take oricty as it is, and no amount of Legis. lation will make all moral and harmless. The misdemesnor of carrying concealed weapons, will always be lost sight of in the greater erime, or using them, or even attempting to use them, and it they are

NAL BILLS BY GENERAL SCALES. -In addition to the bills introduced by General Scales last Monday, mentioned elsewhere, we note the tollowing: For by Samuel J. Tilden. He was the author the relief of Daniel M. Cook, Edwin I. Nutall and W. H. Thompson, and for the building of a post office and Federal court house at Greensboro.

THE OBSERVER.

A little more than two years ago Messrs. Hale and Saunders, gentlemen widely and favorably known, not only for their personal worth and ability, but for their experience and fitness as editors. begun the publication of The Observer, in Raleigh. The paper, as was to have been expected, at once took its place in the front rank of journalism. Its conduct has been marked for prudence, enterprise and ability. It had higher aims than to become the personal organ of an aspiring man, or to serve an interest less than that of the State, and the great Democratic party. Unswervingly has it maintained the high standard of journalistic propriety and exachence marked out for its course. As a private enterprise we should regret its failure as we would the unfortunate venture of worthy men. But The Observer is something more to the people of North Carolina, and especially to Democrats, than au individual interest whose success would be a matter of congratulation to its proprietor, or its immediate section. Its failure we should regard as a public loss, much more a loss to the Democratic party. So regarding we telt a double regret at the news that came to us last week of an assignment by its proprietor and editor which seemed to indicate a probable suspension; and we were correspondingly the temporary pecuniary embarrassment and hopes for in this Government withof its proprietor there was no cause for out offence to any intelligent voter. So appreffension that the State and party would lose the service of this really vals nable paper. In its issue of last Thuis- anything which is not for the interest for day the editor gives the assurance that all to have, is unfair and unpatriotic, and and the people are the losers. They The Observer will continue its publicas will fail.

The National Republican of this morning this will be gratifying. tion, and knowing this will be gratifying ing in view of the fact that the army bill ing in view of the fact that the army bill

knowledgment-of warm words of highest praise, apart from The Observer's habit in that regard, that these lines are written. We wish only to gratify our excel-ten: friends with the assurance that they have been misled in regard to The Obright themselves, but in this case it is necessary to say that there is not and has not been the slightest intention of a suspension of The Observer for a day or for an hour. Enjoying the full confidence of the

Democratic party as a party journal, and the warm attachment of the people as a North Carolina newspaper, it is the best newspaper property ever established in the State, and is easy+ capable of very much larger development. Its advertising patronage is good, and its subscription lists at least double those of even the most widely circulated denominational weekly in the State. The individual liabilities incurred by its editor in the difficult tack of establishing a great daily party newspaper, not a mere personal organ, have nothing to do with The Observer, which is free of incumbrance, and will go on as heretofore in the path marked out for it as the only proper one for a North Carolina Democratic newspaper. The terrible stringency of the times which has prevented the prompt collection of debts due to him made him unable to meet the claims of a creditor who needed his money, and to prevent misfortune to the paper or to its editor's creditors, it was necessary to take steps, and promptly, to avoid such a calamity by making provision, as was fully made, for the continuance of the newspaper and fulfilment of all its contracts with subscribers and advertisers. Even before this something was necessary. Near two years of all-night and much day labor in the conduct detective, in that they failed to state of The Observer and all branches of its torily performed, had been too much for Human endurance had well nigh reached its limit.

But The Observer newspaper is a great property, and a great paying property, and whether in the hands of others or its present editor, will live for many years to serve its party and its State.

PROPOSED LAWS,

General legislation appears to have been determined upon by Congress during the extra session. The Republi eans, in caucus, determined not to longer throw obstacles in the way of the introduction of bills. The flood gates have been raised and the rush is simply astounding. One thousand four hunons, which goes into effect on the first dred bills introduced in one day! Just day of next July. At the time, we took think of it! The Baltimore Gazette has occasion to say, that in our opinion the the following sensible comments to make

What under the sun the members of the House of Representatives expect to have done with the thirteen hundred and eighty five bills which they intro-duced yesterday it is doubtful if they themselves could tell. There is not the least probability that one in twenty of the tills will ever come back from the committees to which they will be referred, and it is sate to say that not more than one in a hundred of them are worthy of the least consideration. There were financial bills of every conceivable kind, providing for about all that any-body could desire short of the distribution ot a barrel of money to every citizen. There were bills for the relict of Tom, Dick and Harry and numerous claimants, not named, and one ingenious member sent up a bill for the reliet of all persons not provided for in special bills, which failed, however, to the flow of protected legislation. There were bills to improve the navigation of some hundreds of rivniets; bills to make appropriations for every member's district, and bills to change all the existing laws. Each member on an average, introduced four or five bills, and the only comfort to be derived from the whole day's work is in derived from the whole day's work is his the thought that they must have exhausted the supply. If it were necessary to consider all the schemes the extra session would have to be prolonged over the next tew years.

WASHINGTON LETTER,

WASHINGTON D. C. ? April 15 1879.

There has been hardly courage enough -political courage, I mean-among democratic congressmen. It has been the wise hope of republicans since the 18th of March, when this Congress met, that ench a compromise would be made on the subject of free elections and fair juries as would amount to a back-down on the part of the democrats. Happily that hope will almost certainly fail. Bayard vesterday made a carefully prepared and convincing speech on the army bill, taking the ground held by the democratic caucus, that the soldier should not control the voter, and that Congress should use efficient means to prevent it The Squate will vote on the bill this

Speeches in the House for a weel past, while interesting have not been of the same hi_h character as in earlier days of debate on the legislative bill. Mr. Frye other leading republicans have spent their time in trying to provoke from impulsive democrats some expressions which might be used with effect in the coming campa gns. Mr. Frye, on Saturday, placed himselt in an uneuviable position, and one, I do him justice to say don't think was at all agreeable to him, by endeavoring to create an impression that Mr. Blackburn and other representative southerners were insincere in the political language of their speeches. 1 Mr. Blackburn very well, and other representative southerners were insincere in the political language of their speeches. I know Mr. Blackburn very well, and believe he could say in could nearly every southerner now in the House. The effort to convince northern people that these men ask for

to our readers, we make the following will pass, lectures Mr. Haves upon the necessity of vetoing it, and the consequences, to him, of approving it. There has been any amount of bull-dozing and supplication, alternately, of Mr. Hayes, in relation to his course on this and the legislative bill -so much, in fact, that one can hardly help believing that republican leaders have no hope for server's future. This too is apart from the future unless the administration is to Title Observer's habit of letting things be allowed to carry the next election by use of the army and Federal officials.

Yesterday being the first Monday of the session in which there was no obstruction to the introduction of bills in the House, there was an avalanche of them. Those which tailed at the last were re-introduced and new ones by the hundred. All this does not prove that general legislation will be entered on, though, as at first, I think it will be.

Representative McClane, of Maryland, introduced the following bill:

"That no officer of or contractor with the United States shall contribute or solicit others to contribute any money or other valuable thing to any fund for political or party purposes, nor shall any such officer permit any solicitation, demand or assessment for such purposes to be made upon the subordinates in his department, burean or office; and any person wilfully offending against this provision shall be removed from office, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment not more than one year, and by fine not less than one hundred nor more than five thousand dollars.

What a relief such a law as that would have been to government officials in 1876

The late effort of the N. Y. Times to promote the Grant movement has caused great agitation among republicans, who very generally desire not to trot out their horses until the track is clear of rubbish. Many newspapers in the West have taken offence and exposed the thing as a "pu and therefore to him at least unsatisfac- up job." It does have that appearance, and we outsiders enjoy the fun of the thing. It seems that the Times' so-called canvass was issued simultaneously in several large cities, with the studied purpose of boosting the Grant movement. But it fell flat in many sections. The western papers that make the most fuss about it, decline Grantism anyhow, and place Senator Windom at the head of the Presidential list. No doubt there is a strong sentiment, even in the republican party, for a clean man, and even demos crats admit that Windom is honest and able in his radicalism.

The Wilmington Sun reports what it calls a rascally trick, which is in substance as follows: On Sunday morning, a week ago. a group of passengers were waiting the train in the W. & W. R. R. depot, when in walked a young, well dressed, white man, with a smile on his face and a baby in his arms. He asked a colored woman to hold the baby for him, till he could run, to the telegraph office and send off a dispatch. She refosed, but a young white lady, from Mag-nolia, took charge of the baby, and the young man with a smile left for the tele-graph office, and forgot to return. The young lady remained in Wilmington for a day waiting, and then took the baby and went to her home in Magnolia. The baby is six months old with laughing

THROUGH A BURNING BRIDGE.-A freight train on the Hannibal & St. Joseph Rail Road, consisting of an engine and fourteen heavily loaded ears, went through a burning bridge, near Kansas City, Mo. The engine dashed across but the cars broke through and pulled it back into the chasm sixty feet deep, and there was nothing left but a mass of swouldering ruius. Some emi-grants met a horrible death. The bridge was fired by tramps who had been put off a train just ahead.

Gov. Jarvis was welcomed in Wilmington by the booming of a cannon and the huzzas of the multitude.

The seventy sixth annual meeting of the Lutheran Synod of, North Carolina will assemble at Bethel church, in Stanley county, to-morrow.

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