THE PUBLIC PRINTING.

ANOTHER SIDE TO THE QUESTION.

tention at every session of the General the toilers of North Carolina who have bearable. The chief of police had been Assembly. There has been no exception been clamoring for relief from legislation shot down in the streets and these eleven this year and the editor of the ROANOKE News thinks that as the disappointed ment of which they had little or no They were tried and acquitted contrary applicant for the position of public prin- voice? There is no need to answer that to the evidence through the influence of ter has exceeded the usual bounds of dis- the wages paid the practical printers cussion, it is only just that the other side of the matter should be presented to the

A short epitome of the history of this vexatious matter is not out of place just here. Until 1872 the prices paid were much higher than they have been since In that year a bill was drawn by Capt, S. A. Ashe, who was at that session a representative from New Hanover county The bill was enacted into law and has been in force ever since. It can be found in chapter 52, second volume of the code-Under that law the prices to be paid for the public printing were fixed and ascertained and have, therefore, prevailed ever since 1872. So for eighteen years the State has been paying the same prices for its printing as were contracted for by the committee appointed for that purpose at the late session of the General Assembly.

Who have been beneficiaries under this law it is unnecessary to inquire except so far as may throw some light upon the present opposition to it. It must be remembered that no one-not even a Republican, not even the News and Ob server-has ever said or claimed that these prices are too high. In all the discussion of this subject it has never yet been charged that the prices are too high It must also be remembered that they have been paid ever since 1872; that Capt. Ashe drew the bill fixing the prices, and that for four years he, as public printer, received these prices from the State, which he now says are a robbery of the State. Two years ago when the News and Observer was a candidate for public printer, Capt. Ashe did not think these prices exorbitant, or if he did he discreetly remained silent. As long as there was hope of his securing the prize from the Legislature just adjourned he never thought the prices too high or that the State was being robbed; if he thought so he forgot to give expression to his opinion. While his paper was a beneficiary and while there was a prospect of its again becoming so, Capt. Ashe said no word in favor of the State treasury or the tax payers or his own conscience. Was Capt. Ashe willing to take all this money from the State unjustly? Or, to use an expression which he himself has used entirely too frequently of late, was he willing to rob the tax payers while the proceeds went into his own pockets and only became the watch dog of the treasury when it was evident that a business rival was to get the plum? Such would be the natural conclusion of any fair minded man who knows the facts and does not know Capt. Ashe. But this writer does not believe this of him. He believes Capt. Ashe is an honest man, misguided, perhaps, by a natural disappointment at losing the contract for the printing and a more natural jealousy at a business rival's getting it.

One remarkable thing connected with this affair is that the bonus which was put by the News and Observer in December at two thousand dollars rapidly grew to five thousand as soon as Mr Daniels was given the contract-an inwithin two months. Was the increase proportionate when Mr. Ashe was public printer, or has imagination been at work?

The report of the committee stated that from all the information it could obtain from practical printers who were disinterested it found that the prices now him U. S. Senator, and announced his paid are less than those paid by any other intention of supporting Palmer, being State in the Union, and that the cost of living had increased under the operation leagues, their votes electing him. The of the McKinley tariff bill. Now if these prices have not been too high at any that General Palmer had canvassed the time during the last eighteen years how can they be too high now that the cost of living is greater?

But it has been said that if the State could get its printing done more cheaply the Legislature should not regard the results to individuals. Mr. Vanderbilt thought the same thing when he said "the public be d-d." Mr. Caroegie, the great iron plutocrat, thinks the same thing when he reduces the wages of his poorly but also as an evidence of the wisdom, paid and half starved workmen in order strength and sincerity of the Alliance. that he may make a million or two more Has the State nothing to do with the of North Carolina nothing to do with the substitute instead.

food and clothing for themselves, their would not have been reduced. Capt Ashe made that statement to the committee, says its report. But printers denied this in his presence and further said that every reduction made by the State had been followed by a reduction of the wages paid not only those actually em ployed on State work but all others as well, and that a like result would follow another reduction. Is it good policy in the State to take advantage of its soverwork for less than is paid others for the purpose of saving an uncertain and mythical sum to the tax payers-a sum which accept solely upon the dictum of the thieves and robbers?

The report of the committee was adopted unanimously so far as the Democrats were concerned. The only opposition to it was from the few Republicans. Is the News and Observer willing to join hands with the Republicans in pulling down the temple of Democracy in its blind rage at the loss of prestige caused by its unaccountable opposition to the wholesome measures demanded by eighty per cent, of the people of the State? That cannot be done. Capt. Ashe resembles the Sampson of Scripture only in that he has

This paper believes in economy but it also believes the Legislature did exactly right in refusing to reduce the price paid for the State printing upon the mere demand of an interested party, unsupported by any tangible evidence and in spite of the protests of disinterested people who asked the State not to take the bread cut of the mouths of their wives and children. This paper hopes the good old State will never at the bidding of demagogues pay its own people less than fair and just compensation for work-and in the matter of the public printing we repeat it has never been charged that the prices paid were one cent 100 high.

GENERAL PALMER ELECTED.

The election of General John M Palmer as senator from the State of Illinois on the one hundred and fiftyfourth ballot on the 11th inst., by combination of Democrats and Farmers' Alliance men demonstrates two facts very clearly-that Alliance men are honest and that the principles of the Democratic party are more nearly identical with the principles of the Alliance than those of any other political party which has existed or does exist.

There were on joint ballot one hundred and one Democratic and three Alliance votes. The Democratic vote was cast solidly on every ballot for General Palmer, but two more votes were needed to give him a majority and if he were to get them at all they must come from the Alliance men. The Democrats made no promises but relied on the principles of the party. The Republicans made all sorts of pledges to secure the Alliance vote and for that purpose dropped their own man and took up another whom crease of one hundred and fifty per cent. they thought would be acceptible to the Alliance. They finally went so far as to offer to vote for Mr. Moore, who was one of the three Alliance members. This was a strong temptation-would have been to any man-but Mr. Moore rejected it although its acceptance would have made joined in this by one other of his colreasons they gave for this action were State during the campaign and had been designated as the popular choice and that the Democratic party, to which he belonged and whose candidate he was, favored the same measures which the Alliance desired to see enacted, and consequently he came nearest their choice for

> We consider the election of General Palmer not only as a victory for the people and an enforcement of their rights

If you decide, from what you have heard or read, that you will take Hood's welfare of its citizens? Has the State Sarsaparilla, do not be induced to buy any

THE ROANOKE NEWS question of how its citizens are to get THE NEW ORLEANS LYNCHING. The lynching of eleven Italians in wives and their children? Are the prace New Orleans by the citizens on Saturday tical printers and those depended upon last was the result of a state of affairs them so humble and of so little impor- which had long existed in that city and times that the Legislature must take the legal authorities seemed powerless from them a portion of their living at the to suppress. For thirty-five years these bidding of a newspaper whose course for Italians by means of secret societies had the past twelve months has, apparently at | killed when they chose and kept the city The public printing is a bone of cor- least, been antagonistic to the demands of in a condition which at last became unwhich favored others and in the enact- Italians had been arrested for the murder. money, it is thought.

The citizens, outraged by the misearriage of justice and grown desperate because of the triumph of lawlessness, called a meeting, went to the jail, took the prisoners and lynched them. Nine of them were shot, two hanged.

Of course lynching is to be deplored always, but we believe the people of New Orleans will have the sympathy of everyone who understands the situation of affairs there. The law had repeatedly eign power to force its own citizens to failed to protect them against a class which was malignant, desperate and without the fear of law. In their extremity when the laws they had enacted were has not been determined by accurate fig- not enforced they took the execution of ures at all but which the Legislature must | them in their own hands. They will not be troubled by these societies any more and News and Observer or else be called the Italian Government need not trouble itself.

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NOTICE.

The undersigned, having qualified before the Superior court of Halifax county on the 28th day of January 1891 as administrator with the will annexed of L. B. Holdford, deceased, hereby notifies all persons holding claims against the said estate to present them to him duly verified at his office in Weldon, N. C., within twelve months from the date of this notice or the ame will be pleaded in bar thereof,

All persons indebted to said estate are hereby requested to make immediate pay-

This the 3rd day of February 1891. W. E. DANIEL, Admr. with the will annexed.

8. G. DANIEL Littleton, N. C.

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VOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING

qualified as Executor of J. H. Garner, deceased, before the Clerk of the Superior Court of Halifax county on the 23rd day of February, 1891, notifies all persons holding claims against said estate, to present the same. All persons indebted to said estate will make immediate settlement. C. B. GREEN,

Executor of J. H. Garner, dec'd.

-SALE OF-

REAL ESTATE BY COMMISSIONER. BY VIRTUE OF THE DECREE REN-

dered in the case of J. W. Northington, Administrator of Benj. Cooley against Eaton Cooley on the 19th day of February 1891, by John T. Gregory, clerk of the Superior Court of Halifax county, North Carolina, I will sell at the Court House oor in the town of Halifax, in said county to the highest bidder at public auction, on the 6th day of April 1891, the tract of 50 acres of land in Littleton Township in said SMOOTH. Halifax county, bounded by the lands of Miles R. King, Weldon Cooley, N. D. King, Sanford W. Jenkins, and being the tract whereon Eaton Cooley lives, and same tract described in said decree.

TERMS OF SALE: -One-half cash, balance with 8 per cent, interest from day of sale in three months from day of sale. Title of property retained until all the purchase money is paid. This March 3 1891. J. W. NORTHINGTON.

Commissioner.

This - Space - belongs to the

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NOTICE.

Having qualified as Administrator of Stephen Hedgpeth, deceased, late of Halifax county, N. C. this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 1st day of March 1892, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 3rd day of February, 1891.

PLUMMER LEE, Admr. of Stephen Hedgpeth, dec'd. NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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