## The Weekly

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subscriction price of the WEEKLY STAR is as follows: igle Copy 1 year, postage paid, 3 months.

TAXATION IN CONGRESS.

There are thirteen members of the Ways and Means committee. Of these seven are reported as favoring a reduction of the tax both on tobacco and whiskey. 'A sub-committee of five has charge of internal revenue taxes. Of these two are opposed to a reduction of the tobacco tax. Mr. Carlisle, who is one of the three, has introduced a bill to place the tax on distilled spirits at 50 cents a gallon. The bill is a very long one, and we cannot undertake to give even a

It is certain that the Southern by reducing the internal revenues delegation in the Congress (we mean both Houses always when we use money enough and to spare to meet that term), is very hostile to the in- all of the expenses of the Governternal revenue system and would wipe it out most gladly if they had the power and were not afraid to do Some of the less discreet would go it blind; but the more thoughtful and prudent would not permit their dislike of a system to precipitate them into legislation that would prove hurtful to the best interests of the country.

It is very preposterous to insist upon lifting all tax from tobacco and whiskey, and keeping it on blankets, sugars, woollens, glass, crockery and certain household medicines. If Congressmen have got that far on they will find the people—the tax-payers have not, and will never agree to such blundering legislation as that. The man who will stand up before an intelligent Southern constituency and advocate such folly ought to go to the wall and will go to the wall.

But to the proposed reduction. We hear nothing of "total abolition" now. That tune has "played." There is no doubt that in some Districts in the South the internal revenue system has been much abused and has been an engine of wrong, of corruption, of oppression. But that it has been a burden upon the energies of the people, as some sentimenal politicians are wont to insist, is not to be believed without a clear demonstration. It is altogether probable that the whiskey tax has been the opposite in its results, or Ohio, Illinois and Pennsylvania would clamor for its repeal, whilst the tobacco sections do not elamor for a reduction or abolition, but for a settlement of the question and at once. It is the agitation of the question of reduction that hurts and not the tax. Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, very much abhors the internal revenue system. He thinks it very harrassing, and is strong for its repeal. He wants it wiped out because it burdens the industries and helps elect Republicans to office. This is the way he talks in the beginning. But hear him farther. The above is his opinion in the abstract. But when he comes to look little farther into the important matter, what does he say? Is he for shutting his eyes to facts and for wiping out the system at every risk? Mr. Tucker has too much of the statesman in him to allow his prejuces and dislikes to ride him after that style. Here is what he is reported as saying in a conversation with the intelligent Washington cor-

patch: "But the repeal of the internal revenue system would reduce the revenue of the country \$135,000,000 for the years 1880-'81, and perhaps \$160,000,000 for the fiscal year and perhaps \$160,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882. It is well to carry our reduction of tax so far only as will

respondent of the Richmond Dis-

PENNSYLVANIA.

gerously and Seriously Wounded.

[By Telegraph to the Morning Star.]

city. The building was badly shattered and took fire, and was then totally con-

sumed. At least fifteen, and probably more

lives were lost, and many dangerously wounded. The building was the old home-

LATER.—A number of colored families lived in the old Porter mansion. It seems

and twenty; and about twenty are danger-

ously, and fifty more or less, seriously

wounded. The dead are being laid in the City Hall, and the wounded are being cared for in the various drug stores, so that

no accurate list can be obtained. There is

CHESTER, February 17.—The following is a list of the killed: Jno. Lamplaugh, a boy, of Chester; Thomas Dollison, aged about 23,

of Chester; Thomas Anderson, of Chester;

Alex. Phillips; John Pollock, a married man, of Chester; Joseph Kestner, a son of Joseph Kestner; George Taylor, of Chester;

James Doughty, carpenter, formerly of Village Green; Benj. Garlside, of Chester; Perry Williams, colored, of Chester; Anthony Barber, an ex-policeman, of Chester; Wm.

Wood, a member of the Franklin Fire Com-

Wood, a member of the Franklin Fire Company; John Davis, aged 13, of Chester; Edward Shropshir, an employe at Roach's hip-yard—total fourteen.

The fire had been in progress over an hour when the explosion occurred, and a great crowd had gathered to watch it. Three men were killed one hundred and fifty yards from the building by showers of stone and rubbish. The injured, of all degrees number sixty or more—twenty-five

grees, number sixty or more-twenty-five

VIRGINIA.

Trouble Between Citizens and the

Oyster Fleets at the Mouth of the

Rappahannock - Norfolk Military

[By Telegraph to the Morning Star.]

NORFOLK, February 16.—Gov. W. E. Cameron arrived here this afternoon, and

Jos. W. Gilmer, and the City Guard, Capt.

C. A. Nash, under arms, for the purpose

of accompanying him to the mouth of the

Rappahannock river, where serious trouble

by the difficulties between the citizens and

the oyster fleets at that point. Resistance

to the sheriff and his posse, while attempting to make an arrest for an alleged viola

tion of private rights and the laws, is said

to have led to the threatened disturbance.

The Norfolk military, eighty strong, leave to-night upon the steamers Louisa and

Victoria J. Reed, under command of Maj.

Carter, Commander of the Fourth Division

State Artillery, accompanied by Governor

Cameron and Gen. V. D. Groner and

staff. The artillery take muskets and three

rifle cannons. Three Whitworth guns are

has heretofore voted with the Democrats

voted with the Readjusters, making a tie

was in the chair, and by his casting vote

decided everything in favor of the Read

The action of Wingfield, straightout Re

the Democrats, it is stated virtually settle

the question of the Auditorship, as the de

fection of only one Senator was needed to

cause a tie vote on the joint resolution, now

to be sent thither from Richmond to-day.

apprehended from the excitement caused

ordered the Light Artillery Blues,

or thirty seriously.

Ordered to the Scene.

a scene of great excitement.

stead of Admiral Porter.

VOL. XIII.

Tucker's estimate.

The proposed reduction of the to-

some \$50,000,000, that there will be

The New York Times, the ablest

Republican paper in America, sees the

folly of creating a Tariff-Commission

to fool away the next two years, whilst

in the mean time the country is taxed

by the war tariff to the enormous sum

of four hundred million dollars. The

Ways and Means Committee does not

feel itself competent to deal with the

tariff, but fully competent to deal with

internal taxes. It creates, therefore, a

Tariff Commission, and takes to whis-

years, internal duties must be attended to at

ple or of the great body of those engaged in

nanufactures, and it is becoming more and

more doubtful whether a majority in Con-

gress can be secured for such a course of ac-

key and cigars. Says the Times:

WILMINGTON, N. C.; FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1882.

sensible a Representative. The STAR The STAR has never made a mishas favored from the first editorial take as to Senator Vance's gifts. on the subject the reduction of both Brilliancy and humor are not by any means incompatible with solidity. the internal revenues and the tariff. In a dozen editorials we have pro-We expected Vance would make a claimed that doctrine. It is probable strong speech when he spoke on the that a reduction will be made as to tariff, but he went beyond our anticidistilled spirits. The present receipts pations judging from the following are some \$75,000,000. It is thought from the Washington correspondent if the tax is placed at 50 cents that of the Richmond Dispatch: the revenue from this source will be

"Governor Vance to day made a lengthy and most interesting speech in favor of a revenue tariff, in which he strongly and logically presented his side of the question. It showed careful preparation and labored research, and was relieved by a number of bright passages from the dullness which ordinarily characterizes purely financial speeches, however able they may be. He pronounced prohibitory taxation robbery, and declared that it was on a par with that levied by Dick Turpin on Black-Heath Common. Both the matter of the speech and the earnest and attractive manner of its delivery enlisted the attention of visitors and Senators alike. He read, for example, with effect, the decision of the Supreme Court in which prohibitory legislation is pronounced robbery, and said that, as a lawyer and an honest man, he regarded the opinion sound law. Those who think that a brilliant popular orator cannot be an efreduced \$30,000,000. This is Mr. bacco tax (including cigars) will lessen the receipts some \$20,000,000. It is proposed by the advocates of reduction to place the tax on chewing and smoking tobacco at 8 cents a pound, eigars \$4 a thousand, and cigaretts 60 cents a thousand. The estimate is that after the reductions have been made the receipts will not fall short of \$100,000,000, supposing a brilliant popular orator cannot be an efthat the receipts for the year, if there fective Senatorial speaker will find in Governor Vance a signal exception to this rule. When published and distributed it will be is no reduction, would reach \$150,-When published and distributed it will be extensively read and attract much attention, especially in the South. He is highly complimented to-night on the success of his effort. It was gratifying to his friends that he had more hearers at the close than at the commencement of his speech, and that Senators Hoar, Hawley, and other Republicans came over on the Democratic side to hear him." 000,000, as it is thought will be the case. If the receipts should not exceed those of the last year then the reduction would bring down the revenue to some \$85,000,000. It is further estimated that the tariff tax will bring in \$200,000,000. There is no prospect of any very material re-

Knights of Pythias.

The Grand Lodge of the above-named duction of the tariff for the next two Order of this State met in annual Convenyears to come. It is believed that tion at Goldsbore on Tuesday last, with a by leaving the present iniquitous war large number of Past Chancellors and offitariff fastened upon the country and cers present, and every subordinate Lodge

G. C. Julius A. Bonitz, presided. The reports of the Grand Chancellor and Grand Keeper of Records and Seal term, applications for two more on hand, and two defunct ones revived, with corres pondence looking to the institution of iodges at five different places in the State: making altogether a very flattering exhibit.

The report of the Grand Master of Exchequer shows the financial condition of the Grand body to be in a healthy condition, reflecting great credit upon that officer (R. T. Scanhn, of Fayetteville), which was shown to be appreciated by the Lodge by a unanimous re-election.

The special committee appointed at the last session to draft a new Constitution submitted a report, which was adopted and copies of the same will soon be ready for distribution.

"That is to say, the committee will pro-ceed on the principle that while the tariff may safely be left alone for a couple of Considerable legislation for the good of the Order was enacted and the following once. This is an opinion which we do not think is shared by the majority of the peoofficers elected for the ensuing term :

G. C .- J. L. H. Missillier, of New Berne. G. V. C.-H. C. Prempert, of Wilming-

G. P.-J. F. Townsend, of Lilly's Grove G. M. of E .- R. T. Scanlin, of Fayette G. K. of R. and S .- John L. Dudley, of

G. M. at A .- J. C. Brewster, of Raleigh G. I. G.-Robert Chambers, of Charlotte G. O. G.-W. T. Hollowell, of Golds-Sup. Rep.-J. A. Bonitz, of Goldsboro. The secret work of the order was exem-

plified by Past Sup. Rep., W. H. Gerken, a closing address was delivered by P. V. G. R. Jones, of Charlotte, and the Grand Lodge adjourned to meet in this city on the second Tuesday in February,

P. C. John J. Fowler, was appointed D. D. G. C. of Stonewall Lodge No. 1, and P. John W. Gerdts, as D. D. G. C., of The members from this city and Fayetteville returned yesterday morning, and speak in the highest terms of the knightly

treatment and courtesy extended them by the Knights and citizens of Goldsboro. otton Receipts. The receipts of cotton for the week ending yesterday footed up 2,506 bales, against 1,503 bales for the corresponding week last year, showing an increase of 1,003 bales in

The receipts for the crop year to date foot up 122,761 bales, as against 107,015 bales, up to Feb. 21st, 1881, showing an increase in favor of 1882 of 15,746 bales.

Criminal Court. The following cases were disposed of in this Court yesterday:

State vs. John Statcher, charged with assault with a deadly weapon. Defendan found not guilty.

State vs. March Campbell, charged with larceny. Case continued. Defendant, with security, recognized in the sum of \$200 for appearance at the next term

State vs. Wm. Lloyd, charged with larceny. Defendant found guilty and sentenced to three years in the Penitentiary.

State vs. Wm. McNeill, charged with larceny. Defendant found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment for four years in the State Penitentiary.
State vs. Hannah Lewis, convicted of larceny. Sentenced to two years in the

State vs. Rufus Robinson, convicted of injury to personal property. Defendant (a small boy) ordered to be turned over to his small boy) ordered to be turned over to his mother, conditional upon his immediate removal from the State.

State vs. Alice Fairfield and Charlotte Green, convicted of larceny. Defendants sent to the Penitentiary for 4 years each.

State vs. Mary Ann Giles, convicted of larceny. Discharged.

Court adjourned until Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, when the remainder of the prisoners will be sentenced.

Messrs E. H. King and J. C. Davis, the

messrs. E. H. King and J. C. Davis, the young barristers licensed during the present term of the Supreme Court, made their maiden speeches during the week and acquitted themselves very well. Mr. Davis won a case yesterday.

Quite a number of cases have been continued for the term, including parties indicted for keeping disorderly houses on Water and Nutt streets.

Old Papers to the Front Again.

We have before us the Wilmington Chronicle of July 5th, 1843. It gives an account of the celebration of the national anniversary on the previous day, which, it says, was 'animated, orderly and proper." The day was greeted by a national salute and the ringing of bells. At an early hour the roops paraded. A precession was formed on Front street at half-past eight o'clock in the morning, under command of Col. Mc-Rae, Marshal of the Day, and marched to the Presbyterian church. The services were opened by a prayer from Rev. Mr. Jennett; Gen. Marsteller read the Declaration of Independence, and was followed by Mr. Talcott Burr, Jr., afterwards editor of the Wilmington Herald, with an address suited to the occasion, and the paper says he "acquitted himself well-excellently well," the address being "altogether a performance affording high promise of the youthful orator." Rev. Mr. Battle closed the services with prayer. In the afternoon large number of citizens went on an excursion to Smithville in the steamer Gladistor, and had a good time.

The only other items of interest are the statement of the Raleigh Register that Judge Gaston had so far recovered from the effects of his recent injury as to be able to take his seat on the bench. "He is still compelled, however," continues the paper, "to use his crutches;" and the fact that "at a recent exmination of midshipmen before a Board of Navy officers, thirty-nine were passed, at the head of whom stands Archibald McRae, of this town." The Chronicle was a weekly and published by A. A. Brown.

In the Wilmington Gazette of April, 1811, the following advertisers set forth their

claims: "Wm. B. Meares offers 700 bushels seed rice—the white kind; Wm. L. Pitts 'feels indebted to the liberal custom he has received, and hopes that the kindness of his customers will not stop at the fact of having purchased from him, but will extend itself to an immediate payment for the articles purchased; Miles Knight was jailor; J. G. Blount may be found at Wilmington Bookstore; Benj. B. Smith will beat rice on toll, at Orton mill-can clean from 500 to 600 pounds per day; Dugald Stewart will hire a good flat, with hatch, that can carry 1,000 bushels rough rice; John Nelson, in a card, Potter, and also to Capt. Brock, the officers and crew of the revenue cutter, for timely ssistance, &c.; C. Walker advertises mone found; John Foote will sell 39 hogsheads of es, on a credit of sixty days; Perrin Harrison call 'once! twice! thrice! for lebtors to pay up, or, failing, must adjust with an attorney-at-law: at auction, 'that very convenient and well planned house, corner of Dock and Second streets,' and the furniture, including 'a pair superb looking lasses, one do. mirror, handsome tabl china and white gilt tea, paintings, busts and engravings of the most celebrated artistcopies from Raphael and Claude de Lorraine; Talcot Burr advertises schooner Hope, or New York; Hanson Kelley & Co. have vessels up for London, Liverpool, New York and Philadelphia; for sale, an elegant and convenient Philadelphia-built coach and

narness—almost new.

- Schooner Jennie Morton left this port for Baltimore on the 2d of February, and had fine weather until the 4th. gale struck her which had sprung up from the southwest, and shook the vessel terribly. Sail was shortened and everything done to hold the craft in spite of the storm, but all effort was unavailing. William Ives had his arm broken while stowing the jib, and some of the other seamen were knocked about very considerably. Soon the ship sprang aleak, and though the pumps were kept at work they showed four feet of water in the well. The barometer was then down to 29.30. About half-past 6 o'clock in the evening the wind moderated and hauled to the westward. The vessel fell off in the trough of the sea, lurched heavily and turned over on her side. The captain and crew had then to lash themselves to chain plaiting outside the vessel. Ives, having a broken arm, was helpless and was drowned. The sea swept over the men in this condition, knocked them together and injured them severely. They were in that situation until Sunday morning, the 5th, when, at 2 o'clock, the ship righted on her keel with everything completely swept away. A space two and a half feet wide in the poop was all the shelter left to the crew, and the sea was raging furiously. George Knowlton, the steward, died at 10 clock in the morning from exhaustion On Monday the five remaining men found two cans of condensed milk, which was all they had to eat or drink until Thursday morning. They then caught a little rain water. At 5 o'clock that day the Jessie Burrill rescued them. When they left the schooner was rapidly going to pieces.

U. S. Commissioner's Court. Marshal J. B. Hill, of Raleigh, came lown yesterday with four parties from Sampson county, arrested on a warrant issued by Commissioner Parnell, last winter, charged with threatening and intimidating a man named Lewis J. Smith, a Greenbacker, at the last general election, at the polls held at Taylor's Bridge, Sampson county; the said Smith being one of the poll-holders on that occasion.

The parties, two of whom are named Herring, and the others Matthews and Giles, had a hearing before U. S. Commissioner McQuigg, yesterday, when, the evidence being deemed insufficient to convict, the defendants were discharged, very much to their relief, and went on their way rejoicing. It seems from the testimony that the alleged intimidation partook more of the nature of ridicule than anything else. the parties making Smith a butt for their

sport. Ide and to bring and rate and Maj. D. J. Devane appeared for the de-

Clinton and Point Caswell Railroad. The meeting to be held at Clinton on Thursday, the 2nd of March, of the Clinton and Point Caswell Railroad, promises to be largely attended. Col. A. M. Waddell, we learn has already accepted an invitation to address the people on that occasion, and it is expected that Maj. Stedman will also accept.

To-morrow there will be a meeting at Lisbon, which will be addressed by Jude McKoy and others.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

An Old Man Murdered by his Wife and Daughters in Arkansas—Several Persons Killed by a Boiler Explosion in New York-The Murderer of Beputy Sheriff Blake Captured at Weldon-The City of Helena, Ark., Flooded-Murders in Texas—Beath of Two Sisters From Pelson.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 16.—Yesterday, before a Corener's jury engaged in investigating the murder of Jno. Lanahan, who was killed while sitting near a window in his own house on Saturday night, Maggie, the murdered man's daughter, confessed, and also implicated her mother and sister, and the latter's lover, a young mannamed Birch. The girl testified that it had been agreed some time ago to put the old been agreed some time ago to put the old man out of the way at the earliest oppor-tunity. Birch furnished the pistol and when her father came home from a farmer's club meeting Saturday, and was about to sit down, she stepped up behind him and fired, killing him instantly. She then arranged the body so as to appear that some one had shot through the window, while her sister Anna went out and broke the

Maggie testified that Birch wanted to marry Anna and that her father refused to sanction it and that he did not provide well for them. The mother and Anna corrobo-rated this testimony. Birch at one time lived with the family and was driven from the house by Lanahan, who suspected him of criminal intimacy with his wife and daughter Anna. All the parties implicated are under arrest and the greatest excite-

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—This morning boiler in Jewell Bro.'s Brooklyn Mills, at the foot of Fulton street, Brooklyn. exploded, destroying the lower floor of the building and doing some damage to the office of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. An engineer and a fireman were killed, and it is probable that several lives were lost among the workmen. The injured, so far as can be learned, are of those who were passengers on the ferry boat which had just arrived from Jersey City and passers by on their way to Fulton ferry.

A lady who had just stepped off the boat was struck in the shoulder by a falling brick and seriously hurt. Several others were more or less injured by falling debris Petersburg, Va., Feb. 16.—Henry Jones (colored) who murdered Deputy Sheriff Eldridge Blake, near Raleigh, N C., day before yesterday, while attempting to arrest him for stealing an ox, was cap-

brought to Weldon this morning. MEMPHIS, TENN., Feb. 16.—Telegram from Helena, Ark., say that the levee broke this morning and the city is flooded.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, Feb. 16.-Two bo dies were found in the Rio Grande river. near Laredo, yesterday; one with a rope around the neck and both showing evi dences of murder.

A difficulty at Laredo between two gam blers resulted in the fatal wounding of one

CINCINNATI, Feb. 16.-A Helena (Ark. dispatch says: A heavy gale prevailed this morning. During the prevalence of the wind the waves in the river were three to four feet high and poured over the levee in front of Commercial Row at a fearful rate. The greatest damage occurred at the corner of Main and York streets, and it was with difficulty that the flow of water over the levee at that point could be prevented. Be tween 12 and 1 o'clock the city fire bells were rung and merchants and others closed their places of business and hastened to the scene of threatened danger. The wind soon died away and by 2 o'clock this evening the surface of the river was in the vicinity of the Iron Mountain & Helena R. R. depot, which an immense force of hands were engaged in strengthening, which is considered in a very weak condition. The levee at the upper end of the Williamson place, two miles below the city, broke at about 2 o'clock in two places. The breaks aggregate about 300 yards in length, and the water is pouring through at a rapid rate. It is thought the water can be kept out of Helena by closing the embankment of the Midland Railroad, which is now being done. Several small houses on the out-

side levee floated off to-day. WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.-Mrs. Johanna Levy and her sister, Kate Keefe, died sud denly at their residence on Twelfth and H streets, yesterday. The violent spasm of both women caused suspicion that they had been poisoned, and the case was reported to the police authorities. An autopsy wa held and poison found in their stomachs.

VIRGINIA.

Grand Jury Inquiring into the Bloodless Duels During the Last Political Campaign-Mahone Censured by his Political Colleagues for Absenting Himself from his Duties-The Headjusters Anxious to Adjourn the Assembly.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star. RICHMOND, Feb. 16.—The grand jury o Hanover county was engaged yesterday in an investigation of the duel said to have taken place in that county, in October, between Congressmen Geo. D. Wise and Senator Riddleberger; and also the alleged meeting on the same day between Riddleberger and R. O. Beirre, one of the pro-

prietors of the State newspaper of this city, which, however, did not result in an exchange of shots. A number of witnesse from Richmond, including several newspaper men, were subposneed and examined The grand jury adjourned until to-day without arriving at any conclusion; that i so far as has been made public. RICHMOND, Feb. 16.-In the Senate to

day Mr. Newbury, of Bland, one of the four bolting Readjusters, presented a pre-amble and resolution condemning Senator Mahone for absenting himself from his seat commencement of the present session until now, and requesting him to return and re-main at his post of duty. Riddleburger and others spoke in vindication of Mahone, until further debate on the subject was in terrupted by the special order, which the Senate refused to postpone.

The House of Delegates to-day passed a

bill fixing the new general election day which occurs in November, for submitting to the people for ratification or rejection the constitutional amendments abolishing the payment of the capitation tax as a prerequisite to voting. It is currently reported that as soon as this bill can be pushed through the Senate an effort will be made by the Readjusters to adjourn the Legislature since the

The recent defection from their ranks of The recent defection from their ranks of several Senators, and the increasing dissatisfaction of a number of members of the House, have caused much confusion among the Readjusters, and it is more than probable that they will arrive at the conclusion that nothing more is now to be done, and they will perforce adjourn as the best means of quieting matters.

William Clark, of the wholesale paper house of Clark, Friend & Co., of Troy, N. Y., has swindled the firm of a large amount and absconded.

Spirits Turpentine.

- Greensboro Bugle: We underhouses. Now, this is too bad. —Judge Dick centinued the application, for an injunction in the railroad suits to the June term of the court for 1882, which will be

- The Tarboro letter in the News Observer says the Seaboard and Raleigh Railroad is a fixed fact, that a million and a half capital is in it, that the work is progressing, and that just as soon as it is completed to Tarboro it will be pushed towards Raleigh—that eighteen hundred tons of iron rails had arrived in New York on Sun-Fire and Explosion at Chester-Destruction Par and Wide-Fifteen or Twenty Lives Lost, and Seventy Banday last from Europe, and would be ship ped to Williamston without delay. CHESTER, February 19.—About 8 o'clock this morning an explosion occurred at the pyrotechnic works of Prof. Jackson, in this

— Weldon News: We are pained to announce the death of Capt. J. M. De-Berry, for a long time a resident of this place. He had been visiting his brother in Northampton county, and was taken with some affection of the throat on Thursday, from the affects of which he died on the 5th inst. — We hear, but do not vouch for its truth, that notice has been served on the purchaser of the canal by the heirs of Daniel Weldon, contesting his rights to the property, or rather claiming certain rights which they intend to maintain. The long continued bad weather has delayed work on that it first took fire, and while the firemen-were playing on the flames and a large crowd surrounded them, the explosion oc-curred, scattering destruction far and wide. The killed number between fifteen the Scotland Neck Branch Road considera-bly, but still the road grows and it is ex-pected that it will reach Scotland Neck in pected that it will reach Scotland Neck in the latter part of March. There are only four miles to be completed, and compara-tively little grading to do. —Enfield item: Another lot of able-bodied negroes left this week for the turpentine regions of Georgia. —Scotland Neck dots: Hands georgia. —Scotland Neck dots: Hands are very scarce. Some of our farmers have procured labor from Granville county. Mr. Bell returned a few days ago with a dezen or more — There is a great cry for carpenters. The demand is great and the supply small; this will make wages high.

- Fayetteville Ecaminer: "Mr. J. H. Stephens, of Sampson county, sold at Messrs. Parrish & Blackwell's warehouse, last week, about 900 pounds of tobacco, at an average of \$33.12, and a few days after-wards Col. John Ashford, another good citizen of that county, sold at the same house about 5,000 pounds at an average of \$30.70." The above item, from the Durham Recorder of the 9th, indicates the progress of a new and important industry in our sister county of Sampson. A few years ago the cultivation of tobacco was years ago the cultivation of tobacco was commenced as an experiment by Col. Ashford and Mr. Stephens. It is apparent from the foregoing paragraph that they have reason to be encouraged to persevere in their enterprise. At the very moderate yield of 500 pounds to the acre they will realize more than one hundred and fifty dollars per acre on much of their crop, which is probably three times what the same land would bring in cotton. The school house at Smithville, in Cumberland, where an academy was taught by Mr. Frank Stedman, took fire on the night of the 1st inst. and was burned. — The Onslow people are determined to have a railroad running into their county, and they are right. There are but few counties in the State possessed of so great resources, and very few so little developed.

- New Berne News: Mrs. Anna. Hines Maria Hurst, wife of Mr. Robert Hurst, an English immigrant who arrived n America last December a year, and came to New Berne shortly after, died in the city yesterday morning at two o'clock, wanting a few months of twenty-three years of age.

We are informed at Midland headquarters that the question of gauge has been incidentally discussed, but by no means determined upon. The gauge of a railroad is a matter to be regulated by the demands of a traffic, and under the present arrangements the Wilmington & Weldon road is the most important connection of In the Senate to-day, Mr. Wingfield of Hanover, a dissatisfied Republican, who the Midland. — MOREHEAD CITY, Feb. 16.—It may not be generally known that the hardy fishermen of Cape Lookout have for some time past engaged in whale catching. This season they have seen six whales, of 18 on several votes. Lt. Gov. Lewis and day before yesterday planted the har-poon in one of these "monsters of the leep," which, however, they did not capture. But yesterday afternoon they 'iron-ed' another, and after a hard-fought battle oublican, in the Senate, in deserting from succeeded in killing him. At high water last night the captors towed him to the beach at a point six miles from Morehead City, or about half-way to the light-house, where he will be cut up for the kettles. This morning quite a party left here to see the fish, among whom is a Methodist and a Baptist preacher, intent upon seeing the 'critter" that swallowed Jonah

> - Wadesboro Times: The no fence law went into operation yesterday. Some of the old "hat racks" that have been going round our streets all winter and living on cotton will now be seen no more. Little Miss Blanche Huntley, youngest daughter of Mr. Geo. W. Huntley, had the misfortune to fall out of the back door of his residence on Tuesday and fractured her right arm. —On Thursday last Anson county lost one of her valued citizens in the death of Thomas S. Little, Esq. His death was very sudden and unexpected. He was about 73 years old. —On Saturday last while Mr. Hugh McPherson was projecting with a pistol, it was discharged, and the ball struck Mr. May Teal just above his eye, and glanced. The wound, though painful, is not necessarily serious. The storehouse and goods of Mr. C. D. Dowd, at Little's mills, were entirely consumed by fire about 4 o'clock last Sunday morning. They were set afire for the pur-pose of robbery. The loss is heavy, and there was only a small insurance. Since writing the above we learn that several of the parties have been caught, and it is intimated will be dealt with very summarily.
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> — We are proud to see from the "report of condition" recently published in the Wilmington papers that the Bank of New Hanover and its two branches here and at Goldsboro, make such an excellent showing. Our branch here, under its present very efficient management, is now, as it has long been, a public necessity, and one that our business men could not do without.

— Raleigh News-Observer: The roster of North Carolina troops in the late war, prepared by Major John W. Moore, is being rapidly prepared by Edwards, Broughton & Co. It will, when completed, make an elegant volume or volumes.

It was not thought that Henry Jones, the murderer of Deputy Sheriff Blake, would be brought to Raleigh before last night, so Sheriff Nowell was surprised when Mr. J. C. Derr, of Enfield, who, it appears, is a deputy sheriff of Halifax county, made his appearance with him at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. There was some excitement or morning. There was some excitement on the arrival of the criminal, and a crowd the arrival of the criminal, and a crowd soon assembled to see him. Jones is a mulatto, a sharp fellow, and showed not a sign of emotion or uneasiness. He was quickly ledged in jail, no attempt having been made to do him any injury. For the apprehension and delivery of the murderer Mr. Derr will to-day receive the State reward of \$200, and also Mr. Stell's reward of \$25 for the horse. —The board held a meeting yesterday, at which the preliminary arrangements for holding the summer sessions of the white normal schools were made. These schools will be held at the University, at Newton, Franklin, Elizabeth City and Wilson. Messrs, Kemp C. Battle and J. C. Scarborough were appointed a committee to arrange for the holding of the University Normal School. Mr. Scarborough was appointed a committee of one to make arrangements for holding the schools at the other points named. —The questions of questions is, on whom shall the judicial mantle fall which Judge Seymour has surrendered. Many are in the field, but the omnibus is never full. soon assembled to see him. Jones is a mu-

## pending in the Senate, providing for an lection of an Auditor. THE GUITEAU CASE.

Letter Written to Mrs. Garfield by the Sister of the Murderer. [By Telegraph to the Morning Star.] CLEVELAND, February 17.—J. H. Rhodes secretary of the Garfield Monument Com

nittee, and a near friend of Mrs. Garfield said to an Associated Press correspondent to-day that Mrs. Garfield received a letter from Mrs. Scoville this morning, and that he was authorized in her behalf to say that toward the slayer of her husband she cherishes no malice. He must answer only to his God and to the American people. For family she feels only profound pity. Further than this she asks to be left alone with her sorrow, and to be spared being dragged into useless and torturing publicity. Garfield will not answer the letter.

VIRGINIA.

The Depredating Oyster Fleets on the Rappahannock - Capture of Some of the Vessels and the Others Blockaded -Serious Affray in Sussex County. [By Telegraph to the Morning Star.]

Norfolk, February 18.—At a late hour last night the only intelligence received of Governor Cameron's military expedition against the depredating oyster fleet in the waters of the Rappahannock river was the report of Captain Bloodsworth, of the Baltimore freight steemer Castan Plantage nore freight steamer Gaston, which came down the Chesapeake Bay yesterday. The Gaston passed the mouth of the Rappa-hannock at 12 o'clock, at which time Governor Cameron's steamer Louise had six oyster schooners in tow, and at some distance up the river was a steamer supposed to be her consort, Victoria J. Peed. No other ovstermen were in sight, and as the two steamers effectually blockaded the river, it is presumed that the rest of the fleet had been driven up the river, where they will no doubt be captured. There were no indications at that time of a fight having taken place.

Petersburg, February 18.—Information was received here this morning that a serious difficulty occurred several days ago at Littleton, Sussex county, between J. W. Atkins and Thomas Swain, resulting in the latter being dangerously stabbed by the former. Atkins is a well known merchant of Littleton, and Swain was formerly post-master at the same place. A political dis-cussion was the cause of the difficulty.

John Hampden Chamberlayne, of Chamberlayne & Beirne, proprietors of the State newspaper, died this afternoon, after only three days' illness.

TENNESSEE.

The Supreme Court and the State Funding Bill.

NASHVILLE, February 18.—The Supreme Court has declined to allow a motion entered by Attorneys for the State Funding Board, to modify the injunction so as to permit the issue of bonds without the tax coupon feature. This disposes of the suit, and the funding of the State debt cannot be accomplished except through the passage of another bill by the Legislature.

tion. The inequality and injustice of our Customs duties are quite as palpable as those of any of the needless internal taxes and decidedly more so than the necessity of lowering the tax on whiskey and tobacco. Congress ought to be quite as competent to deal with one branch of the subject as with the The American Consul at Buenos Ayres proposes that the ostrich be introduced into our country. He thinks it can be made very profitable. Cape Colony now exports \$4, 500,000 worth of feathers, against

\$350,000 worth fourteen years ago. Birds can be imported into this country at from \$1,000 to \$1,250 each. One bird produces annually \$112 worth of feathers. A pair will produce annually from \$2,000 to \$3,000 worth of chicks. They average a life of 30 years. The female breeds after four years old. They hatch four times a year, each time with a brood of from ten to fifteen birds. A chick a mouth old will sell for \$50 at Cape Colony. A range of 6,000 acres will subsist and keep 5,000 birds. They thrive on ordinary pasturage and are very hardy. The female sits on her eggs by day, and the male, like a clever

considerate help, relieves her by taking her place at night. The Consul says it is a popular error to suppose that the ostrich is adapted chiefly to the desert; probably it took to the desert to escape its many enemies, and experience has so well proved that it will thrive under extreme

than desert fare. The following from the New York letter to the Philadelphia Ledger, concerning recent commercial transactions, is not without interest:

temperatures that it would evidently

like succulent grasses much better

"The merchandise markets all had "The merchandise markets all had a quieter and firmer tone to-day, and the impression for the moment is that the flurry is over. A great many small speculators are much poorer than they were this day week, but it is some consolation to know that it is not all dead loss. They have acand perhaps \$160,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882. It is well to carry our reduction of tax so far only as will leave sufficient revenue to support the government and leave a surplus for the gradual extinction of the public debt. The total revenue from the tax on spirits was last year \$67,000,000."

The opinion of the Star precisely.

We are glad to be in accord with so that it is not all dead loss. They have acquired a valuable experience, which will probably restrain them from throwing again for the benefit of the 'professional' operators. The President of the Produce Exchange this afternoon remarked: 'I never knew a time when so many persons wanted to speculate in wheat as during the past year. Storekeepers, lawyers, doctors and even women wanted a hand in it. I hope they are pleased with the result."