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ADVERTISING SCHEDULE. The subscription price of the WEEKLY STAR is as follows:

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THE POOR QUESTION. The food question is commanding the attention of the newspapers and no wonder, in view of the advances in the prices of the leading articles that enter into the consumption of every household.

The rapid growth of our cities and manufacturing communities during the past twenty or thirty years gives to the question of the cost of living, in its relation to and effect upon general trade, an importance scarcely less than that which it has for a long time held in Great Britain and other densely populated countries.

The growth of the cities is yet to prove the danger of our republic, for it will be in the cities that the socialistic troubles are to begin.

This, coupled with the food question, makes their growth a very important factor for good or evil to be considered by the true statesmen of our country.

In 1881 the wheat crop was 25 per cent. less than in 1880, and this means a falling off in bushels of 118,000,000.

Thirty years ago you could buy the best flour made in this country for from \$5 to \$6.50 a barrel. We have known it to sell for \$4.50. Now, if you eat the best you must pay \$12 to \$14.

This applies to almost every article that is consumed. Thirty years ago you could buy the best butter for from 12 1/2 to 16 1/2 cents; chickens at from 6 1/2 to 10 1/2 cents; hams at from 9 to 12 1/2 cents, and so on.

We have known eggs to sell hundreds of times for 6 1/2 cents a dozen. But whilst the wheat crop is 25 per cent. less there is an actual increase in the consumption over 1880.

The Chronicle does not look for farther advance in wheat, and says: "Stocks of wheat in English markets are generally larger than one year ago. And finally the prospect for the growing crop of winter are almost everywhere good. In middle latitudes of the United States it is much earlier than usual, and in a very few weeks we shall have flour from new wheat in sufficient quantities to at least check the demand upon disturbing points. This will be an important gain to supplies. Our ability to respond to an export demand in July and August will depend upon the favorable or unfavorable weather during harvest, affecting the shipping condition of the crop. But we may rest, there is no present danger of great scarcity and excessively high prices."

It however expects an additional advance in corn, bacon, pork and lard, and because we are so far off from another crop of corn and a fresh supply of bacon, &c. But it says high prices make people economical. We quote:

"From this time on, throughout the most of the South, this economy will be possible, the gardens there supplying all their needs. The North has also, through the South, and very soon will have from its own production a supply of many vegetables. The deficiency in the growth last season of potatoes and some other vegetables has been made good by imports from Europe. This spring our supplies from Bermuda, as well as from the South, are likely to be large. There remains, consequently, no ground for apprehension on these points."

In the South, if we have a good fruit year, hundreds of thousands of dollars will be saved to the people. In some sections of North Carolina the blackberry crop alone enables people to live and pay taxes. The past is full of folly. Our people have acted as unwisely as possible in relying upon the North for their provisions. In this city nearly everything that is consumed by man or beast comes from twenty to a thousand miles. Can any one marvel that living is high?

Gen. Chalmers and Col. Hodgson are engaged in a word duel. The latter in his letter says: "I refuse to conciliate him, and I defy his utmost venom. He was an imbecile in war and is an imbecile in peace."

Guiteau don't "bank" on the court in banc any longer.

THE WEEKLY STAR.

VOL. XIII.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1882.

NO. 31

To all who clamor for a change in the present system of county government we commend a careful perusal of the article in our local department on "The Past and Present Financial Condition of the County of New Hanover." Will not the Democratic papers of the State give at least the substance of the article for the benefit of all who do not fully understand the great advantages that have accrued to the Republican counties of the East since the present system of county government went into operation?

Republican County Convention. The Republicans in session to receive the Convention at the Court House yesterday morning. Gen. S. H. Manning, as Chairman of the County Executive Committee, called the Convention to order, and was subsequently made permanent Chairman. Joseph E. Sampson and Moses C. Hargrove being requested to act as Secretaries.

On motion, Owen Burey, James K. Cutler, Jordan Nixon, Joseph Sharpless and J. E. Sampson were appointed a committee on Credentials; when a recess was taken by the Convention.

Upon the reassembling of the Convention the committee on Credentials reported as follows:

Your committee, appointed by the County Convention in session to receive and canvass the credentials of delegates to said Convention, beg leave to report the following, to-wit: We have found all the credentials correct and regular in form, all being properly approved by the chairman and secretaries of the several precincts in the county except those from the Fifth Ward, there being contesting delegations from that ward, and, not being disposed to assume the authority of asserting which set shall be admitted, we do recommend that two from one side be admitted and one from the other, viz.: H. B. Green and Jos. D. Sampson from one side and John W. Moore from the other side.

Nominations were then in order, and on motion, Stacy VanAmringe, the present incumbent, was placed in nomination for Clerk of the Superior Court, and the same was agreed to by acclamation.

The following were also nominated by acclamation: Gen. S. H. Manning for Sheriff, Joseph E. Sampson for Register of Deeds, E. D. Hewlett for Coroner, and L. D. Cherry for Surveyor.

For County Treasurer, Elijah Hewlett, the present incumbent, and Owen Burey, colored, were placed in nomination, and a final ballot resulted as follows: For Hewlett 12 votes; for Burey 18 votes. Whereupon Owen Burey was declared the choice of the Convention.

For the House of Representatives the following were placed in nomination: J. A. Sharpless, Henry Brewington, W. H. Waddell, E. E. Green, J. D. Sampson and W. H. Chadbourne; all colored but the last named.

After several ballots E. E. Green and W. H. Waddell, both colored, were finally declared the choice of the Convention. Robert Sweat was then nominated for Constable for the Township of Wilmington to the State Convention.

Delegates: W. P. Canaday, H. E. Scott, G. W. Pries, Jr., H. Brewington. Alternates: J. S. W. Eagles, Ed. Ancrum, Daniel Howard, Thomas J. Bell.

Delegates to the Congressional Convention: S. H. Manning, J. E. Taylor, J. H. Whiteman, J. A. Lowrey. Alternates: Sol. H. Nixon, C. P. Locke, William Myers, George E. Burden.

Delegates to Senatorial Convention: E. B. Brink, E. J. Penneycker, John E. Taylor, Alternates: Ed. McCabe, Sol. H. Nixon, S. VanAmringe, W. H. Gerken.

Delegates to the Judicial Convention: S. VanAmringe, C. P. Locke, Jas. K. Cutler, G. W. Pries, Jr. Alternates: W. H. Gerken, Henry Brewington, Joseph E. Sampson, Wright Gray.

A number of resolutions were passed, recommending W. P. Canaday, Esq., as a candidate for Congress from this District, and recommending the delegates from this Convention to use their utmost endeavors to have him nominated. A resolution was also passed recommending H. E. Scott as the choice of the Convention for the State Senate, and one complimentary to the various county officers.

The Convention then adjourned.

The Convention was rather stily attended, and the proceedings were orderly.

Along the W., C. & A. R. R.

The crops are looking well and promise a good yield. Many improvements are notable, including new fences, hedges, stiles, and a new saw mill, between here and Florence. At Florence many improvements have been made. The Methodist Church, which was burned some four months ago, is to be rebuilt of brick. Mr. Henry Sholar, of this city, has the contract. When finished it will be an ornament to the town.

At the shops of the W., C. & A. R. R., the men have plenty of work, and are turning out as good as any shops in the country. In the car shops, in charge of Mr. W. H. Day, formerly of this city, three new postal cars, of the latest pattern, finished inside with oak, are being built. One of them will be on the road in a few days. They have also one new baggage car, which is as neat as any car on the roads in this section. Considerable freight work is also on hand, and the company is building a large shed in the rear of the shops for this department of business.

Republican Prohibitionists. The Republicans profess to be strong anti-prohibitionists, yet they yesterday nominated, in their county convention, three well-known prohibitionists, viz.: E. H. Manning, E. E. Green and W. H. Waddell. Green made speeches in favor of prohibition. Waddell voted for the bill both in the Legislature and at the polls, and Sheriff Manning was a pronounced advocate of the measure. Green and Waddell, both prohibitionists, are curiously enough, the Republican candidates for the House of Representatives.

COUNTY MATTEES.

The Past and Present Financial Condition of the County of New Hanover—An Encouraging Exhibit.

As an item of interest to the tax-paying people of the county, as well as an evidence of the economical tendency of Democratic administrations, we give herewith some facts and figures in regard to the past and present financial status of the county of New Hanover; and we will premise by stating that along about the year 1877 the debt of the county was increasing so rapidly, and the finances had become so thoroughly demoralized, that it became absolutely necessary for the dominant party to so far relax in their partisan tendencies as to consent to the introduction of two Democrats of financial ability into the Board of County Commissioners, two of the Republican members resigning with that purpose in view, in order that the finances of the county might be straightened up and its credit saved from utter and probably eternal irretrievability. At that time county scrip could not be disposed of at above forty cents on the dollar, and even at that low figure no one would buy it unless the holder would consent to "trade it out," fearing that if they purchased it at forty they might soon find that it was down to thirty-five cents on the dollar. In fact, business men didn't care to meddle with county paper at all, and it was only in rare cases that one could be found who could be prevailed upon to take it. Now for the figures:

At the end of the fiscal year closing August 31st, 1878, the bonded debt footed up \$69,000, at which time the general and special fund (school fund not included) amounted to \$5,894.81. At the close of the fiscal year ending August 31st, 1879, the bonded debt footed up \$46,300, with a balance due the treasurer of \$293.36, showing a decrease during the year of \$13,477.64.

On the 31st of August, 1880, the close of the fiscal year, the bonded debt aggregated \$39,900, and the amount in the treasury (general and special) footed up \$11,439.83; and on November 31st, 1881, with which time the fiscal year was changed by the Board of Commissioners, the bonded debt footed up \$23,900, while the amount in the treasury aggregated \$28,871.44, or more than enough to meet the same.

Now, in this year of grace, 1882, the county of New Hanover, with a good Democratic Board of County Commissioners, whose financial ability, integrity and economy of administration is evidenced by the result before us, can boast that she has not one cent of floating debt; that all authenticated demands upon the treasury are paid when presented; that her paper is as good as gold, or as a check on the bank, for the full amount on its face, and that the present bonded debt (only about \$16,000) can be paid in full at any moment; but for the fact that the bonds do not fall due until 1887, and the holders prefer to keep them and let the interest accumulate until they have matured. In fact, we doubt if they were paid with them on any terms short of a handsome premium.

The Late Fatal Shooting by Mr. Berry Binford at Monroe.

We find full particulars of the late killing at Monroe in the Express and Enquirer of yesterday's date. The homicide took place in the county jail, where the prisoner, Willis Edwards, a stout negro man, about 25 years of age, was confined on a peace warrant. He had become desperate because the sheriff had informed him that he would have to remain in jail until court, and raved and swore in an outrageous manner, tore planks from the ceiling with his bare hands and told the sheriff that if he could get at him he would kill him. The sheriff finally reported the matter to a magistrate, telling him that Edwards was desperate and would soon break out of jail. The magistrate told him to take the prisoner out of the cell and chain him in the dungeon till he became quiet. A posse was summoned for that purpose, and its members were increased as the desperate disposition of the man became more apparent. In the meantime a large crowd had gathered in the corridors of the jail. Edwards defied the crowd, cursing them for everything he could think of, and said he would kill the first man that laid hands upon him; and he would kill somebody if he ever got out anyway, and told the sheriff he might as well get his rope ready to hang him. An attempt was finally made to take him, when he rushed into the corridors, swinging a piece of plank right and left among the crowd, but in the struggle he finally got into the cell again, carrying Mr. Berry Binford, a former resident of this city, with him, when he struck the latter two or three severe blows with the piece of scantling, and was preparing to strike him again, when Mr. Binford shot him twice in the back and right arm, upon which he fell with a groan and died in about two hours. The coroner's jury entirely exonerated Mr. Binford, who shot Edwards purely in self defense.

Mr. Binford was pretty badly hurt, but was expected to be out in a day or two.

A Steam Ferry.

The ferries across the Cape Fear and Brunswick rivers at and near this point, have been leased by the Brunswick Bridge and Ferry Company to a responsible party, who will put a steamer on this end of the line to convey passengers to and fro across the Cape Fear, and attach a flat to carry vehicles back and forth, the arrangement to go into effect on the 1st of July. This will be a big improvement upon the old process of ferrisage, and a source of great convenience to the travelling public in the section particularly interested.

A Reunion.

There is to be a reunion at Burgaw, Pendleton county, on the 10th of June, of the surviving members of Company K, 3rd N. C. Regiment, and Col. E. D. Hall, between whom and Capt. David Williams of that company, who was killed at Sharpsburg, a warm intimacy existed, has been invited to deliver an address on the occasion.

THE ORTON HORROR.

Further Particulars of the Terrible Murder—An Axe Used Instead of a Knife.

We got some additional particulars yesterday in reference to the murder at Orton, briefly alluded to in our last issue. The deed was committed on Wednesday, about 12 o'clock, by a colored man named Pharaoh Sykes, formerly of this city, where he is well known; the victim being a young colored woman named Isabella Jones. A brother of the deceased, who arrived here on the steamer Passport yesterday evening, states that her head was split open with an axe, a deep wound having been found on the right side of the head, and that her left temple was also crushed in; either of the wounds being sufficiently serious to have produced death. The deed was committed while a sister of the deceased was gone to carry her father's dinner, the old man being engaged in piling timber at a point some distance from his house. When the girl returned she found deceased lying weltering in her blood just inside the door, and a younger sister, about twelve years of age, who was a witness to the terrible tragedy, told her that "Uncle Pharaoh killed Bella out in the yard and then dragged her into the house." The murderer also told a little boy who was in the house at the time, and who screamed with terror when he saw the bloody work going on, that if he didn't hush he would kill him too.

The murdered woman's brother states that Sykes was jealous of another colored man named Fred. Robinson, who seems to have been a rival of the murderer in Isabella's affections. It is also said that Sykes was heard to say during that morning that he would have Isabella or kill her.

Sykes is about 35 or 40 years of age, and the murdered woman was about 21; her brother stating that she was born during the first year of the war.

The body will be interred to-day, though no inquest had been held up to the time the Passport passed Orton yesterday afternoon. The murderer is still at large.

The Orton Murderer.

Pharaoh Sykes, who is charged with committing the brutal murder at Orton on Wednesday last, is, as we have stated, very well known in this city, and this is not the first scrape he was ever in. He was arrested here in 1878 on the charge of stealing a watch, had a preliminary examination before Justice Scott on the 4th day of January, gave bond in the sum of \$300 for his appearance at the February term of the Court, was tried and found guilty and sentenced to the Penitentiary for twelve months; appealed to the Supreme Court in forma pauperis, failed to give the necessary bond and went to jail, but at the October term of the Court a nolle proes was entered and he was discharged, the Supreme Court having reversed the decision of the Court below. Another warrant for larceny was issued against him a few months ago, and he was captured at the Messrs. Chadbourne's mills, where he had been for a long time employed, but he succeeded in making his escape from the officer who had him in custody.

Since writing the above we learn that a colored woman who knows Sykes well says she saw him and talked with him in this city on Wednesday evening, the day of the murder, and another responsible party says he met him on the road between Orton and the ferry soon after the murder is reported to have taken place, coming this way. Such being the case he must have returned to the neighborhood of Orton, as Capt. Harper, of the Passport, informs us that some colored people who came up on the boat yesterday afternoon say he was certainly seen at that vicinity Thursday night.

We hear of no reward being offered for his capture.

Shooting Affair in Duplin.

A shooting scrape, which happily did not result fatally, took place at Chincoppe, Duplin county, a few days ago. It seems that Frank Britton, who had been drinking to some extent, got into a quarrel with another white man and attempted to shoot him. Bob Sloan, a friend to Britton, tried to prevent him from accomplishing the desperate deed, when Britton turned his pistol on Sloan and discharged the weapon full in his breast. The wound, however, did not prove a serious one, and the ball was afterwards extracted. Britton fled, but was soon captured and at last accounts was in jail at Kenansville.

A Strange Fish.

We saw yesterday, at Messrs. W. E. Davis & Son's fish house, on South Water street, a curiosity in the shape of a fish, the like of which, we understand, has never been seen in our waters before, though some of our old shipmasters pronounce it a white salmon. It measures five feet and four inches in circumference, and probably weighs over one hundred pounds. It has powerful fins, is said to be a swift swimmer, and is a very handsome fish. It has no teeth, but has a very large tongue. It was caught in a sturgeon net at the Messrs. Davis' fishery at the Inlet, yesterday morning, and will be shipped North.

Oak Grove Cemetery.

Mr. L. D. Cherry yesterday surveyed the land for the pauper's burial ground, hereafter to be known as Oak Grove Cemetery, by direction of Mayor Smith. It embraces about three acres and a quarter, as newly surveyed and laid out, and is located in the southeastern portion of the city, about one mile and three-quarters from the Court House. We learn that a good substantial wooden fence is to be constructed around it at once. Both the city and county will use the grounds as a burial place for their destitute poor.

The barque Glacier, Capt. Crowley, was cleared from this port for Point-a-Petre, Gaudeloupe, yesterday, by Messrs. Northrop & Cumming, with 206, 350 feet lumber and 50,000 shingles.

Foreign Shipments.

The following comprise the foreign shipments from this port yesterday: The Norwegian barque Gokk, Capt. Svendsen, from Sunderland, England, by Messrs. Alex. Sprunt & Son, with 2,184 barrels of rosin and 50 casks spirits turpentine, valued at \$6,450; and the German brig Der Wanderer, Capt. Strubing, from Hamburg, Germany, by Messrs. Alex. Sprunt & Son, with 1,510 casks spirits turpentine, valued at \$29,350. Total value of foreign exports for the day \$35,700.

Homelets at Monroe.

Information was received here yesterday of the killing at Monroe on Wednesday of a negro by Mr. Benj. Binford, formerly of this city. It seems that the negro was being conveyed to jail when he broke away and gave leg bail. Mr. Binford endeavored to stop him and was knocked down by the prisoner with a stick, and would have been hit again, had he not fired on the man as he advanced, dropping him. The negro was shot four times and died Wednesday night. Mr. Binford was quite seriously hurt, but was much better yesterday.

The Crops.

A gentleman who has travelled considerably in Duplin county within the past few days says the crops of all kinds are looking badly in consequence of the cold and dry weather which has prevailed during the present month. He says the worms, too, are attacking the corn and cotton and doing both a good deal of damage.

Hunted to Death.

A small colored girl, whose name our informant does not remember, was left alone in the house by her mother in Duplin county, near Kenansville, a night or two since, and got too near the fire, when her clothing ignited and she was burned so badly that she died soon afterwards. A physician was called in but he could do her no good.

THE LUTHERANS.

Proceedings of the General Synod South—Election of Officers, &c.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May 26.—In the Lutheran General Synod South, Thursday night, Rev. J. Hawkins, D. D., the retiring President, preached the synodical sermon in St. Mark's Lutheran church to a large congregation.

At 9 A. M. to-day the Synod was regularly opened and the holy communion was administered. Rev. J. J. Butler, D. D., for some years chaplain of the House of Representatives, preached the communion sermon. Many communed.

The following were elected officers: President—Rev. J. J. Scherer, principal of Marion Female College, Marion, Va. Secretary—Rev. W. C. Schaeffer, Richmond, Va.

Treasurer—Prof. W. A. Barrier, Charlotte, N. C.

MURDER IN WAYNE.

Leonard O'Neal Shot and Killed White Gambler with Negroes.

FREMONT, May 26, 9:55 P. M.—Leonard O'Neal, a white man, while gambling with two negroes in a skit of woods near this place, this evening, was shot and killed by the negroes. One of the murderers, named Robert Pratt, from Columbia, S. C., has been arrested. The other, named Frank Moore, is still at large. The coroner and jury are now holding an inquest.

ARIZONA.

Drunken Railroad Laborers Attacking Mexicans—Numbers Killed and Wounded on Both Sides.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 25.—The Tombstone Epitaph publishes an account of a fight at Igua's Rancho, on the line of the Arizona & New Mexico Railroad, near the Mexican border. Mescal is smuggled across the line and much ill-feeling is engendered between the American railroad laborers and the Mexicans. A few evenings ago a number of Mexicans, with their families, camped near Igua's Rancho. The American laborers being drunk attempted to force the Mexicans to give up their women. This was resisted and an affray followed, in which seven Mexicans were killed and several wounded. A number of Americans were wounded, and it is thought three will die.

COTTON STATEMENT.

Total Receipts at All American Ports Since September.

New York, May 26.—The following are the total net receipts of cotton at all the ports since September 1, 1881: Galveston, 418,000 bales; New Orleans, 1,158,556; Mobile, 257,877; Savannah, 718,661; Charleston, 468,848; Wilmington, 132,696; Norfolk, 280,775; Baltimore, 35,578; New York, 166,496; Boston, 320,416; Providence, 12,361; Philadelphia, 72,618; City Point and West Point, 171,901; Brunswick, 6,824; Port Royal, 29,590; Pensacola, 10,137; Portland, 7,694; Indianapolis, 19,689; Washington, N. C., 10,001. Total—4,500,382 bales.

VIRGINIA.

Municipal Election in Petersburg—Dejected and Negroes Carry the Day.

PETERSBURG, May 26.—Full returns of the municipal election here yesterday were not received until 4 o'clock this morning. T. J. Jarratt, Readjuster, is elected Mayor over F. H. Archer, Democrat, by a majority of 1,059. The entire Readjuster ticket for city officers is elected: Geo. S. Bernard, Commonwealth's Attorney; J. A. Johnston, City Sergeant; John C. Armstrong, Clerk of the Court; E. W. Couch, City Treasurer; T. H. Bond, Collector of City Taxes; W. D. Menetree, High Constable; W. W. Evans, colored, City Gauger. Democratic Councilmen were elected in three wards. The first and sixth wards elected colored justices of the Peace and two colored Councilmen.

A fire at Portland, Oregon, Friday, destroyed all of the buildings in one block. The loss is estimated at \$70,000; insurance \$40,000.

THE PRESBYTERIANS.

Northern General Assembly Reception of Overtures from the Southern Assembly.

(By Telegraph to the Morning Star.) SENECA FALLS, N. Y., May 25.—In the Presbyterian General Assembly, West, to-day, the dispatch of yesterday from the Presbyterian Assembly in Atlanta was read. It was received with great delight and referred to the committee on Correspondence, and it is understood will elicit a most cordial response.

THE METHODISTS.

Adjournment of the General Conference—Next Meeting to be Held in Richmond, Va.—The Question of Change of Name Referred to Various Annual Conferences—Interesting Details Relative to the Proposed Change.

(By Telegraph to the Morning Star.) NASHVILLE, May 25.—The Methodist General Conference, after adopting a resolution referring the question of change of name of the Methodist Church South to the Annual Conference adjourned sine die. The next General Conference will meet on the first Wednesday in May, 1883, at Richmond, Va.

New York, May 26.—A Times special from Nashville, Tenn., furnishes additional details of the proceedings of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South yesterday.

The report of the committee on Revision, besides submitting a recommendation that the word "South" be eliminated from the name of the Church, proposed to change the name from "Methodist Episcopal" to "Episcopal Methodist." Bennett moved that action be indefinitely postponed, and an animated and lengthy discussion ensued.

Judge J. Walker Tucker made a strong speech in favor of the change, and said that to change the name would appear as if the Church was ashamed of her record.

Dr. Miller advocated the change, because in the eastern country the word "South" had had effect, and was the means of keeping a large number of people from joining the church. When that prefix was stricken out, the church would increase more rapidly in membership than ever.

Dr. E. B. Brown, of Indiana, made an eloquent postscript, but was in favor of sending the petition to the Annual Conferences, because he believed if they did that it would be defeated. The line between the two divisions had been changed, and he believed a change would do no good.

Judge Whitworth favored a change because the question on which the separation was used was dead, and he thought if the name was changed four hundred thousand negroes in the South would join the church, but would not do it as long as it retained its present name.

Dr. W. E. Brown, of California, wanted the name changed, because it was objectionable to the western people.

Dr. Kelley favored a change on the same grounds.

Dr. Potter opposed the change, and said that instead of the whole assembly meeting simply to go bodily back into the Methodist Episcopal Church. They could not obliterate their history without going bodily to the other side, and to this was opposed.

Dr. McCreary, of the following: Geo. Ben of the report of the committee, and moved its adoption: "Resolved, That the matter of change of name of the Methodist Episcopal Church South to the Episcopal Church be referred to the various Annual Conferences by the bishops during the ensuing four years, and that they report the result to the General Conference in 1886."

And it was further resolved that the Church, if changed, shall be "Methodist Episcopal Church of America."

Dr. J. E. Evans, of Georgia, moved to amend the report of the committee, "Methodist Episcopal Church of Christ." This amendment was not accepted.

The substitute prevailed by a rising vote of 105 to 40.

WASHINGTON.

Star Route Cases in the Criminal Court—Observance of Decoration Day—Republican Officeholders Assessed for Campaign Purposes.

(By Telegraph to the Morning Star.) WASHINGTON, May 27.—The Star Route cases came up in the Criminal Court to-day. Motions were made to quash the indictments. After argument on the Messrs. Dorsey's case Judge Wylie overruled the motion. Mr. Wilson called up his motion for a new habeas corpus, which was granted. Acting Postmaster General Hutton issued an order to-day addressed to all postmasters to observe a general observance of Decoration day by closing all postoffices, except in large cities, between 10 A. M. and 5 P. M., on Tuesday next.

Circulars from the National Republican Congressional campaign committee were received by employes to the capitol to-day, in which each employe is informed that he will be expected to contribute 2 per cent. of his annual salary towards a campaign fund which is to be used during next fall. These circulars impose assessments of twenty-four dollars on each door-keeper and about ten dollars on page boys.

TREASURY THIEVES.

A Stolen Ten Thousand-Dollar Bond Plate—Finding a Scape-Goat—The Custodian of Plates and Dies Dismissed for "Lack of Vigilance."

(By Telegraph to the Morning Star.) WASHINGTON, May 27.—George S. Bell, occupying the responsible position of custodian of dies, plates, etc., at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, was discharged by Secretary Folger to-day, and Mr. Burleigh of the same department, temporarily appointed in his place. To avoid any misunderstanding as to the cause of this action, the statement is authorized that it has no bond plate. Mr. Bell was dismissed because of gross carelessness and lack of vigilance in the discharge of his duties. On Thursday last two very important dies used in the making of United States notes, were drawn from a regular requisition signed by the Superintendent of the Bureau, and in accordance with his instructions he should have seen that they were restored to their proper place of security before leaving the building for the day, but he neglected to do so, and the dies were found by a night watchman on the desk in one of the offices, where they had been carelessly left at the close of business. The facts were reported to the Secretary, who at once instituted a thorough investigation, with the result above stated. Fortunately, the dies had not been tampered with or misused in any way, though the possibilities of such danger caused quite an excitement among the officers and employes of the Bureau. Secretary Folger says in this connection that the honesty of Mr. Bell has not been impeached.

McLean & Kendall's carriage factory, at Wilmington, Del., was burned yesterday. Loss \$85,000; insurance \$43,000.

Spirits Turpentine.

—Winston Leader: The case of Mrs. Lena Tise vs. her husband, Cleo Tise, suit for divorce, was heard in chambers before His Honor, Judge Eare, Thursday night last. A divorce was granted Mrs. Tise.

—Charlotte Observer: A large number of Lathern ministers arrived in the city yesterday and more are to come to-day. The indications are that the Synod will have a very full representation of delegates. It is one of the most intellectual and intellectual looking bodies that ever gathered in Charlotte.

—Walter Worley, aged 12, at the Midway cotton mill, Rockingham, in attempting to put a bolt on a pulley in motion, had his right arm caught in the wheel, and it was so broken and lacerated as to require amputation near the shoulder, as we learn from the Spirit of the South. The injury proved fatal.

—Winston Sentinel: There are not less than fifty performers on brass instruments in the twin sister towns. Can any other town in the State boast of so many?

—The town commissioners on last Monday granted license to J. F. Ward to open a bar-room. Mr. Ward pays the town \$1,000 for the privilege.