

VOL. XVII.

After all are not "many prominent citizens" responsible for a portion of the outrages against society? Is it indeed surprising that Judge Lynch should ride his great circuit with so much assiduity and determination?

The communication published to-day was received after the above was written—a coincidence.

SALT.

Salt is used in every household in the land. Even stock must have salt. Health and enjoyment are all involved in salt. Now if there is anything in the world that poor people ought to have free of tax it is salt. It is strictly a *prime necessity*. But last year people paid a tax on foreign salt. Salt for fishermen came in free, but salt for farmers was taxed. Mr. J. S. Moore, the political economist, says in the *New York Times*:

"The tariff laws are so beautifully arranged that it treats some as loving children and others as step-children. The fishermen being the actual children of Eastern tariff makers get their salt for curing fish free of duty. But the farmers, being step-children, have to pay 38 cents on duty on salt and 39 cents on salt in bags if they want to use salt in their farmhouses. The Treasury, growing under a surplus of \$100,000,000, saw fit to collect a duty of 38 cents on salt in bags, and 39 cents on salt in bulk. This being enhanced at least by dint of the tariff, say, \$2,000,000, it therefore follows that the country pays a tax of some \$2,700,000 for the luxury of using salt, more than half of which is paid by the farmer."

Now the men who lay this stupid burden upon the people are for the most part the men who are howling in Congress and in newspaper offices for free drinks, free smokes and light taxes generally on luxuries. It is not only very foolish to thus legislate, but it is so flagrantly unjust that stupidity itself can not fail to see it. Is there any earthly reason why New England fishermen should get their salt without taxation and the Southern farmer and workman should have to pay a tax of 12 cents on every 100 pounds used, if in bags, or 8 cents if in bulk? There is not a nation in Europe that has a tax on salt. It remains for this monopoly ridden country to lay such a foul tax as that. Now why this tax? The *revenues* do not require it, for there is a great and growing surplus in the Treasury. Mr. Moore says:

"In 1880 there were employed in the making of salt in the United States 4,125 males above 16 years old, 20 women, and 144 children. Yet to this organized army of 4,339 men, women and children, some 60,000,000 of the population have become a mob of consumers, and pay \$3,000,000 an annual tax. And to add insult to injury, this important industry, this legal tariff robbery, is actually called a blessing. Let the farmers of this country reflect upon it."

Any people calling themselves intelligent that will submit to such an iniquity, to such folly run mad, deserve it.

EXPOSING MISREPRESENTATION.

The Baltimore *Sun* reports an interview with a colored Methodist Bishop, T. H. Lomax, of Charlotte. He denies emphatically that the negroes are oppressed in North Carolina, and in this he tells the unadmitted truth. A negro named Sutton, a member of the last Legislature, has been lying about the treatment of the negroes, and Bishop Lomax gives a flat contradiction to all he said. He says they vote, hold office, &c., and are not molested or violated in their rights. We quote:

"It is a known fact that on many elections the Republicans have imported voters into the State who have voted upon the names of dead men and men who have moved from the State, and by these means carried the elections. In the town of Charlotte, where I have always lived, the Democrats are largely in the majority, yet the elections are fairly conducted, and in the town of Charlotte the colored people are not molested or violated in their rights. I am a member of the State assembly, and I know as much about the State as any man living in it has been mistaken by Mr. Sutton, for reasons best known to himself."

He might have said that all the bulldozing in North Carolina in election times is done by the negroes themselves, who oppress, intimidate and even maltreat their own color who dare vote as they prefer. But where one Republican paper in the North will accept as true the statement of the colored preacher, a half dozen will echo and repeat the lies of the legislative Manchus.

Rev. Dr. R. A. Young's letters lately published in the *Nashville Advocate* have given him a reputation as a writer about as Methodist preachers of jeremiads at the South—*Goldensboro Advance*.

We read with much pleasure some of Dr. Young's entertaining and sprightly letters. As a writer he is not to be named with the classic, thoughtful, charming Dr. Lipscomb. In point and pith and graphic power Dr. Young cannot approach the witty and brilliant Lafferty. So it appears to us, and we are no small admirer of Dr. Young.

We never saw a cleverer critical article from a North Carolina source than the enjoyable, acute, and able one by Rev. Dr. Ephraim Harding in a recent number of the *North Carolina Presbyterian*. We are much inclined to put it first in this line of writing by North Carolinians.

There is something wrong surely in the management of the State Penitentiary. If not, why the frequent efforts to escape, and some times with success, and the insubordination of the convicts? The kind-governance of the convicts will not answer. The Raleigh *Chronicle's* suggestion is not a bad one—to sell out. The "Pen" is a Northern importation, brought in with the other pests and destructives—the remorseless carpet-baggers. North Carolina never liked the "institution" and never will. It is no punishment to a great "hawbuck" thief and scoundrel to confine him at night, giving him good quarters and plenty of appetizing "grub" with a allowance of tobacco. He must work any way, and this he does as a fashion when a convict. The "Pen" has already cost the State millions. It will grow for criminals as increasing in number, if crime is lessening, as is claimed by some of the Judges.

The probability is that in ten years more the honest white people of North Carolina will be taxed a million and a half to take care of the meanest rascals that infest society. The promise now is that this will continue indefinitely until "the crack of doom."

Why should good citizens be taxed to feed and clothe and shelter the broke breakers, robbers and thieves? Would it not be a wiser step to close the home of race and depravity and convert it into some useful purpose? Why not? Because carpet-baggers, aided and abetted by callow boys, chose to foist a great deplorable upon the tax-payers that any reason why the animal should continue to be pampered and made sleek and rebellious?

THE WEEKLY STAR.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1887.

NO. 30

Spirits Turpentine.

N. C. Presbyterian: Mr. Chas.

D. Price, of Hillsboro, Va., at the

Senior class, and a graduate of Union

Theological Seminary, goes this month

to a new and promising field in Orange Pres-

bytery, made up of Warrenton, Littleton

and Weldon.

Shelby News Era: Favorable

crop reports continue to come in from all

points of the State and neighboring counties. It

is universally conceded that never before

have the farmers of this section worked

more thoroughly and intelligently than

they are this year.

Washington Gazette: At atten-

tion took place at Hunter's Bridge, this

county, last Saturday, between George

Tunkard and some one whose name we did

not learn. Mr. Tunkard, who is a native

preacher, was himself out

Tunkard, it is supposed fatally.

Wadesboro Messenger: Almost

every day the Wilmington Star contains

articles that we would like to see in our

readers, but the present size of the

Messenger prevents their publication in

whole, and to abridge them would destroy

their symmetry and do injustice to that

peerless journal.

Greensboro Patriot: The to-

bacco trade in Greensboro for the past week

has been very heavy. The late Mr. W. H.

Williams & Co., of this city, sold Mr. T. H.

Cook, Superintendent of Oak Dale Manu-

facturing Co., at Jamestown, 50,000 feet of

lumber Wednesday, for a large cotton fac-

tory to be built at Jamestown, with work to

commence next month.

Warrenton Gazette: By this

time last year hundreds of bags of grain

and bags of corn were brought through

our town from Northern markets. So far

this year we have seen none sold here from

a distance. Mr. S. M. Smith, of this city,

flowers to Norfolk last Monday, to be used

in decorating the graves of the Confederate

dead. It was both a duty and a pleasure.

Raleigh Advocate: Mr. Julian

S. Carr conducted in liberality. He has re-

cently contributed one hundred dollars to

wards repairing the Methodist Church in

the Depot, N. C., and a small sum to the

Methodist Episcopal Church of the same

city. Mr. Carr is a native of this State, and

is a member of the Methodist Episcopal

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