The Weekly Star.

WM. H. BERNARD, Editor and Prop'r.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

FRIDAY, - - - MARCH 30, 1888.

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THE DEMOCRATS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

While Blair is consuming time and wearying the country about the illiteracy of the South and keeping back the facts, it is known to all who have investigated the matter, that the Southern States actually paid 22 cents to their public schools upon every $100 worth of property, while the great State of New York paid but 17 cents, and Massachusetts, the great educational centre and where wealth abounds, paid but 22 cents, the precise amount the whole South paid. The State of North Carolina has been steadily improving in its contributions to education. The Radicals about destroyed the schools while their blighting hands had control. Ignorance, illiteracy and profligacy shut up the school houses and wasted or stole the funds.

In 1870, the Democrats had the Legislature, and in 1871, the expenditures for the *public* schools were $177,497.94. In 1872 they were not quite so much, the sum being $173,275.62. In 1873, the sum was still less, $107,675.07. But in these three years about $450,000 were expended in running the public schools. This was working in the right direction. The whites, you must remember, had been well nigh ruined by the Radicals, who had robbed and wasted to an alarming extent, piling up the State, county and municipal debts until they reached the skies.

Since 1873, the whites have been able to bear higher taxation for public education as they recuperated more and more from the destruction wrought by Radicalism. The negroes stuck closer than a brother to the scallawags and carpet-baggers although the robbery and destruction under their supremacy meant no education, no school houses, no improvement in their material or educational condition. They blindly followed the lead of bad, dishonest men who seemed bent on plunder and poverty—plunder for themselves and poverty for the burdened and robbed white taxpayers.

In 1874, the tax levied for public schools was $279,090.85, and the next year about the same amount was realized for that important purpose. In 1876, the year Tilden was elected President and Vance wrested North Carolina from the Radicals in every department, the sum appropriated for public school teaching was $334,163.14. In 1886, ten years later, during which time the *Democrats* had exclusive control the school fund had risen to $652,937.33 or nearly double or nearly four times more than it was in 1871, the year succeeding the Democratic control of the Legislature. Since 1876, the appropriations, exclusive of last year, already mentioned were:

1877	$319,813 00
1878	234,827 00
1879	326,040 35
1880	353,882 65
1881	409,658 88
1882	509,736 02
1883	628,430 98
1884	640,245 22
1885	630,552 30
1886	571,115 00

During the three years of Cleveland's Administration and the Administration of Gov. Scales the Democratic Legislatures have caused taxes to be levied for public school purposes aggregating $1,854,602. In the face of this it is proposed by some to degrade North Carolina by making her a suppliant and pensioner upon Federal bounty, and to allow the Federal Government in return for this bounty to have practical control of the common school system of the State.

North Carolina is steadily, surely advancing in wealth. There is nothing like a boom really. That is more on paper than in reality. But there is progress. North Carolina in 1890 will have a population not much short of 1,900,000, if any. Its actual wealth is much greater in 1887 than it was in 1877. There has been a great advance in a decade in the school appropriations—nearly double—and in ten years more, by 1898, there is no reason that we can imagine why North Carolina shall not appropriate a million annually for public school purposes. Nay, so great may be the population and such the increase of property that it may be that the school fund will then be a million and a half dollars. By 1898 the population will not be less than 2,200,000, and the school population will be correspondingly large.

The Democrats have done much for North Carolina, and this should not be forgotten. They have done a great work for the negroes, but for this there is perhaps neither gratitude nor appreciation. Ephraim is still wedded to his idols.

We notice that the Raleigh correspondent of the New York *Times*, we suppose Mr. Loge Harris, says that it is almost certain that Sherman will receive 22 votes from North Carolina for his nomination as the Republican candidate for the Presidency. This is good news. We think Sherman is the very man to please the North Carolina Republicans, and if he cannot be defeated, then it will be impossible to defeat any Republican. His political record is very bad. His personal record is not much better. At any rate he is not believed to be personally a man of honor; he is not believed to be a man of political integrity. His growing rich as Senator; his using while Secretary of Treasury public funds for private use, and his identification with the Louisiana and Florida rape and fraud in 1876, will be all against him. He has other vulnerable records.

MORMONISM GROWING.

The Mormons are an unmixed and unmitigated nuisance. It is very bad to have a Territory composed mainly of polygamists. It is worse to have several Territories more or less over run by a people who disregard both the laws of God and of man. It is an intolerable evil to have them invading the old States and trying to make proselytes of ignorant and depraved people, thereby sowing the dragons teeth of discord and increasing the Mormon power for mischief. Only three days ago the telegraph brought news of disturbance in Botitourt county, Virginia, by reason of Mormon missionaries, and these instruments of the devil were sustained by an armed force, and they threatened to meet all opposition by fire and sword. If this report be not an exaggeration, we would expect to hear that they had been driven out of the county in the quickest possible time.

North Carolina has occasionally had a visit from some of these lecherous Mormon dogs and they have made converts and captives. Since the war they have been actively working in Tennessee and Georgia, and Chattanooga was the headquarters. In Georgia they have been roughly handled, and in South Carolina a few of the missionaries were told to go and they went. The Savannah *News* says:

"Northeast Alabama was then selected, and in the counties of Clay, Cleburne and Randolph the elders have succeeded in establishing their largest mission. For this territory John Mootry, who moved to Utah from Randolph county about twenty years ago and finally became an elder, and six other elders were chosen. Their success has been such as to cause alarm. When driven from other sections the missionaries did not resent the rough treatment they received, but they have become so strong in that section that they defy the better classes of people to force them to leave.

"Though driven out of the other States they have not abandoned them. They still select their territory and work it until compelled to leave. There is no law to prevent them from preaching Mormonism."

The people are not protected by the laws. They are compelled to obey the law of monogamy that prevails all through the South. The people are taught, and taught properly, that bigamy and polygamy are crimes against God and humanity. But they see these Mormon propagandists of lust and decay going about preaching their foul, salacious doctrine and there is no appeal and no protection from it. Well, the people will have to deal with the disease themselves. The knife of excision is the only remedy. A people who shall become outraged by the destroyers of society may resort to measures that are quick and sharp and effective. The Mormons have no moral right to scatter their pestilential and destructive doctrines broadcast in the States. A remedy of some kind should be found. Cannot legislation reach the disease?

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* telegraphs on 25th inst. as follows, concerning the Chief Justiceship:

"Justice Harlan is now the only Justice on the bench who was not appointed from his circuit. Though appointed from the Sixth, he is assigned to the Seventh. The Fourth circuit—Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and West Virginia—has had the Chief Justiceship in Marshall and Taney sixty years. The vacant Justiceship should come from the Fourth circuit, to which the late Chief Justice was assigned. This can readily be done by promoting either of the seven associates. A failure to make the appointment from the fourth circuit can only be excused on two grounds. First, that the South cannot be trusted to have another man on the bench. This is so supremely absurd that a Democratic President, a quarter of century after the war is over, cannot afford to make so flimsy an excuse, as I believe he will not. Second, that no lawyer of sufficient ability can be found fit in all respects for a place in this high tribunal. The States mentioned have just one-ninth of the representation—36 out of 325—in the House of Representatives, and one-seventh and a half of the Senatorial representation."

Rev. Dr. Moses J. Hoge, the greatest living Presbyterian speaker no doubt, is to deliver in May at Louisville, Ky., a sermon on the Catholicity of Presbyterianism. This is the Presbyterian Centennial year. In May in the city of Philadelphia there is to be a gathering of the intellectual forces. Among the Southern speakers are such distinguished and able men as Dr. Hoge, Dr. Palmer, of New Orleans, Representative W. C. P. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, and Mr. J. R. Tucker, of Virginia. If the North can eclipse these gentlemen it will have to do better than ever before.

The death of Mr. Dorsheimer, proprietor of the N. Y. *Star*, will be regretted. He was a man of ability and shrewdness as a politician. His paper had attained to influence, and was the best exponent of Democracy in the great city.

Senator Jo Brown, Protectionist, thinks it possible for the Democrats to pass a "Revenue Reform bill." He is much in love with Randall. Will he vote for his obstruction bill?

One of the leading North Carolina editors, of date of 26th inst., writes us as follows in a private letter, but it will interest many of the readers of the STAR at this time:

"I concur fully with you in your estimate of Mr. Pearson's preaching. I heard him day and night for three weeks in Raleigh. I never found his equal as a preacher of the Gospel. He has, beyond any man I ever heard, the power to lay his sermon upon the consciences of his hearers. In every effort there seems to come to the hearer the words, "Thou art the man." He delivers his message as God's servant, and he puts the acceptance or rejection of that message upon every man and woman, and he makes them feel that they *must act*. I agree with you that he is doing a great work."

It is said that ex-Gov. Proctor Knott desires to return to the House of Representatives.

At the Tabernacle.

The preliminary services at the Tabernacle last night were conducted by Rev. Mr. Primrose, who led in prayer. The second Psalm was read, and afterward a very large number of requests for prayer were received, showing that a deep interest is being manifested and is growing larger at each meeting. Mr. Pearson then came forward and announced for to-morrow forenoon Bible reading on the "Forgiveness of our Enemies." His text last night was taken from Amos 14:4—"Prepare to meet your God." The point of his discussion was that God will bring us all to the judgment seat, and we should be prepared to meet Him there. He called special attention to three questions:

1st. How shall I prepare to meet my God?

2d. When shall I prepare to meet my God?

3d. How can I prepare to meet my God?

His remarks were forceful, tender and persuasive, and produced a profound impression. A larger number of anxious inquirers repaired to the inquiry room than on any night before. Fifty-one conversions were reported, and a larger number reconsecrated themselves to God.

A Case of Bigamy.

During the proceedings at the Mayor's Court yesterday a case of bigamy was developed, which will probably be investigated to-day. The complainant in the case is a colored woman from Brunswick county, who gave her name as Sophie Andrews. She alleged that Tom Smith, colored, a prisoner who had just been sentenced to "twenty dollars or thirty days," was her husband, whom she had married ten years ago in Brunswick; that he had abandoned her and had since been living in this city, where under the name of Tom Smith he had married a woman named Maggie Lord, with whom he was now living. Smith seemed to realize that he had been caught in a bad fix, but he didn't deny the statement of the woman who claimed him as her legal husband.

"A Most Wonderful Man."

The editor of the Maxton *Union* says of the Rev. Mr. Pearson:

We had the pleasure on Sunday night of listening to this noted divine. And while he stood upon the rostrum delivering one of the most forcible sermons upon the "Divinity of Christ" that we ever listened to, we were foolish enough to try to discover wherein his power lay. We think there were at least many others in the vast multitude of three thousand souls who were equally puzzled. And our conclusion is summed up in these words: He is a most wonderful man.

The people of Wilmington are perfectly carried away, as is evidenced by the fact that his name and services are upon the lips and minds of every one, and as a proof of this you can see the gathering at the Tabernacle two hours before the hour for preaching. Numbers daily are being turned from the error of their way under his ministry. He must be heard to be fully appreciated.

Criminal Court.

This Court adjourned for the term yesterday at 10 a. m. The following is a list of convictions, with the judgment rendered:

House of Correction—A. Richardson, larceny, 12 months; Paul Ludley, larceny, 12 months; Rena Pearsall, assault and battery, 60 days; Jas. T. Davis, larceny, 12 months; Willis Singletary, assault and battery, 30 days; James Capot, larceny, 12 months; Alex. Sutton, assault and battery, 60 days.

Penitentiary—Daniel Mack, larceny, 2 years; Samuel Stanford, larceny, 12 months; Abraham Watson, Ephraim Hurst and William Gilyard, larceny, 4 years; Robert Stokes, larceny, 2 years; Nelson Jackson, larceny, 2 years; George Williams, larceny, 5 years.

Brunswick Democrats.

The Democratic voters of Town Creek Township met on Tuesday last. Mr. Nixon Ottaway was made permanent chairman of the meeting an Mr. J. D. McRae was elected secretary. The following were chosen as delegates to the County Convention to be held on the 31st inst, at McKeithan's Store, viz.: Messrs. George H. Bellamy, M. W. Hilburn, Wesley Skipper, Nixon Ottaway, James D. McRae.

— The Maxton *Union* learns that the Carolina Central authorities will shortly replace old rails with new ones on that road, from a point several miles west of Laurinburg to one mile east. Before a great while the remainder of the road will be newly railed.

— Messrs. Alex. Sprunt & Son cleared the Swedish barque *Magnuss Huss* yesterday for Antwerp with 1,017 bales of cotton and 2,221 barrels of rosin, valued at $49,850.

— Capt. C. C. Morse, of Southport, has sold the pilot boat *Uriah Timmons* to parties in Darien, Ga., and has bought the *Excelsior*, a smaller but faster vessel.

Do you ask for a test of SOZODONT'S power?
Just talk to a lady for half an hour.
If her breath is sweet, if her teeth are white,
If her gums are clean, if her gums are bright.
If her mouth is pure and her teeth are clean
She uses the SOZODONT, then, we ween

Ladies

who use SOZODONT have only to open their lips to prove its excellence. Their white, gleaming, spotless teeth and fragrant breath will tell the story. There is more demand for this wholesome and unexceptionable preparation than for any other dentrifice in the market. One day its use will be universal. †

"SPALDING'S GLUE" handy and useful. †

Daniel Biggs Sentenced to be Hanged.

The Criminal Court assembled at 9 o'clock yesterday morning when the jury in the case of Daniel Biggs, colored, charged with burglary, came into Court and rendered a verdict of guilty. The Court then sentenced the prisoner to be hanged on Tuesday, May 8th, between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon and four o'clock in the afternoon.

Biggs received his sentence without exhibiting the slightest emotion. He is not an ill-looking negro, but although he has been living in this city only about a year his reputation is bad. Biggs is said to be a native of Raleigh. He came here from Goldsboro, where he made his escape from jail while serving a sentence for assault and battery with a deadly weapon. It is said that his wife, whom it is claimed he married while in jail, assisted him in escaping from that institution. When Biggs found that the authorities here were after him, to return him to Goldsboro, he left on one of the river boats for Fayetteville, but got off the boat before it reached that place, and finally made his way back to Wilmington. Besides the crime for which he has been sentenced to suffer the severest penalty of the law, other indictments were found against him at the present term of the Criminal Court for burglary and arson.

Another Hanging Probable.

The Supreme Court has approved the finding in the case of Stephen Freeman, colored, who was tried at the November term of the Criminal Court for raping a white woman and was convicted and sentenced to be hanged on the 23d day of December last, but whose counsel craved and was granted an appeal. The date of execution will be fixed by the Governor, the law (passed by the last Legislature) requiring that in all cases of affirmance of a sentence for a capital felony, the clerk of the Supreme Court, at the same time the decision of the Supreme Court is certified, shall send a duplicate thereof to the Governor, who shall immediately issue his warrant under the great seal of the State, to the sheriff of the county in which the appellant was sentenced, directing him to execute the death penalty on a day specified in said warrant, not less than thirty days from the date of said warrant; but this shall not deprive the Governor of the power to pardon or reprieve the defendant, or commute the sentence.

It is said that Freeman's counsel will now endeavor to secure a commutation of Freeman's sentence to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary.

The State Guard

Adjutant General Jones, as is learned from the *News and Observer*, gives a most flattering and encouraging report of the condition of the State Guard. He states that there is a strong and growing interest in the approaching encampment at Wrightsville, and that the arrangements for holding it are rapidly being perfected. The order for the encampment will be issued to the State Guard shortly.

The Governor has filled vacancies on his staff as follows: Gen. W. G. Lewis, of Tarboro, Engineer in Chief; Col. J. L. Cantwell, of Wilmington, Commissary General of the State; Capt. J. B. Broadfoot, of Fayetteville, Inspector of rifle practice.

The "Guilford Grays" recently organized at Greensboro, have been admitted to the State Guard and ordered armed and equipped. Mr. R. P. Gray is captain of the company.

Spirits Turpentine Barrels.

The Produce Exchange, as a remedy for complaints of gauging spirits turpentine, have adopted a standard barrel of the following dimensions: "The staves to be not more than 35 inches long, the diameter at the bung to be from 23½ inches to 24½ inches, and to average 24 inches, and the head to be 20 inches in diameter and perfectly round. Also, that barrels of the above dimensions shall be gauged with a rod whose 50 gallon notch is 26 2-5 inches from its point, and projection on the hook to be ⅜ of an inch." Ill-shaped barrels, barrels not conforming to the above measurements, and barrels with poplar heads, will be rejected entirely. The rule will be enforced on and after the 10th of June, 1888.

Tarboro on a Boom.

A correspondent of the STAR writes that the flourishing town of Tarboro is "on a boom;" that a Board of Trade has been organized which includes merchants, farmers, and all persons eligible and favorably disposed to the advancement and improvement of the place; that the plans for three or four small industries are perfected and will soon be in operation, and that a proposition made by a cotton machine manufacturing company to move its plant to Tarboro is now under consideration by the citizens.

A Big Defalcation.

The STAR'S telegraphic columns, this morning, contain full particulars of the robbery of the State National Bank, of Raleigh, by the president and cashier, who absconded and it is presumed have found refuge in Canada. The news of the defalcation excited great interest here, although so far as could be learned no one in Wilmington is numbered among the sufferers. Sheriff Manning received a telegram during the day stating that the sureties of Wynne, the county treasurer of Wake, would lose nothing by the defalcation.

Trustees Appointed.

The Board of Audit and Finance have appointed Messrs. George Chadbourn, Wm. A. French and Isaac Bates trustees to receive and make the transfer of bonds and stocks between the Wilmington, Onslow & East Carolina Railroad Company and the city of Wilmington, in accordance with the law directing the manner in which the subscription of $100,000 voted by the city shall be made, and the conditions upon which the said subscription was asked by the company.

— We regret to hear that Dr. James, of Greenville, N. C., father-in-law of Mr. H. L. Fennell, of this city, died yesterday afternoon. Coming so soon after the marriage of his daughter, his death is peculiarly sad.

NEW HANOVER DEMOCRATS

The County Convention—A Harmonious and Enthusiastic Assemblage—The Resolutions Adopted—Delegates to the State Convention Instructed to Vote for Charles M. Stedman for Governor.

The Democratic County Convention met yesterday forenoon in the court room at the City Hall, with a full attendance of delegates present.

Mr. A. D. Brown, Chairman of the County Executive Committee, called the meeting to order, and Mr. A. G. Ricaud was requested to act as secretary.

After the roll of delegates was called an election for permanent officers was ordered.

On motion, Mr. A. G. Ricaud was elected Chairman by acclamation, and Mr. George R. French Secretary.

Upon taking the chair, Mr. Ricaud thanked the members of the Convention for their unanimous expression of confidence, and urged upon them the importance of the impending contest, by reason of the fact that the policy of the Democratic party as inaugurated and executed by Cleveland's administration was before the country for approval or condemnation. He then referred to the closeness of the contest of 1884 as furnishing the foundation of the Republican hope of recapturing the reins of government, and of the determined efforts that would be made to carry close and doubtful States, and of the desperate efforts that would be made to displace North Carolina from her position in the Democratic column. Mr. Ricaud then spoke of our own county and of the thorough unity and harmony prevailing in our ranks as evidenced by the unanimity of action displayed in the recent primary elections. Speaking of the Gubernatorial nomination, he said that New Hanover county, for the first time in probably half a century, would present to the consideration of the State Convention for this high office, the name of one of her favorite sons, whose splendid abilities eminently fitted him for the place, and that if the honor falls upon him he will not only wear it gracefully, but will demonstrate the wisdom of the Convention by leading the party to victory, and by an administration of the trust with credit to himself and benefit to the State.

Mr. Samuel Bear, Jr., offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the chairman of this Convention be authorized to appoint the delegates to represent this county in the State, District and Congressional Conventions and that the chairman be added as a member of each delegation, and that he be given such time to announce said appointments as may be necessary.

The following resolutions, introduced by Mr. J. C. Stevenson, were also unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we, the representatives of the Democracy of New Hanover county, have witnessed with profound satisfaction, the favorable recognition by our brethren in other parts of the State of the claims of this section upon the consideration of the party, and have seen with pride and gratification the numerous references to our distinguished friend and fellow-townsman, Lt. Gov. Chas. M. Stedman, as a suitable and proper candidate for the office of Governor, and we desire to tender our cordial appreciation of these friendly manifestations.

Resolved, That the Democracy of New Hanover county, now fully and fairly represented in this Convention, unanimously presents to the State Convention our distinguished fellow-citizen, Lt. Gov. Charles M. Stedman, as altogether worthy to receive the nomination for Governor, and we earnestly hope that this recommendation will receive a cordial approval.

Resolved, That we commend Lt. Gov. Charles M. Stedman to the State Convention as a faithful and devoted Democrat, a bold and aggressive leader, a man who by his intellectual attainments, by his great force of character and by his untiring industry has justly achieved a large measure of success; whose earnest sympathy with the people and unfailing advocacy of their rights and whose broad, liberal and charitable dealings have won the hearts of the masses and will draw out their enthusiastic support.

Resolved, That the delegates from this county to the State Convention are hereby instructed to cast the vote of this county for Lt. Gov. Charles M. Stedman so long as there shall be any possibility of effecting his nomination—and to spare no means by all honorable and persuasive endeavors to bring about that result—and to pledge to the Convention that, if nominated, he will bear aloft the banner of Democracy with zeal and courage to a glorious victory.

There being no other business before the meeting the Convention, on motion, adjourned to meet again on the first Monday in October next.

Criminal Court.

The trial of Daniel Biggs, a young colored man indicted for burglary, began in the Criminal Court yesterday. Most of the forenoon was occupied in obtaining a jury, and the following were finally selected from the venire summoned: Oscar Batton, Jr., Gibson Register, C. E. Hall, T. S. Tolar, C. B. Yarborough, Isham Quick, Elijah Hewlett, Fred Rhew, W. H. Barnes, D. W. C. Love, Samuel Smith, Oscar Batton.

Biggs is charged with breaking into the dwelling house of Charles Johnson, colored, living on Market street near Thirteenth. The chief witness for the State, Laura Johnson, testified that she saw the prisoner run out of the house the night of the burglary, and the articles found at the prisoner's house a few hours afterwards by police officers were stolen from her house. This witness admitted that she had served a term in the State penitentiary for larceny, about twelve years ago. Her testimony, however, was corroborated by that of other witnesses. The plea put up by the prisoner was that he had bought the stolen goods found in his possession.

The State was ably represented by Solicitor Moore in the prosecution of the case, and the prisoner was defended by Messrs. Junius Davis, Jas. T. Elliott, and Du Brutz Cutlar, Jr. who were assigned as counsel by the Court.

Argument was finished and the case given to the jury about twelve o'clock last night.

— Sixty-seven additions to church membership Sunday last are reported, as follows: Grace Methodist E. Church, 20; St. James Episcopal, 14; Fifth Street Methodist, 9; First Baptist, 7; First Presbyterian, 7; Bladen Street Methodist, 6, Brooklyn Baptist, 3; Second Presbyterian, 1.

WASHINGTON.

Chairman Mills' Condition—A Fatal Fire—Appointments, Etc.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The condition of Chairman Mills, of the Ways and Means Committee, is not so favorable to-day. There is nothing alarming in his condition, but his physician says he needs absolute rest.

A fire at 2 o'clock this morning destroyed a frame building, corner of 9th and K streets, northwest, occupied by a family named Duffy, consisting of father, mother and five children. Two small children were badly burned, and one boy, aged six, died this forenoon of his injuries.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of S. M. Stockslager to be Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The Birmingham public building bill, reported to the Senate to-day, appropriates $300,000, and the Greenville, S. C., bill $100,000.

The President to-day nominated John M. Brown, Medical Director, to be Chief of the Naval Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, with relative rank of Commodore.

The condition of Representative Mills is somewhat better this evening than it was this morning. The fever has abated, and he appears refreshed after several hours sleep.

A bill was reported by Senator Harris, to-day, from the Committee on Epidemic Diseases, to perfect the quarantine system. It provides that whenever any pilot, master or owner of any vessel shall enter a port of the United States, in violation of quarantine rules and regulations, he shall be liable to a fine of $300 and imprisonment for three months. It also authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to establish additional quarantine stations and makes appropriations therefor.

The Secretary of the Navy has directed that the double turretted iron-clad monitor "Terror" be transferred from Cramp's yard at Philadelphia to the navy yard at League Island. The "Terror" has been at Cramp's yard for nearly fifteen years past.

The petition of citizens of Calhoun county, Ala., who represent themselves as engaged in "agriculture, commerce and manufactures," presented in the Senate to-day by Mr. Morgan, protests against any reduction of customs duties and prays for the repeal of the internal revenue taxes. The petitioners say that the internal revenue tax is imposed upon consumers, and is of a domestic nature, while the customs duties fall upon foreigners.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The House Committee on Rules met to-day and agreed upon a report which will, if adopted by the House, dispose of all of the time of that body now open to general business during the next two weeks. Certain leading Republicans had announced their intention to defeat all the special orders or assignments of the days to committees until the Senate direct tax bill should have been acted upon in the House. From to-day's action of the Rules Committee, it appears that they have prevailed, for it was agreed to assign Tuesday and Wednesday, of next week to the Judiciary Committee, upon condition that the direct tax bill be the first measure taken up, after which other judicial bills may be considered.

The Commerce Committee will be given Thursday and Saturday of next week, and the Committee on Military Affairs will be allowed the time afforded by two evening sessions. The following week separate days will be assigned to Committees on Agriculture, Public Lands, and Territories. The last named committee will call up the Oklahoma Territorial bill during its day, and will also be allowed two night sessions for consideration of local Territorial measures.

ALABAMA.

Heaviest Rain on Record—Disastrous Floods Feared—Railroads Abandoned.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

MONTGOMERY, March 27.—The total rain fall since Sunday night has been 7.77 inches, the largest on record. In the unprecedented flood of 1886 it was only 4.80 inches. The heavy rain ceased about ten o'clock this morning, but there has been an intermittent drizzle all day. The Alabama river has been rising at the rate of a foot an hour for about thirty hours, and as the rains have been equaly heavy at the head waters of the Coosa, the greatest rise here is not expected till the day after to-morrow. A flood higher than that of 1886 is anticipated. All trains on the Western Railway to Atlanta east, and Selma west, have been abandoned. Trains on the Montgomery & Eufaula road are also abandoned. Two trains which left here this morning on that road are now laid up between landslides near Union Springs. The train on the Louisville & Nashville road, from Louisville to New Orleans, due here Monday morning, came in to-night. That road is now open and trains are leaving for New Orleans with some uncertainty about getting through.

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

Appropriations Recommended by the House Committee.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The River and Harbor bill was completed in committee to-day, and will be reported to the House Thursday. It makes an aggregate appropriation of $19,432,783 73, and is the largest bill of the kind yet brought in. Chairman Blanchard says the bill of 1882, which was the largest up to that time, aggregated $13,123,000; but since then many new projects of improvement have been presented, the demands of the country for river and harbor improvement have increased, and accordingly the present bill is large. The bill for last year, which carried nearly ten millions, failed to become a law, and hence the present bill is really for two years. He also says that there are no canal projects in the present bill, and no provision is made for the improvement of the Washington flats, because of the unsettled title to land. While there are a number of small appropriations made, the committee confidently assert there is not one which is not sustained by the engineers' reports.

In making up the bill the Committee has had reference to the commerce to be benefited by each appropriation, and the smaller appropriations are oftentimes for streams which penetrate sections of the country where there are no railroads and where the people are dependent upon these waterways for access to a market. The large appropriations for rivers in the bill are: Mississippi river, from the mouth of the Minnesota river to the Gulf, $3,885,000; Missourir iver, $669,000; St. Mary's river, at the falls and Lake channel, $1,500,000; Ohio river, $515,000; Tennessee river, $365,000; Cumberland river, $310,000; St. John's river, $150,000; Black Warrior river, $100,000; James river, $225,000; Cape Fear river, $100,000; York river, Va., $80,000; Chincoteague bay, $50,000; Great Peedee river, $20,000; Santee river, $24,000; Coosa river, Ga., $60,000.

The following are some of the most important harbor items:

Charleston, $350,000; Cumberland Sound, $112,000; Mobile, $250,000; New Orleans, $200,000; Aranzas Pass, $100,000; Galveston, $500,000; Sabine Pass, $250,000; Norfolk, $60,000 (in addition to $108,000 of previous appropriation made available); Beaufort, N. C., $35,000; Winyaw, S. C., $100,000; Savannah, $90,000; Pensacola, $35,000; Key West, $25,000.

OBITUARY.

Death of Ex-Lieut. Gov. Dorsheimer, of New York, in Savannah, After a Brief Illness.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Ex-Lieut. Gov. William Dorsheimer, publisher of the New York *Star*, died last night at Savannah, Ga. Gov Dorsheimer left New York March 15th, and was then in perfect health. He was accompanied only by Mrs. Dorsheimer. They had purposed leaving on blizzard Monday, intending to spend a few days in Washington, and take Thursday's vestibule train to Florida. Mr. Dorsheimer caught a slight cold, and stopped at Pulaski Hotel, Savannah, Ga. His illness was not considered serious, and in fact was not announced to the employes of the *Star*, by Mr. Ackerman, the business manager, until late yesterday, when word was received that the cold had developed into pneumonia. Although Mr. Dorsheimer died at 9.22 last evening, the news was not received in this city until this morning. He had been ill but four days. The remains will be brought North. Mr. Dorsheimer was born in Lyons, Wayne county, and was 57 years of age.

Mr. J. Schrader, a Book-keeper at 11 German St., Baltimore, Md., states:—"I've used Salvation Oil for rheumatism from which I've suffered greatly for a long while and can say it entirely relieved me. I would not be without it at any cost." †

A STARTLING SENSATION.

President, Cashier and Porter of the State National Bank of Raleigh Absconded with Funds of the Bank—Over $250,000 Stolen—The Trio Believed to be in Canada.

Special Star Telegram.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 27.—There never was such excitement in the city before. It was caused by the absconding of President C. E. Cross and Cashier S. L. White, of the State National Bank of this city. They left here on Saturday afternoon last, and it is supposed they went direct to Canada. Ostensibly their destination was Chapel Hill, N. C., where Cashier White had relatives. Late yesterday afternoon suspicion was aroused, and last night the directors of the Bank met, and the matter of the defalcation was made public today. It created an unprecedented sensation.

It appears that the Bank had been shaky for some time, but some additional directors had been recently elected, and it was thought to be in a sound condition.

Bank Examiner Tate has been telegraphed to come here at once. The amount of the defalcation is not known. It is estimated to be near two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

White was a leading Methodist. Cross is quite young, and was until two years ago a clerk in the State Auditor's office.

The other Banks here are not hurt by the defalcation. There were no runs on any of the Banks to-day, and no sign of one. They are ready to meet all demands made on them.

There are no tidings as to the whereabouts of Cross or White.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 27.—There has been nothing whatever in the nature of a run on the Banks of this city, other than the plundered State National Bank. Confidence in their soundness seems to be absolute.

The broken Bank has remained closed tight to-day, awaiting the coming of the Bank Examiner, who is expected to-night or to-morrow morning.

The amount of the defalcation is variously estimated at from $250,000 to $340,000. The cash carried off is supposed to be about $45,000, including $20,000 in gold, to bear which the absconders took along the colored porter of the bank. The trio are believed to be now in Canada, having left the city Saturday afternoon for the North via Greensboro.

BALTIMORE, MD., March 27.—The failure of the State National Bank, at Raleigh, did not create surprise in bank circles in this city, as the bank was looked upon as weak. Ten days ago Samuel C. White, cashier, stopped at the National Union Bank, of this city, and asked for a discount of $20,000 of a planter's paper. It was not looked upon as safe, and was refused. The National Union Bank has been its correspondent in this city, but had discounted nothing for it since last November, and therefore lost nothing. White told the president of the National Union Bank that he had had no difficulty in getting the accommodation in New York which had been refused in Baltimore. It is supposed White then was on his way to Canada.

The State National Bank, of Raleigh, was started by a wealthy man named Williams, with a capital of $100,000. Williams assigned shares to his sons-in-law, and they, with him, became directors. After the death of Williams his widow became president of the bank, and acted as such until two or three years ago, when she retired, and her son-in-law, Cross, was elected president. The National Union Bank, of this city, always accommodated the Raleigh bank by rediscounting its paper, except on one previous occasion, and lost nothing by the transactions.

The circulation of the closed bank is said to be not over $25,000, which is secured; but the deposits are said to be above $200,000, for which the stockholders are responsible.

RALEIGH'S SENSATION.

The State National Bank Defalcation Less than Reported—The Williams Family Said to be Ruined.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

RALEIGH, March 28.—Bank Examiner Tate arrived in the city this morning and took charge of the wrecked State National Bank. As the result of his preliminary investigation, it is said the amount of the defalcation is about $75,000 only. The wreck, however, is a bad one. The Williams family, main owners of the bank, is ruined; but it is believed depositors will be paid nearly if not quite dollar for dollar. All the private boxes, put in the vault for safe-keeping merely, have been returned on identification. All letters received since the failure have been opened and properly disposed of, under directions from the Comptroller of the Currency.

Everything is going on as usual at the remaining banks, save that there is a marked increase in the number of depositors.

[Raleigh correspondence Richmond Dispatch.]

"There were some large depositors, and these were wrought up of course. There were many stories of people who had just saved themselves by checking out. One Wake county farmer had $50,000 on deposit. The last quarterly statement of the bank was made February 14th, at which time there was $300,000 on deposit subject to check. Although, as has been said, some people thought the bank perhaps a trifle shaky, the majority regarded it as perfectly sound, and had confidence in the president and cashier. The former is a young man, a native of Gates county, this State, and is a member of the First Baptist church. He married a daughter of Mrs. Miriam C. Williams, who was, for years after her husband's death, president of the bank. The family was rich and influential. The property was left by the late president, John G. Williams, to be divided among his family when his youngest child became 21 years of age. That event will transpire the 3d of June next.

White was a teacher in the Sunday school of the First Methodist church and very popular. He had been cashier since the bank was established. He is a brother of Mrs. Williams. It is the belief that Cross and White had taken all the money of the Williams family upon which they could lay their hands, and seeing that they must make a final accounting June 3d, as above stated, they determined to take the remainder of the funds they could lay their hands on and fly to Canada, where they had previously been and made due arrangements.

CONNECTICUT.

Explosion of a Locomotive Boiler Near Hartford—Engineer and Fireman Killed.

HARTFORD, March 28.—The boiler of a locomotive attached to the early morning passenger train on the New York & New England road, due here at 8:15 this morning, exploded at 7:30 o'clock near North Manchester. Half a mile west of the station is a high railroad bridge over the Hockamun river. As the train approached the bridge the engineer shut off steam to slow up, when, without warning, the boiler burst. The force of the shock was terrific. The locomotive was shattered and the tender thrown from the track. The momentum of the train was sufficient to push the wrecked engine 200 feet. The front platform of the baggage car was demolished, but beyond that no serious damage was done to the train. The fireman was killed instantly, and the engineer died before reaching Hartford. Nobody else was hurt. The engine had been condemned and this was the last day it was to run. Had the explosion occurred half a minute later, the train would have reached the bridge and would have been thrown off, with frightful results.

Thomas P. Miller & Co., private bankers, of Mobile, Ala., who have been in trouble for some months, have failed and made a general assignment. It is thought that their liabilities are about $150,000, and the assets $50,000.

Spirits Turpentine

— Raleigh *Visitor*: Four p[illegible] owners from Wayne county were add[illegible] the list of convicts at the penitentia[illegible] morning. — Rev. Jacob Utley, a [illegible]able and highly esteemed Baptist mi[illegible] died at the Baptist Orphange at Th[illegible]ville on Sunday last.

— Thomasville *Gazette*: [illegible] Piedmont Reduction Works are in a[illegible]ful operation. Capt. Croslemire, the [illegible]getic and gentlemanly superintende[illegible] making chemically pure zinc. We [illegible]formed that this is the first and only [illegible] in the world at which this has been [illegible] Capt. Croslemire discovered the [illegible] and has it patented here and in Eu[illegible] He has been offered $100,000 within [illegible] days for his patent for the United S[illegible] excepting North Carolina, and has [illegible]clined.

— Durham *Recorder*: Roxb[illegible] Person county, seems to be on a bo[illegible] boom. — It is thought the Cape [illegible] and Yadkin Valley Railroad syndicate [illegible] build a branch road from Walnut Co[illegible] Wilkesboro. — Next Sunday week [illegible] 8th of April, memorial services will be [illegible] in the First Baptist church in memory [illegible] the late Dr. M. T. Yates. — Seven[illegible] penitents were immersed at the First B[illegible]tist church on Sunday night. — [illegible] many friends of Mr. E. C. Hackney, [illegible] and proprietor of this paper, will no d[illegible] regret to learn that he is confined to [illegible] room with a troublesome case of bronch[illegible]

— Asheville *Citizen*: Mrs. Sa[illegible] Ann Davis occupies or