The Chatham Record.

THURSDAY, May 20, ... 1880.

H. A. LONDON, Jr., Editor.

PRESS PREFERENCES.

The State Journal states the preferences of the newspapers of the State for the Gubernatorial nomination as follows, viz: 20 openly for Jarvis and 17 for Fowle; 5 leaning to Jarvis, 3 to Fowle, and 8 to Scales, and 17 neutral. In the last list THE RECORD is numbered, and correctly, too, for we have not thought it proper to advocate the claims of any of the Gubernatorial aspirants in preference to another. As we said last week, so we repeat, that we believe the people of Chatham will be pleased with the nomination of either Fowle or Jarvis. But we do not believe our people are troubling themselves very much about the nomination of either, for just now they are too busy at work on their farms, trying to make bread for their families. Of course, street corner loafers, and others who have nothing to do, daily discuss the claims of their favorite candidates, and think the country is lost and the party ruined unless their choice is nominated; but the PEOPLE have as yet not had much to say. We think it imprudent and improper to carry on an exciting canvass for the nomination, for the feelings and passions of the partisans of each aspirant may be so much aroused that the successful one will not receive a solid and hearty support after he is nominated. By preserving a neutral course between the Gubernatorial aspirants before the nomination, THE RECORD hopes to accomplish more in securing the election of the one who is nominated.

THE WHITTAKER FIASCO.

We referred some weeks ago to the "West Point Outrage"—the case of the Negro cadet, Whittaker, being found one morning in his room tied, and with his ears cut—and that the Radical politicians of the North were trying to make political capital out of it, as being another instance of cruelty to the "colored brother." It was suspected at the time that Whittaker was shamming, and had outraged himself, and a Court of Inquiry was constituted to investigate the matter. Whittaker showed a note of warning that he pretended to have received a day or two before the "outrage," in which he was warned to be on his guard. Five experts in handwriting were summoned by the Court, and to each one separately was submitted this note, together with other scraps of writing by all the cadets, and they all agreed that the note was written by Whittaker himself, and it was proven to have been torn from a sheet of paper, on which was an unfinished letter from him to his mother!

A GOOD AMENDMENT.

An amendment to the Revenue law is now pending in Congress that should by all means be adopted. It has already been adopted in the House, but by a very close vote—102 for it and 100 against it. It provides that the salaries of storekeepers and gangers at all distilleries that mash less than sixty bushels of grain per day shall not exceed $50 per month while the distillery is in operation. The present law allows these officers $4 a day, without regard to the quantity distilled. There are hundreds of small distilleries scattered throughout the country that distil less than twelve gallons of whiskey a day, and the revenue derived from them will not much more than pay the salaries of the Government officials who watch them. The adoption of this amendment would therefore, save a considerable sum every year, and yet every republican in the House voted against it. This is only another instance of their opposing every effort of the democrats to reduce the expenses of the Government.

November Elections.

For the information of our readers we copy from the News the following in regard to the manner of conducting the elections next November. There will be nine ballot boxes at each voting place, and the tickets will be placed in each box in this wise:

1. Ten electors of President and Vice-President. 2. Governor, Lieut-Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Attorney-General. 3. Members of Congress. 4. Judge Superior Court, Fifth Judicial District. 5. Members of the General Assembly. 6. County Treasurer, (in counties having this office,) Register of Deeds, Surveyor, Coroner and Sheriff. 7. Township constable. 8. Amendment to the Constitution concerning public debt, (Chap. 268, Laws 1879). 9. Amendment to Constitution in relation to the support of the deaf mutes, the blind and the insane of the State, (Chapters 254 and 12, Laws 1879).

A Manly Speech.

We referred last week to the fact that our distinguished countyman, Hon. John Manning, was the first Representative from the South after the war to raise his voice in behalf of our oppressed and slandered people, and that his speech then delivered was an eloquent and manly vindication of our beloved old State. Many of our readers have expressed a desire to again read that speech and have requested its publication in THE RECORD, and while we cannot comply with this request in full yet we willingly publish the following extracts therefrom, which we copy from THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of March 2d, 1871. It will be remembered that at that time the democrats were in a feeble minority in Congress—there being 209 republicans and only 89 democrats—and the people of the South were helpless in the hands of their enemies. Those were dark days indeed, and were truly "the times that tried men's souls!" So much the greater honor then is due our noble countyman for his manly defence of our people and the eloquent words that he then dared to utter in their behalf!

The following are only extracts from Mr. Manning's speech, but they will give an idea of what the whole is:

"Mr. Speaker, coming as I do from the south and earnestly desiring the peace, prosperity and happiness of my country, I am filled with sorrow at the language uttered and the course pursued by many members of the Republican party in this House. I will not suppose that the gross misstatements made upon this floor, the extravagant and exaggerated pictures drawn of affairs in North Carolina, are all intended as a punishment upon us for having voted the Democratic ticket. Why, Mr. Speaker, we are a law-abiding people, as I propose to show, with the permission of the House, and if this be the object, prohibit it in within the constitutional powers of Congress, pass a law commanding us to vote the Republican ticket or not to vote at all, and we will submit not to vote, but if you allow us the elective franchise, we must use it as our judgments may advise and our consciences approve.

Now, Mr. Speaker, these accusations touch us most nearly. If true, they hold up the state of North Carolina—

"A fixed figure, for the time of scorn
To point his slow unmoving finger at,"

if false, the country should know it, so that tardy justice may be done my good old mother, whose sons, though they may not have loved liberty wisely, have loved well, and who would to-day pour out her treasure and her sons in defense of the honor of the nation and the integrity of the Constitution, provided she could be treated as an equal among her sisters. To her endless glory be it said, that in our revolutionary struggle she was the only state of the old Thirteen that kept her full complement of men in the field during the entire war, to her glory, be it said, that before the tea was thrown overboard in Boston harbor by a party of disguised men, her sons, without disguise and in the open day, in the harbor of Wilmington, seized the stamp officers and throw the stamps into the waters of the Cape Fear, that before the Boston tea-party had made itself historic the citizens of Edenton resolved, and kept their word, that no more tea should be drank and no more English goods be worn, that before the pen of Jefferson traced the lines of our National Declaration of Independence the hills and valleys of Western North Carolina had echoed with the brave, gallant words of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. To the glory of North Carolina be it said, that in the war of 1812 and of Mexico she was no coward, but her earnest, quiet, obedient and brave soldiers were ever at the post of duty and in the field of honor, and, Mr. Speaker, to her glory be it said, that in the late civil war, although she had no hand in bringing that terrible tragedy upon us, yet she nobly kept faith with her southern sisters, was prodigal of her treasure and her blood, and upon her soil the last southern army went to win before the victorious legions of Sherman. With manly fortitude her sons accepted the situation, and while they will always honor their gallant dead, and endeavor to alleviate the sufferings of their living comrades, they are ready to grasp with thinkable courtesy the hand of the Union soldier extended in kindness, and to stand with uncovered heads, while you, according to our own beautiful southern custom, strew with flowers the graves of the Union dead.

Immediately after the surrender of Gen. Johnston, the President began to put in operation his plan of reconstruction, and the south accepted it. What else could she have done? We could not forgive the angry contest that was so shortly to spring up between the President and the party that but a few months before had elevated him to the high office of Vice-President of the United States, nor ought we to have been punished for his mistakes, if he made any. We thought that this plan received the sanction of the Cabinet and the approval of the people, and we went to work faithfully to carry it out. A convention of the state of North Carolina was called, a constitution adopted, slavery abolished and ever after forbidden, what was known as the war debt repudiated, the integrity and perpetuity of the Union proclaimed, and secession repudiated, a Governor and Legislature elected, and we were beginning to repair our waste places, and during the whole administration of Governor Worth in not one single instance was it necessary to call to the aid of the civil authorities either the military or the civil power.

Congress, however, and the President made war upon each other, and between the two the South was well nigh ground to powder. Reconstruction act after reconstruction act followed each other with amazing and startling rapidity. What was lawful to-day was criminal to-morrow, what was loyalty one day was treason the next. And negro suffrage, opposition to which, as late as the spring of 1867, had been pronounced by Governor Holden the test of Republicanism, was declared by Congress, under the new light that was breaking upon the country, to be "parmaceti" for every wound, and, to quiet the South, to secure the Government of the United States against the influence of the rebels, to save "the life of the nation," a little soothing syrup was administered in the way of political disabilities for the whites and universal suffrage and eligibility to every office for the blacks. The whites of the South, irrespective of party, considered this a dangerous experiment, and feared that it would hinder instead of assist them in the struggle that was upon them. In their simplicity they thought that it would be time enough to enlist this new crew after they had succeeded in gathering up and placing in form the few timbers that were left of our old ship. Whether they were right or not will appear hereafter. Universal suffrage, however, without regard to color, race, or previous condition, was accepted also, in good faith, and no sane man in North Carolina will ever attempt, either directly or indirectly, to take this right away from the negro, but we propose and expect to utilize this vote. The ballot was given the colored man against our will; but let me assure this House that when he is deprived of it it will be against our will also, for it is manifest that before long the intelligent, patriotic, and virtuous gentlemen of the South, to whom the colored man must look for employment, for the education of his children, the protection of his rights and the security of his home, must exercise over him a controlling influence. If this is not so, then is the future of the South desperate indeed!

These new and inexperienced voters were then united in secret political associations, whose purposes and objects were unknown to the great bulk of the whites. All that we knew was that these societies were composed almost entirely of blacks, under the control of a few whites, whose leading spirits were hostile to us, unprincipled in character, broken down in fortune, anxious for change, reckless, unacquainted with our wants, our habits or our means, strangers to us, adventurers, and, for the most part, ignorant and vicious. With these voters and these leaders a convention was called; the Republican party had complete control of this convention, a constitution was adopted, and universal suffrage became a part of the organic law of the State of North Carolina. * * * * * * A Legislature was elected overwhelmingly Republican. The executive, legislative and judicial departments of the Government were under the absolute control of the party of progress and of moral ideas, and immediately the public debt of the State progressed from seventeen to near forty million dollars, and this at a time when the whole taxable property of the State did not exceed in value $150,000,000. Bribery, till then unknown in North Carolina, developed into a system, one man alone expending in bribes $241,000. The usage of the State in making appropriations to railroads utterly disregarded, and all their bonds placed in the hands of bold, bad men, most of them prominent Republicans, were by them thrown upon the stock markets to be gambled for until they went down to ten cents in the dollar. The credit of the State was destroyed, the people disappointed in their hopes of developing the material resources of the State, immigration checked, and left in this impoverished condition to support a State government requiring $3,000,000 annually to pay the current expenses and the interest on the public debt.

Taxes such as were never known before, when our fortunes were most prosperous, were levied, collected from the people, and expended upon themselves. Eight thousand acres of land, worth not fifty cents per acre, were purchased for a penitentiary at the enormous price of $100,000, and the bonds for this purpose were issued in such hot haste that they were delivered to the vendors before the deed was executed to the State. Fortunes were made in a night. Fine equipages, fine horses, fine watches, chains and jewelry, all owned by office holders, dazzled the eyes and oppressed the hearts of our toiling tax-ridden farmers.

Mr. Manning goes on to enumerate the frauds, robberies and other villainies of the infamous Legislature of 1868–'69, and then after alluding to the so called "Ku Klux outrages" and the crimes imputed to them, he proceeds as follows:

This matter has all been recently investigated by the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State, and I hold in my hand the evidence taken during that investigation, to which I invite the attention of members on this floor, and this evidence proves the existence of Kukklux in but one or two counties in the State, the remainder of the State being quiet and orderly. The large majority of those persons arrested were discharged as soon as their cases were heard before them. A few were bound over for their appearance at the Superior Courts of Alamance and Caswell counties, and discharged by a Republican solicitor, with the approbation of a Republican Judge, Hon. A. W. Tourgee, and because a conviction if guilty could not have been obtained, but there was no evidence against them. We do not, therefore, oppose a fair investigation into these matters by Congress; we invite it, because we are satisfied that these outrages have no political significance whatever, and that it will be so established, and thus the peace of the whole country be promoted, and my own sunny land will be vindicated against the foul charges made by men who, although they are fed by her bounty, are bastards, and not sons, and who use the position they by chance occupy to cast reproach upon her fair name, and to malign and abuse her sons.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when we add to all this the shameful deeds of Kirk's ranks, the unlawful arrest of over one hundred of the prominent citizens of the State, the refusal of the governor to obey the writs of habeas corpus issued by the Chief Justice of the State for their relief, and the attempt to try them by a military court, need we look any further for the causes of the defeat of the Republican and the triumph of the Democratic party in North Carolina? If the people of the country have not lost their love of virtue and of civil liberty, if embezzlement of public funds, reckless waste of public money, obstruction of public credit, shameless corruption and official tyranny have not ceased to be crimes, then will the whole people of the United States rejoice with us over the downfall of the Republican party in North Carolina. But bad as all this is, there is still another wee to which I will call the attention of the House for a few minutes. With all the departments of the State government under the entire control of the Republican party with Republicans in every office, from the highest to the lowest in the state, yet if Republican accounts are to be credited, the state of North Carolina is a pandemonium, where all the baser spirits keep their haunts of murder, violence and outrage. If this be so, whose fault is it? There has not been one single instance of resistance to an officer in the discharge of his duty. Why, then, have not these disturbers of the public peace, these outlaws, been arrested? Simply because the officers of the state were either incompetent or else they knew their duty and did it not. In either event, the responsibility is not with the Democratic party, for we are told "the wicked men walk in every side, when the vilest men are exalted."

* * * * * * * * *

But, Mr. Speaker, I rejoice to be able to say that the crimes and outrages of the character mentioned in Governor Holden's proclamations no longer occur in North Carolina, none have occurred since May, 1870. And on the 15th of May, 1870, the Governor announced by proclamation that the civil law was restored. And in his message to the present Legislature of November 10, 1870, he declared again that civil law was restored, and congratulated the country that outrages had ceased, and quiet was established throughout the state. The state government has passed now into Democratic hands, who will see that whole code laws are faithfully executed, that the public peace is preserved, that life, liberty and property are protected, and that the immigrant who wishes to find a home in our good old state shall receive a hearty welcome.

* * * * * * * * *

And now, in conclusion, let me say that the immense majority of our people, both white and black, have been opposed to all acts of violence and of lawlessness, and would at any time have aided the officers of the law in bringing to punishment all disturbers of the public peace, that the only assignable reason why these men have not been brought to justice is the inefficiency and cowardice of the officers of the state. Mr. Speaker, the vast majority of our people of both races are peaceably and quietly pursuing their usual and ordinary avocations diligently and in good temper, and the kindest possible relations exist between the whites and blacks. Time is gradually wearing away that hardness and ill-feeling that is one of the saddest incidents to a civil war. The clouds which have rested so long over our land all have their silver lining.

"Night's candles are burnt out, and jocund day
Stands tiptoe on the misty mountain top."

And all that is needed is that Congress should join in the glorious anthem of amnesty and pardon as it swells out of the popular heart, and for the states to pass laws making it a criminal offense to join a secret political organization. One secret political society always begets another, and my state is no exception to the general rule—first came the Leaguers, then the Kuklux."

Sad Accident.

A shaft of an iron mine, in Michigan, caved in last week burying alive sixteen miners. This shaft was fifty one feet deep and contained five feet of water. Three miners working directly at the bottom of the shaft were taken out dead; the others who were working in the drifts were taken out alive.

CORRESPONDENCE:

[For THE RECORD.

PITTSBORO', N. C. May 17, 1880.

EDITOR RECORD: The gentleman who is destined to fill the position of Attorney General on the Democratic State ticket in the coming contest should be a man of legal ability second to none in the State, a fluent speaker, and one in whose hands the State's interest would always be garded zealously, and from whose opinions there would be no ground for dissent. While we have a number of gentlemen of the legal fraternity in every way capable of filling the bill, yet it seems to me that no one is better adapted for this position than Judge George V. Strong, of Wake.

For a number of years he was a member of the firm of Smith & Strong, regarded as the first law firm of the State, the senior member being now our eminent Chief Justice, then later as Judge of the criminal court of Wake, and well known from the seacoast to the mountains as a successful instructor of law, Judge Strong's ripe experience peculiarly fits him for this position, and his nomination would greatly add to the strength of the ticket in the whole eastern and Cape Fear sections where he is deservedly popular.

Judge Strong is an eloquent speaker, a polished gentleman, and, being in the prime of life, would make an able and vigorous canvass, and one that would go a long way toward insuring a Democratic victory next fall. C.

Singular Presentiment.

A most singular presentiment happened to Mr. John Norburn in Asheville last week. He is one of our prominent and much esteemed tobacconists, and had gone to Asheville to buy on that market. His wife was up and well when he left and their infant five weeks old, but in Asheville a feeling of dread took hold of him, he felt he should die if he staid there, or that he would never get home again unless he left at once, and although he received cheering letters from his wife that she was well, and his intentions of spending a week there, he was forced from this inward horror to take the train for home at once; and all the way last Saturday, his horror increased, he feared destruction, assassination, everything, and landing at the depot here at ten at night, he walked rather than take the omnibus, fearing some accident and his heart almost leaping to his throat. As he got in sight of his house, the old Whit Tunstall place, he saw lights burning in the parlor, and when he entered he found his darling wife a corpse, she had died suddenly from heart disease just one half hour before he arrived. He is a man not given to persentiments, but a thoroughly cultivated English gentleman and of a large host of friends in this city. Mrs. Norburn was buried this evening—Reidsville Times.

Complicated Matrimony.

About three years ago a man living in an adjoining county was reported to have been killed by falling from a scaffold. The report was published, and was seen by the man's wife. She donned the usual mourning, and for about a year mourned the loss of the dead. She then began to turn her thoughts rather more to the living. Two years past she was prevailed upon by a man of this county to become his wife, and the license was issued by the Register of Deeds in this city. A few weeks ago the supposed dead husband turned up in a most unexpected and abrupt style, to the dismay of husband number two and the wife. The first husband, after a survey of the situation, made application for a divorce, which was granted. A few days since the second husband, whose other marriage was of course rendered illegal by the existence of one husband at the time the license was issued, came into the city and obtained from Captain White, the Register of Deeds, another license to marry the same woman. It was granted, and there on the same page of the marriage register stand the same names, with an interval of almost exactly two years between. Such a case has never occurred in this county before.—Raleigh Observer.

A Proper Punishment.

The New York correspondent of Hale's Weekly says that the hack driver who drove his horses and carriage over Mrs. C. M. Parks, of Hillsboro, in Broadway on the 9th of April, inflicting very serious injury, has been tried, convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of $50 and be imprisoned 30 days. This will teach a useful lesson to impudent and reckless drivers, most of whom appear to think that the streets belong to them, and that pedestrians must get out of their way.

A Close Vote.

At the municipal election held in Leaksville, last Monday, Dr. Guerrant, a worthy citizen and a good Democrat, ran against a negro for the office of Mayor, and the result was a tie vote. A negro Treasurer was elected, and there was also a tie vote between a white and a colored man for Commissioner.—Reidsville Times.

Vance to be Married.

Private information from Washington City conveys the intelligence that Senator Vance will marry that Kentucky lady some time next month, after the adjournment of Congress, and that the couple will go to Europe on a bridal trip. She is a lady of the "Blue Grass" region strictly, it is said, handsome, wealthy, and a widow.—Charlotte Press.

War Relic.

[Raleigh Visitor.]

Sheriff Nowell has received a letter from E. H. Talbot, sheriff of Essex county, State of New York, of which the following is a true copy:

"Dear Sir: I have in my possession a testament that I picked up on the battlefield at Popular Grove Church in Virginia September, 1864. And on the fly leaf is written: Rufus I Byrum, his testament. Volunteered August 27th, 1861, in defence of his country in the Moore County Cavalry, Co. I. Recruited from Wake county. Was born in 1840.

I think the man was killed. If he has any relatives living that would like this testament as a relic they can have it by writing to me, and I will explain how it came in my possession. In looking over my old papers and books I found it to-day and concluded to correspond with the official as to the identity of the man. I was a member of Co. C, 93d regt' N. Y. Vols. at the time. If you know of the whereabouts of any of this man's family, I wish you would write. Please let me hear from you.

Respectfully yours,
E. H. TALBOT,
Sheriff of Essex County N. Y."

Destructive Fires.

MILFORD PIKE COUNTY PA., May 14.—Extensive forest fires continue to rage about here. Over 3,000,000 feet of lumber, besides a vast amount of valuable timber, have been destroyed, and several houses and barns have been burned. Six thousand acres of land are on fire this morning. The damage cannot be estimated. Considerable game has been killed by the flames. The fires are nearly all the result of incendiaries. A slight rain is now falling.

HUDSON, N. Y. May 13.—The village of Stuyvesant, eleven miles north of this city, was destroyed by fire this morning, involving a loss of over $200,000. The fire caught from the steamboat of the New York & Catskill Steamship Company. Among the buildings burned are the post office, a house of the New Jersey Ice Company, a railroad depot, Stuyvesant Iron Foundry, St. Mary's Church, and all buildings on both sides of the railroad track, covering a radius of more than a square mile. Among the fine residences destroyed is that of Senator Wendover. A tramp, giving the name of James Smith, was arrested and lodged in jail here charged with causing the fire.

MILTON, Pennsylvania, May 14.—A fire broke out at 12 o'clock to-day in the car works, and a heavy northwest wind prevailed. It was impossible to check the progress of the flames until the entire business portion of the town was destroyed. It is estimated that four hundred buildings were burned, including all the churches, hotels, banks, newspaper offices, the gas works and depot. Assistance came from Sunbury, Danbury Williamsport, Lewisburg, and Watertown. Several bodies have been recovered, but they are burned beyond recognition. Two hundred and fifty families have been rendered homeless and are camping out in the fields. Supplies of provisions and clothing are needed at once. It is impossible to estimate the loss at present.

A Quaker Marriage.

[Greensboro Patriot.]

A marriage took place at New Garden, Friends' meeting-house, in this county, on last Wednesday, between Rev. Rufus R. King, of Spiceland, Indiana, and Miss Alice R. Carr, of Guilford county. As many of our readers have never witnessed such ceremonies, we will give an account of their proceedure. It is known to most people that the Friends hold two religious services each week—one on Sunday at or about 11 o'clock, a. m., the other in mid-week at the same time of day. At these mid-week meetings twice a month they transact the business of their respective churches; one is called "Preparative Meeting," which is held one week in advance of the other, which is called "Monthly Meeting"

The parties desiring to proceed in marriage inform the Preparative Meeting, of which the woman is a member, which shall forward the proposition to the ensuing Monthly Meeting, and if no obstruction appears, the parties are left at liberty to accomplish their marriage, according to the rules of the Society. This all having been gone through with, last Wednesday a large audience assembled to witness the marriage. Meeting convened at the usual hour; the first seat just in front of where the ministers and elders usually sit was left vacant. After a very impressive sermon, delivered by James Jones, and the usual hour for worship had about half expired, the bride and groom and four attendants entered the church and occupied the reserved seat facing the audience. After a few minutes silence, the overseer of the meeting announced that it was now the proper time for the solemnization of the marriage. The couple and their attendants stood up, and, taking each other by the right hand, Mr. King plainly and distinctly said: "In the presence of the Lord, and before this assembly, I take Alice R. Carr to be my wife, promising, with Divine assistance, to be unto her a loving and faithful husband until death shall separate us." Miss Carr then repeated the same, and all were seated. The clerk of the Monthly Meeting then arose and read the marriage certificate, to which the bride and groom affixed their names. After the close of the meeting the near friends and relatives signed the certificate as witnesses.

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Is Complete from Cellar to Garret.

All that I ask is that my customers and friends and the public will give me a call before purchasing elsewhere, as it will be to their advantage. Thanking my many friends for past favors, and soliciting the same in the future, I am very respectfully,

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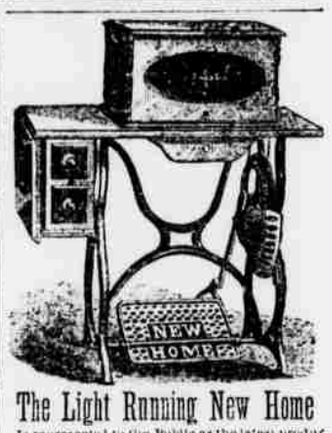

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