

POLL-TAX QUALIFICATION.

We notice that several of our exchanges are urging a poll-tax qualification for voters. For several years this has been urged and is no new question, but no Legislature has yet been found willing to propose such an amendment to our State Constitution. Our legislators seem afraid of it—as much so as of the dog-law—and are not willing to risk their reelection upon it. While no doubt a majority of the members-elect of the next Legislature are convinced of the propriety and justice of this measure, yet we do not believe that they will vote for it. We do not understand how any fair-minded man can oppose it. Voting is a privilege conferred upon and not a right that belongs to the citizen. It does not seem just that those who do not bear the burdens of the government should enjoy its privileges. We are decided of the opinion that the man who is liable to poll-tax and does not pay it, should not be allowed to vote. Of course there are many persons not liable to poll-tax, or specially exempted, and they should be allowed to vote as heretofore, but when an able-bodied man is called upon to pay his poll tax and refuses to do it, he ought not to be allowed to vote with those who do pay. This seems common fairness.

According to our existing laws, one-fourth of the taxes collected from polls is applied to the support of the poor, and the remaining three-fourths to the public schools. All of us will admit that these are worthy objects and are entitled to all the money that the law intends them to have, and yet, because so many persons do not pay their poll tax, our paupers and public schools are deprived of a large portion of their revenues. If this poll-tax qualification for suffrage was enforced our paupers and public schools would receive every dollar intended for them, for every man's tax would be paid. We believe that this qualification would not disfranchise anybody, but would insure a certain collection of the poll tax. The tax of every man would be paid—no man would be deprived of his vote—and our paupers and public schools thus be greatly benefited. Then, why not adopt so beneficial a measure?

THE NATIONAL LIBERAL LEAGUE.

This is the name of an association that should receive the commendation of all God-fearing and decent people. Their last annual Congress was held in the city of Chicago during the month of September, and a copy of their proceedings has been sent us. This League is composed of both men and women, of Infidels, Free-thinkers, Free-lovers and all such characters. To give an idea of the purposes of the League we copy from one of their resolutions the following: "That all laws in regard to marriage, which should be a civil contract, and in regard to divorce, births, and burials, should be placed on a purely secular and scientific basis, and have their justification only in their use to society."

Suppose such sentiments should prevail in our land what would become of the country? And yet such are the avowed sentiments of many of the most enlightened and best educated men of the North: we say "of the North," because as yet the South is "solid" against all such damnable doctrines. Prominent among the speakers at the late Congress of this League was the notorious infidel, Bob Ingersoll, who was recently introduced to an audience in such complimentary terms by Henry Ward Beecher—a pretended Preacher of the Gospel! We trust that our people of the South may ever remain "solid" against all these "isms" that prevail so extensively at the North.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

The names of several gentlemen have been suggested for the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives in our next General Assembly, and among them we notice that some of our exchanges have mentioned in complimentary terms the name of our distinguished countryman, Hon John Manning. We are authorized, however, by that gentleman to state that, while he duly appreciates the compliment paid him, yet he is not a candidate for that high office, and we must add we are pleased that he is not, for we quite agree with our esteemed contemporary, the Anson Times, in saying that he "could do his State more service upon the floor." The legal learning of such a lawyer as Mr. Manning preeminent fits him for the position of Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and his safe conservatism will render him a most prudent "Leader of the House." We think without doubt that in this position he could render his State far greater service than in the Speaker's chair, and we doubt not this is the opinion of all who know the man and the duties of the position.

ELECTION IRREGULARITIES.

Election irregularities sometimes defeat the people's choice, and the popular voice is suppressed by the negligence of the officials who conduct the election. Several instances of this occurred at the late election, though fortunately none of them materially affected the result. We notice that in the State of Indiana a Hancock candidate for elector was elected, because in six counties the name of his opponent was by some mistake omitted from the ticket. Of course this does not endanger Garfield's election, but such a mistake four years ago would have elected Tilden, as Hayes had only one majority. In our own State were several mistakes. The county of Tyrrell made no return of any votes for Leach, the democratic and Everett, the republican, candidates for elector, so that they appeared for this reason to run behind their colleagues. And again, several thousand votes were returned as cast for W. A. Smith as elector, when he was not a candidate. Doubtless when the returns of the gubernatorial vote are canvassed many will be found defective. Such was the case four years ago, and we fear will ever be unless such "mistakes" of the returning officers are made punishable and an example made of some of them. We cannot be too careful in correctly determining the people's choice.

Election Returns.

From the News and Observer of November 27th, we copy the following: "The Board of State Canvassers met on Thursday, but on account of its being a holiday adjourned until yesterday, when it again met in the House of Commons. The following composing the board, were present: His Excellency Gov. Jarvis, Secretary of State W. L. Saunders, Attorney-General James S. Keman, and Senators elect James S. Lockhart, of Anson, and Win. E. Clarke, of Craven. The following were the secretaries: John Spelman, H. M. Cowan and C. W. Lambeth. The returns for Judges of Superior Court were first canvassed, and afterwards those for the Congressional election. The following is the official count:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Count. Includes Latham's majority, Orlando Hubbs, Win. H. Kitchen, Cicero Green, Hubb's majority, John W. Shackelford, W. P. Canady, H. R. Komegay, Shackelford's majority, W. B. Cox, Moses A. Bledsoe, Cox's majority, Alfred M. Seales, Thomas R. Keogh, John R. Winston, Seales' majority, Clement Dowd, Wm. R. Myers, Dowd's majority, Robert F. Armfield, David M. Farches, Armfield's majority, Robert B. Vance, Nath Atkinson, Samuel L. Love, Vance's majority.

Census Notes.

Table with 3 columns: County, Total, Male, Female. Lists counties like Alamance, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Davie, Edgecombe, Franklin, Granville, Guilford, Halifax, Hatteras, Johnston, Nash, Northampton, Onslow, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stokes, Wayne, and Wilson with their respective population figures.

A Very Popular Democrat.

The result of the election of a member of Congress in Lenoir county is surprising to outsiders. Garfield carried the county by about 3,600 majority, while Jonathan Seville, the Democratic candidate for Congress, beat Myron P. Rash, the Republican candidate, by about 100 votes. Each of these gentlemen is immensely wealthy, and the election was undoubtedly an eminently fair test of their relative popularity. Mr. Seville's liberal treatment of the workmen in his employment during the hard times which began in 1873, and his extensive charities, formed, no doubt, the secret of his success in overcoming the enormous majority of the Republican party. His election under such circumstances naturally brings him prominently before the public eye, and if he should prove to be the possessor of abilities equal to the situation, we shall be likely to hear of him hereafter in connection with other and perhaps greater posts—New York Sun.

The Travels of a Needle.

Thirty-six years ago Mrs. Elizabeth Hardie, who lives on Western avenue, between East and Swain streets, stepped on a needle which broke off, saving the point, a piece about a quarter of an inch long, sticking in her foot. For years after, she suffered excruciating pain, the foot at times swelling to three times its natural size. Then it would swell down, the pain would leave and she would not be troubled again, perhaps, for two or three years. She has been laid up in bed on account of it for six months at a time. Last summer the point of the needle was in the foot, or rather the pain was there. Within the last few days she has been complaining of a sharp, severe pain in her right side, just above where the hip bone joins the body. Yesterday she made an examination of the place, and to her great delight, found the needle point sticking out of the skin.

The Negroes' Demand.

The colored people of New York are about to issue an address, which will be sent to President-elect Garfield, asking that he recognize the colored race in a more substantial way when he assumes his position in the White House. They ask, on behalf of a million and a half colored voters, that one of their representative leaders be chosen as a member of the Cabinet, inasmuch as the only colored Senator, Bruce, of Mississippi, will retire from his position next March, and that the colored people have never had, though they are entitled to, a Cabinet position. The address, it is said, will inform Gen. Garfield that without the colored votes, 30,000 being cast in the State of New York alone, he could never have been elected President.

Baptists on Intemperance.

At their late State Convention the Baptists adopted a resolution to petition the next Legislature to prohibit the distillation and sale of ardent spirits and the Biblical Recorder in alluding to it says: "The resolution instructing the Board of Missions to memorialize the Legislature in reference to temperance had no political bearing. Many of the best citizens of the State are alarmed at the amount of intemperance among the people, and mortified at the display of this vice among these occupying positions of honor. And there is a settled conviction on the part of the Christian men of the State, both for the well being of our social interests and our honor as a people, to give their suffrages no longer to men of intemperate habits. The whole matter may be summed up, so far as we understand it, as a warning to the political parties, and a declaration on our part henceforth to vote for no man, whatever be his affiliations and platform, who is not both a virtuous, honorable and temperate gentleman. We would like to see the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors restrained and abated; and we again advise the people to make the widest application of the provisions of the existing laws on the subject. There is very little reason to either wait for or expect additional action on the part of the Legislature. The remedy is in the people's own hands. If we remain at home and refuse to vote for intemperate and immoral candidates, then the parties will nominate virtuous and honorable men. And this will be done only after the experiment has been tried."

Correspondence.

BUCKLIN, LINN Co., Mo., November 25, 1880. EDITOR RECORD: To-day is the day of national thanksgiving, on which we all are by proclamation of the Executive of our government asked to lay aside all our secular affairs of life and assemble ourselves together in our respective places of worship, and there offer our oblations to that God from whom all our temporal and spiritual blessings come. It is eminently right and proper that we should, as a Christian nation, have one day in every year set aside for the worship of God. What a pleasing sight it certainly would be to the God of the Universe to look down from his lofty throne and behold a nation of fifty millions of people offering up their sacrifice! No nation on earth has greater reasons to be thankful than we. Having just emerged from the devastation of a civil war; yet our country is supplied with abundance and to spare of her products, and other nations are looking to and depending on us for a great portion of their supplies. While we as a people are so thankful for all the temporal blessings that we are so abundantly blessed with, O how I do pity the turkeys which have been slaughtered by the thousands this day to feast upon. Enough of that, I did not intend to intrude on your patience or space, when I commenced, but merely to ask you to pardon me for my neglect to remit the "needful," and place me square on your list. Herewith please find one dollar which please place to my credit. My time has been occupied during the late political campaign with my own affairs, and watching the political tricksters and have thus neglected to look after this matter. I am glad to see that the old North State again cast her vote for the old time honored principles of Democracy. The raz-billy mailed with the old hats—in this our tenth, Congressional district, and elected a radical republican to Congress. I blush with shame when I say the democratic party elected him, or the greenback-democratic. A true patriotic democrat was defeated and a radical-democratic-radical-radical-greenbacker was elected from the tenth Missouri district. Yours, S. F. PEASE.

City Taxes.

A correspondent of the Raleigh Star says: "In the State of Virginia, where 'incorporated' means something, no incorporated city or town is compelled to pay county taxes—it is only city and State taxes they pay. Now our farmers made to pay city taxes unless they reside in the city. Towns in Virginia unincorporated are liable to pay county taxes. The sheriff of a county in Virginia has nothing to do with collecting city taxes; each incorporated city or town levies its own share. Why cannot a bill be passed in the coming Legislature to allow incorporated cities and towns in this State to elect their sheriff, &c., as they do in Virginia? The city sheriff of Danville, Va., is the same as our constable here, only the constable here does not collect the city taxes. What say our people and legislators to the plan? It is only a suggestion."

Our Pensioners.

The annual report of the Commissioner of Pensions shows that on the 30th of June last 250,802 persons were receiving pensions from the Government. The pensions average \$103.34 each annually, an aggregate for all of \$25,917,906.60. Exclusive of the arrears the payments for the year amounted to \$37,946,185.89, of which \$12,488,191.20 was accrued pension in the new cases. The payment of arrears was begun in May, 1879. There was paid in May and June of that year \$3,333,333.63, and \$19,380,804.23 during the last fiscal year. The total amount paid out for pensions during the year was \$57,026,991.12. Commissioner Bentley estimates that it will require upward of \$50,000,000 to pay the pensions for the current year.

Snow Slide.

A despatch from Denver, Colorado, dated Nov. 27th says sixty laborers were buried in a snow slide yesterday near Cheik Creek on the Kokomo extension of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. About 11 o'clock A. M. they noticed the pine trees trembling, and in an instant the slide came with a loud roar, tearing up the track for a distance of a quarter of a mile and burying sixty men. John Dine, was killed, and nineteen men badly injured, and eleven others slightly. The slide carried the track over the heads of the men, and most of the wounds were probably caused by the iron staking.

Sudden Deaths.

Lucius Hotchkiss, a retired merchant and banker, of New Haven, Conn., died last Sunday very suddenly. A few minutes before his death his wife, who had gone in to see him, on being informed that he was dying, fell dead on the bed upon which he was lying. He was 78 years of age and she was 72.

Official Vote of the Union.

The Chicago Tribune furnishes the following statement of the majorities taken from the official returns from every State in the Union of the late Presidential election: Garfield 4,439,415; Hancock 4,436,014; Weaver 305,799; Dow 9,644; scattering 1,793; total 9,192,596; Garfield's plurality 3,401.

STATE NEWS.

Fond of Tobacco. We have one man in Lenoir, Tom Daugherty, Esq., who sleeps all night with a chew of tobacco in his mouth.—Kinston Journal.

A Warning to Boys. Willie, a little son of Mr. Charles Bradshaw, was badly burned about the face and eyes by the bursting of a toy cannon which he was firing a few days since.—Charlotte Press.

True as Preaching. A Bible and a newspaper in every house, a good school in every district, all studied and appreciated as they merit, are the principal support of virtue, morality and civil liberty.—Lincoln Progress.

Good Farming. A colored man in Barton's creek township, named Thomas Gill, has made this year 53 barrels of corn, 15 bales cotton, 2 stacks of oats, a good garden and a plentiful supply of potatoes, working only one mule.—Raleigh Visitor.

Remedy for Chicken Cholera. "Mix spirits of turpentine in shell-ed corn and feed." Mrs. Isaac Brown of Jones county had a drove of 160 turkeys, and the cholera was sweeping them away, having killed 25, when she followed this remedy, and not another one died.—Kinston Journal.

Fire in Raleigh. This morning about 3 o'clock, the work shop of Messrs. Ellington, Royster & Co., situated on the connecting line between the N. C. and R. & G. Railroads in the northwestern part of the city, was totally destroyed by fire, together with all the material and machinery.—Raleigh Visitor.

A Lively Corpse. Hardy Scott, colored, who was arraigned before the Federal Court, at Greensboro some time ago for illicitly selling whisky, and who was reported afterwards to be dead, his clothes having been found on the banks of a creek, has been arrested near Apex, by W. S. Jenks, Esq., and lodged in jail. Scott did not run at all like a dead man when discovered. He is reported to be a great scamp.—Raleigh Visitor.

Compounding Felony. We heard of two or three cases, several days ago, where parties in Kinston had committed larceny and forgery and the offense had been condoned and the prosecution ceased on payment of damage. The parties concerned ought to remember that there is such an offence as compounding a felony, and that they are subject to indictment for their acts.—Kinston Journal.

Indian Relics. We noticed at the express office the other day, several boxes of Indian relics that had been collected in this section and were being sent North. Would it not be well to form a society in connection with the public library and collect these relics and keep them in our town? Now is the time to lay the foundation for a museum that will in after-years be an ornament to the place.—Asheville News.

Death from a Cancer. For sometime past Mr. J. L. Harrell, who lives near Roxobel, in Bertie county, has suffered from a cancer on his leg. Last week he rode off somewhere in the neighborhood and did not get back until after dark. Next morning he was found dead at his gate, the artery of his leg having burst and he weakened and died from loss of blood.—Morrisboro Enquirer.

Profitable Pork. Last Friday Thos B Campbell, who lives at Tarnersburg, in this county, killed a hog weighing 518 pounds. Last December he purchased it from a neighbor for \$2, when it was supposed, if it had been killed and cleaned, it would have weighed about 48 or 50 pounds. Five hundred pounds of pork added since that time makes a pound and a half per day. As near as can be ascertained it was a day old for each pound it weighed. Who beats this? Let us hear.—Statesville Landmark.

Horse Strangled to Death. Mr. Robert Hood, who resides in the Mill Creek section of Johnston county lost a gray mare in town here Friday night, under peculiar circumstances. The mare had been tied in one of the stalls at Messrs. H. Weil & Bros' wagon lot, and in some unaccountable way the rope had become entangled, and in her efforts to free herself the animal was strangled to death, and was found the following morning hanging by the neck, her colt standing by the lifeless carcass, faithful unto death, and unwilling to leave it.—Goldsboro Messenger.

Improving Seed Corn. J. M. F. Rhodes of Jones county sends us an ear of corn only 5 1/2 inches long, with 1,300 grains on it. He has been carefully improving it for several years and now his corn will shell a bushel to 70 ears. He seems to have adopted the plan followed by J. N. Shute, of Jones, in getting a large number of rows to the ear. The average ears of corn will have 14, 16 or 18 rows on them, but Mr. Shute had, by careful selection year after year, improved his seed corn until he had worked it up to 24, 26 and 28 rows and the more rows on the ear the more corn would it shell. The plan is worth adopting.—Kinston Journal.

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