The Chatham Record

THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1886

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

THE CONTEST for the Congressional nomination in this district is becoming quite interesting to say the least. The friends of the different candidates are very zealous and are doing their utmost for their success. Thus far the contest has been conducted in the proper spirit—without any unpleasant personalities that are calculated to stir up bitterness of feeling. The aspirants are all clever and capable gentlemen, and the friends of no one of them can justly charge anyone of the others with anything dishonorable. It is fortunate for the democratic party, and also for all the people of the district, that this is true, and it is a cause for congratulation. It is all right for the friends of each aspirant to urge the claims of the man of their choice, but it is not right to abuse the others. Let the friends of each do and say all they can for their choice, but do not say or do anything against the other aspirants, that may be used by the republicans to defeat them, if nominated. While we believe that the nomination is equivalent to an election—that our nominee, whoever he may be, will be elected—yet let us not endanger his election by any imprudent act or saying now. Let not our passions or prejudices become so aroused against any of the aspirants, as to weaken our support of him, if he is nominated. While some now call themselves Cox men, or Cook men, or Bunn men, or Graham men, yet let all remember that they are DEMOCRATS and, as true democrats, be ready to support heartily the nominee of the convention. The success of the party is not dependent upon the nomination of any one of them.

PENSIONS are at last to be paid to the soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war. This is tardy justice to a deserving class of our citizens, and it affords us much pleasure to know that these old veterans will at last have their services duly appreciated. Many of them, especially those in the Southern States, sadly need the pittance that is to be paid to them. For many years Congress has been urged to grant pensions to the Mexican veterans, and a bill for that purpose has more than once been passed by one branch of Congress, but was always defeated by the republicans in the other. On last Monday the Senate finally passed the bill that had been passed by the House some time ago, granting a pension to the soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war. Of course President Cleveland will promptly sign so meritorious a measure.

The bill as passed directs the Secretary of the Interior to place on the pension roll the names of surviving officers and enlisted men, including marines, militia and volunteers, who, being duly enlisted, actually served sixty days with the army or navy of the United States in Mexico, or on the coasts or frontier thereof or en route thereto, in the war with that nation, or who were actually engaged in battle in said war and were honorably discharged, and the surviving widows; provided, that such widows had not remarried; and provided, that every such officer, enlisted man and widow who is or may have become subject to any disability or dependency equivalent to some cause recognized by the pension laws, as a sufficient reason for the allowance of a pension shall be entitled to the benefits of the act (except when such disability or dependency was incurred in aiding or abetting the late rebellion.) The pensions are to be eight dollars per month, payable only after the passage of the act; the law not to apply to persons already receiving pensions at or above that rate and where persons (entitled under this law) are already receiving pensions less than $8 per month the pension shall only be for the difference up to $8.

Poisoned At a Picnic.

ST. LOUIS, July 6.—At Coulterville, a little town on the Cairo Short Line road, some forty miles southeast of St Louis, last Saturday a picnic was given near the village by the Coulterville Base-Ball Club which was attended by nearly all the villagers and a great many country people living near there. Ice cream, served from a copper kettle that had not been used for over a year, was freely partaken of by over seventy-five persons. Soon after every one who had eaten any of the cream was taken violently sick and yesterday two children of James Wilson died after the most terrible suffering. John Hissing's daughter, aged seventeen; Mary East and Myra Wisley, about the same age; William Craig and two sons of Dr. Finger, of Marissa, a neighboring town, are expected to die at any moment. There are many others whose true condition the physicians are not yet able to determine, but the greatest anxiety and alarm are expressed as to their ultimate fate.

The Recorder On Cox.

We have been requested by the editor of the Durham Recorder to publish the following editorial that appeared in that paper about six weeks ago:

"Brother Hackney of the Recorder, Graham's [illegible], seems to fear Cox most of all [illegible] making a record for him. He [illegible] that Cox [illegible] the suspension of silver coinage [illegible] against free coinage, though on the same occasion he voted against the suspension of the coinage of silver. Which votes mean that he favors the Bland bill under which the government is coining two millions of silver dollars per month. Our brother of the Recorder goes still further and criticises, in two leading editorials of over a column each, one of the General's votes on the Mormon question when he first entered Congress, notwithstanding the fact that the Recorder has twice supported Cox since that vote, and notwithstanding the fact that both Devereux and Turner with the record before them were afraid to make a point of it in their canvasses. Stick to civil service Brother Hackney."

The above defense of Gen W. R. Cox appeared in [illegible] week's Chatham Record. It was written from Washington City by Hon. T. B. Womack. Some time ago Gen. Cox was appointed [illegible] of the Civil Service [illegible] [illegible] Womack, who has great influence in Chatham, clerk of [illegible] committee at a salary of about $2,000 a year. This is a fat place for our young friend and he makes as good a clerk as there is in Washington. If Gen Cox fails to be re-elected, some other Congressman from some other State who advocates this humbug Civil Service, will have some influential friend he will put in this snug place to suck the Government pap. Friend Womack will lose his place, and return to Old North Carolina with a long [illegible] wish for that $2,000 he lost by Gen. Cox failing to get the nomination. It is so nice to sit back and defend Gen Cox when there is $2,000 a year if you should win.

Brother Womack says that the Recorder has supported Gen Cox since his vote on the Mormon question. We admit this, but it was because he was the democratic nominee and not because he was our choice. We have nothing personally against Gen. Cox and oppose his nomination because we believe there are men in the District better qualified for the position, who are true Democrats and will serve to do some good for their constituents. He again says we fear Gen. Cox most of all. That is true, for [illegible]. If Gen. Cox is renominated a republican will be the next Congressman from this District. [illegible] We fear him as we would a republican for being [illegible] advocating Civil Service. He says to the world "that the republicans stay in office, but the democrats who elected me stay at home." This is Gen Cox's principles and his actions since he was first elected proves the assertion. Bro. Womack well knows how soundly his chief was abused by the democrats of Chatham last Fall for not securing for them a democratic postmaster at Pittsboro. He knows there would have been no change to this day had it not been for the fact that Gen. Cox feared his [illegible] would cause his defeat at the next Convention. He [illegible] making Gen Cox a record. The democrats of this District have already completed the record, and on its title page we read: Working Democrats in preference to Republicans. Down with Civil Service advocates. Away with Mormon Defenders. Down with friends of Monopolies. Democrats must have a Democratic Administration. This record has been completed, bound sound and ready to be delivered.

We favor Major Graham because he is the most available man and has been faithful to his country, his constituents and the democratic party. Should he fail to get the nomination we will cheerfully support either Hon. Chas. M. Cooke or Hon. B. H. Bunn, both true and tried democrats.

Immigration Items.

A gentleman from Carlisle, Pa., desires to purchase for cash a small farm of about 75 or 100 acres convenient to Raleigh. The gentleman, Mr. H. B. Cornelius, is a good man to have located in North Carolina and will make a good citizen.

Mr. J. B. Canfield, of New York, N. Y., writes Commissioner Patrick relative to starting a Condensery of Milk in our State. He says it would require not less than 2000 quarts of milk daily.

A party in Massachusetts writes Commissioner Patrick for information regarding Southern Pines. He says there is a druggist in his place who will spend next winter at the Pines and a number of other people are contemplating a visit to North Carolina during the coming fall.

W. Wight, of Easton, Md., would be pleased to correspond with parties having land for sale in the counties adjoining Raleigh. He would like to come and begin farming.

T. E. Meyer of 456 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., would like to go into business with some first-class Machinist and start a Foundry and Machine Shop in some desirable section.

The President has vetoed the bill providing for the erection of a public building at Asheville, N. C.

The act of Congress approved June 29, 1886, reducing the fee from eight to five cents on postal money orders not exceeding five dollars, will go into effect on the 26th instant.

The President is not only a very industrious man, but is remarkable for methodical manner in the performance of his work and the punctuality observed in all his engagements.

Our Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, July 9th, 1886.

The President has vetoed twenty more [illegible] pension bills, making [illegible] in all. This shows what he was doing on Monday, evening when he declined to remain on the South portico of the White House and look at the fire works in honor of the Fourth. The President is endangering his reputation for business and honesty every time he vetoes one of those [illegible] promote mendacity, and every [illegible] soldier [illegible] this [illegible] Veterans [illegible] Senator [illegible] very way of classifying them with the [illegible].

This Senator from Wisconsin practically has charge of the pension business in the Senate and he is remarkable from the fact that of all the private pension schemes that have been rushed through his hands during the present session, he has never reported adversely upon a single one. In his boundless sympathy [illegible] it is with the old soldiers, their sisters and their cousins and their aunts, he has been [illegible] to undertake all the [illegible] his way. And it is on the following manner that pension bills are passed in the Senate.

That body refers them to the Committee on Pensions, the committee refers them to Mr. Sawyer, and Mr. Sawyer distributes them among certain assistants whom he pays out of his own pocket to investigate and report. Mr. Sawyer is especially proud of one of his assistants. He relates that this highly qualified substitute used to be a medical gentleman of promise out West and came into prominence as an expert in the case of Guiteau.

This is how pension bills are scrutinized in the Senate. In the majority of cases they are not investigated by even one Senator. On the adjudication of this Guiteau expert, they are favorably reported to the Senate and then passed through without debate, at the rate of four or five a day, per minute, as for instance when nearly 500 were passed in two or three hours on April 21st. And this is the [illegible] Pension Machinery in Washington of which you [illegible].

But you may ask "How do so many pension schemes get through the House of Representatives?" Well it is in this wise. A night session will be set aside for the consideration of such measures, and it will be attended by not over twenty or thirty members. No one attends these night [illegible] in charge a [illegible] bill of this kind. It is [illegible] by [illegible] process, each man voting for the other man's bills in order to have the favor returned, and the measures pass through a quorum of [illegible] or twenty-five or thirty members.

The bill recently introduced by Senator Edmunds extending the power of the President in the matter of appointments, so that many of his appointments would not be subject to confirmation by the Senate, has [illegible] caused some surprise at the [illegible] while freeing the President from senatorial checks in the appointment of a large body of public servants, it takes from him the power of removal or suspension. His appointees would stay in office four years, or until suspended for cause on trial before a judicial tribunal. In other words, while throwing a sop to the President, Mr. Edmunds would at the same time curtail his prerogatives. His proposed legislation would [illegible] however [illegible] and be treated according to its merits. The Democrats have ample reason to look with suspicion upon any measure from the Vermont Senator, so a [illegible] how plausible its face may seem to be.

President Cleveland's matrimonial relations have in no way lessened his industry. He continues to work as [illegible] unless something unusual [illegible]. The only change [illegible] in his habits since the wedding are that he starts to drive an hour earlier in the afternoon than formerly, that Mrs. Cleveland is his companion instead of his faithful Secretary, and that he goes in the direction of his country house almost invariably.

The President continues his tri-weekly hand shakings, and Mrs. Cleveland holds bi-weekly card receptions. Any one presenting a card, however, is received. The latter are the only social events going on now in the city. The new bride is very gracious and affable, and her beauty and natural girlish ways call forth many pleasant comments. As the heat and ardors of the season would absolve her from holding these receptions, I was [illegible] to her that I thought her very anxious to submit to the ordeal so patiently, and asked if the hand shaking was not becoming monotonous. She replied with much earnestness that there was no submission about it, there was not the least monotony in the handshaking, and considering that the weather was so warm and that it was a mid-day reception to which the people turned out, she thought the obligation was all on her part.

A Puma Eats a Child.

WORTHAMPTON, TEXAS, July 10.—A puma, which has been infesting the neighborhood of Pilot Grove for several weeks, yesterday tore to pieces and devoured the one-year-old child of a farmer living on Burns's Tract. Nothing was left of the child but the beast but fleshless bones. The [illegible] had been seen several times this summer in the north of Texas.

It is said that James H. Merrimon, Esq., of Asheville, will be the democratic nominee for Judge of the 12th district. He is a brother of Hon. A. S. Merrimon and is a most excellent man.

A Perilous Voyage.

PASSING OVER NIAGARA FALLS IN A BARREL.

BUFFALO, N. Y., July 11.—Carlisle D. Graham, a cooper by occupation and a [illegible] by birth, did to-day what no other man ever accomplished and came out alive—passed safely through the Niagara whirlpool. He came here from South Twentieth street, Philadelphia, nearly three months ago in anticipation of making the perilous trip on the 5th of July. People all along the river have scouted the idea of his success, and no longer ago than yesterday the Niagara Falls Gazette called him a fraud or crank, and claimed that they had searched for him in vain. Graham says he has been thinking about making the trip since the fate of Capt. Matthew Webb. He came to Buffalo for the purpose of making a study of the river, which he did thoroughly.

Very few people knew that the test was to be made today, but before noon a large crowd of people assembled on the bank of the river, awaiting developments. Graham went to Suspension Bridge Saturday evening with a couple of friends and registered at the Frontier House. He was even then afraid to risk it, and they took some [illegible] and camped out on the river bank, close to the place where the test was to be made. At 4 o'clock this afternoon Graham entered his barrel and was dropped into the [illegible] Webb [illegible]. He went into the rapids all right and [illegible] very appearance of safety. [illegible] times only was the egg-shaped cask lost sight of, and then only for a moment. It was evident that the craft was going through all right, and the crowd set up a shout. Once or twice the barrel struck the rocks heavily, but it righted itself in good shape and sped on its way to the lake. Another party had taken position at Lewiston Landing, and by 4:15 o'clock they could see the barrel. At 4:25 Graham was safely landed, and when his cask was opened he stepped out in good form. His only complaint was that his hands were a little sore from hanging to the straps so long. He had passed through the terrible boiling whirlpool safe and sound and he was made the lion of the hour by the villagers who had spent their lives by the river's bank and never had seen a human being survive the trip. [illegible] escapes [illegible] death [illegible] Graham now [illegible] making the trip [illegible] the [illegible] and believes he can do it safely.

Atrocious Murder.

[illegible]

The [illegible], north of [illegible] Louisville, in this county, is aroused and horrified at a most fiendish murder which was perpetrated in that village on last Friday night. Benton Gray was the victim. He was a cripple from rheumatism, in an almost helpless condition, and kept a little store at the station. His family resided about a mile distant. It was his custom to go every Saturday and settle his [illegible]. On Friday [illegible] he told his wife that he [illegible] to Greensboro the next day to settle a bill and that he had $[illegible] in money. [illegible] store [illegible] during the day on Saturday did not arouse the [illegible] [illegible] it was usual. On not returning [illegible] in the evening as was his custom his wife became uneasy. [illegible] the [illegible] way and one by his wife. [illegible] in company of [illegible] opened the store door and began a search for him. Their search was successful but now awfully so! Behind the counter lying in his own blood, were the lifeless remains of Benton Gray—the victim of a most cowardly and atrocious murder. The wounds about his head indicated that they were done with some sharp instrument. Mr Gray had off his outer clothes and the theory is that the murderer called during the night for something from the store and that the deceased got up out of bed to wait on him and was murdered while behind the counter. The murderer took the money that was in the store, locked the door and fled. The coroner, Dr. Beall, held an inquest over the remains on Sunday. A colored man by the name of Foust was the last person who saw the deceased before his death. We hope, with all good citizens, that the murderer shall be speedily found out and punished. This is the third murder for money that has occurred in a radius of seven miles in the last two or three years and none of them have been as yet brought to justice.

Gooch and Smith were sentenced on last Monday to be hanged on the 11th of September. An effort is being made to have their punishment commuted to imprisonment for life. They killed a Raleigh merchant, named Cheatham, last Summer.

I had to comb back the hair from my forehead and omit the parting to conceal my baldness. Since then Parker's Hair Balsam has made my hair as thick and glossy as ever. Ladies whose hair is getting thin will find the Balsam just splendid. Mary Swanson, Chicago.

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Nov 12, [illegible]

1877. 1886.

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W. H. LEONARD,
Pittsboro', N. C.

July 1, 1886. 4ts.

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[illegible]

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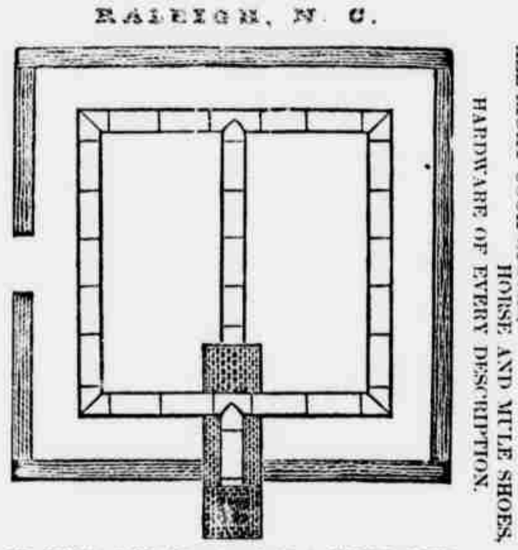

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