

The Session of the Legislature is now rapidly drawing to a close. Our readers are aware that the Constitution limits the session to sixty days, or rather (and it is practically the same thing) the Constitution says that the members shall not be paid for more than sixty days, and of course men cannot be expected to legislate without pay.

While the members of this Legislature have the best intentions and earnest desire to economize, yet it is evident that taxation must be increased because of the additional appropriations. Already this Legislature has appropriated several thousand dollars for purposes, for which no previous Legislature had made any appropriation.

One cause of increased taxation will probably be an increase in the rate of taxation for the public schools. A bill has been introduced and favorably reported by the Committee on Education to increase the school tax 33 per cent, that is, one-third more than it is now.

It is quite a coincidence that, the day before Gen. Sherman died, Admiral Porter died. Next to Farragut, Porter was the chief naval hero of the Union, and next to Grant, Sherman was the chief military hero, and they died within twenty-four hours of each other.

Demands of Missouri Farmers. WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Among the petitions and memorials presented in the Senate this morning were resolutions of the Farmers and Laborers' Union of the First Congressional District of Missouri, favoring the purchase or establishment of the Government of railroads, to be paid for by a new issue of legal tender notes, and to be operated by the Government also, for the issue of three million dollars in legal tender notes, and for a loan of money by the Government at 2 per cent per annum, in real estate, to any person, and declaring that the Union would not support any man for legislative office, who does not stand on the Ocala platform from the bottom to the top.

Our Legislators for Cleveland. CLEVELAND, Feb. 12.—The democratic members of the Legislature were interviewed today in regard to preference for Cleveland or Hill in 1892. There are fifty members of the Senate, of whom seven are republicans. Twenty-five of the State Democrats favor Cleveland, five prefer Hill, while eight decline to express opinion, some stating that they had no choice between the two. Five were absent. There were 120 members of the House, of whom eighteen are republicans. Of the 102 democrats in the House forty-four declare that Cleveland is their preference, while six favor Hill. Two do not favor either, while one prefers neither. Twenty were absent.

At Other Bank Brief. EVANSTON, Ill., Feb. 14.—Charles Ritter, officer of the First National Bank, and for many years connected therewith, is found short in his accounts. His books are now under examination, but it is estimated the deficit will reach \$25,000. Ritter confesses to using the bank's funds, and says he will make the best good. Ritter also operated a music house, with branches at Terre Haute, Washington and Overland, paying long ventures, and the bank's money was used to buy over the same business. The shortage was discovered by an accident while Ritter was in a sick bed. He has not yet been arrested.

A Fatal Murder. WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—John and McMillan murdered his Ann, aged 50 years, at Summer near West Point, today, after a tiring her. Both were convicted, and it is not known exactly how the murder was committed, but from all the circumstances it is evident that he took a pair of Blackhawk's tongs, heated them in the fire and put them about the wife, burning her to death. Her body was frightfully mutilated. The husband was arrested but will say nothing. The room in which the deed was committed looked like a slaughter pen.

An Inceudary Lynched. NEWVILLE, Feb. 15.—A negro named Fred Haine, who lived near Hendersonville, was called from his home on Friday night by a dozen masked men and taken to a tree a short distance away and quietly langed. He was suspected of being the barn-burner who has created such havoc around Hendersonville during the past year, in which three eighteen barns and seven dwelling houses have been burned by incendiaries in the immediate neighborhood.

Robbed His Grandmother. DENVILLE, Va., Feb. 16.—Harry Taylor, a youth of 17, is grandson of Samuel H. Taylor, of Mount Airy, North Carolina. He and an accomplice, named Stone, went to Taylor's residence in the absence of the old gentleman, and one of them held Mrs. Taylor down while the other took the safe key from her pocket, and then robbed the safe of \$2,100. Mrs. Taylor was shocked and otherwise injured. The robbers fled and have not yet been captured.

And yet, notwithstanding this sentimental law, the poor houses of the several counties will still continue to be called "the poor house".

A bill has been passed to pay 50 cents a day to every witness at a coroner's inquest.

The House has passed a bill to protect married women from drunken husbands. It such a bill can be passed and then enforced it will be a great blessing to many unhappy wives.

The Senate has passed a bill to amend the Constitution so as to give the Legislature the power to enlarge the jurisdiction of magistrates.

Gen. Sherman died of pneumonia on last Saturday, aged seventy-one years. He will be known in history as one of the most distinguished officers engaged in our great civil war. He was the last survivor of the principal Union Generals, and by many persons he was considered the greatest of them all. The greatest generals of the war now living are the Confederate Generals Beauregard and Joseph E. Johnston. The latter was a full brother of Sherman's funeral.

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Our Washington Letter.

(From our regular correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13, 1891.

Senator Plumb does not agree with the majority of his party upon financial matters, nor upon the tariff, but when it comes to a question of Government pay, which is the key stone of the latter day republican arch, he is republican to the back bone. He has just given ample evidence of this by fathering the boldest attempt yet openly made for overriding the sacrosanctious trust known as the civil service law. He has introduced a joint resolution providing that stenographers, clerks, chiefs of divisions, copyists and computer in the Census office shall be eligible for transfer to the classified service in any of the Government departments. That means that a couple of thousand republicans are as they are dropped from the rolls of the census bureau, which will be gradually reduced from this time on.

It is put into the regular department of service without going through a civil service examination. It also means that all of the demagogues now in the classified service are to be discharged to make room for those whose republican Mr. Porter of the Census Bureau has yoked for under oath. Every one knows that the civil service law is a colossal humbug, and there would be no grief if it was repealed tomorrow, but that is no excuse for such schemes to trample under foot a law of the land as this one is.

He is a pretty thick-skinned man who cannot in these days be moved by public opinion. Representative Dingley has found it necessary to defend his silver pool investigating committee from the charge of not attempting to get all of the information possible out of the witness. Owenby, who was before the committee last week. Mr. Dingley's denial is almost a reiteration of the charge. He says the committee was anxious to have Owenby testify, to what he had personal knowledge of, but that it objected to his giving hearsay evidence and yet Mr. Dingley knows very well that the speculation in silver of these two eminent republicans, Senator Cameron and Representative Taylor, of Illinois, were first brought out by hearsay evidence, but perhaps that was the very reason that he objected to any more of it. He doesn't want any more republicans found out, and they are not likely to be unless we enterprising newspaper men assist.

Mr. Blinn has served another knock down on McKimley, Keel and company by concluding the negotiation of a reciprocity treaty with Venezuela. True the trade of Venezuela is very great, but it will serve to bring out the inequities of the McKinley tariff law, and for that reason, if for no other, it is desirable. Mr. Cleveland's letter in opposition to free coinage, published here this week, shows that his backbone is as strong as it was when he wrote the famous tariff message upon which the campaign of '88 was fought. Manliness always commands attention, whether one agrees with its possession or not.

It is stated that the House Coinage committee will next week report the free coinage bill, with a recommendation from the majority of the committee against any silver legislation. This recommendation, if made, would be a bit of sleep-paralytic for the majority of that committee, but it can be called up. In fact it will be equivalent to smothering the bill in committee, which was the first programme of the republicans.

Secretary Tracy received a sharp dressing down from members of his own party in the House this week for the manner in which he reported Commander Ritter's resignation in connection with the killing of Gen. Barrodia. The Sioux Indians, having testified to their objection to being placed under the care of the War Department, which was the principal reason for bringing them here, have been loaded down with presents and sent home, via Philadelphia and Erie.

A Mine in Flames.

Scottsbluff, Pa., February 16.—The Moyer Mine, owned by W. J. Rainey, is on fire and it is reported that four men are entombed. The fire was kindled by a miner accidentally dropping a tamped lamp at the bottom of the shaft which is 200 feet deep. The lamp exploded igniting the accumulated mine gas which exploded with a terrific report scattered the shaft in every direction. The mine machinery and workings caught fire and the huge fan used for ventilating the mine was totally destroyed, and the interior of the mine seems to be one mass of burning flame. A large number of men are at work to remove the contents into the shaft. Miner Creek has been turned to a mere stream and the mine shaft and workings are a large quantity of water and the shaft is full of water. The shaft is 200 feet deep and the shaft have fallen upon the rocks of the strata and the water is running full. The miners were at work at the bottom of the shaft of 200 feet deep, and are now being rescued.

A Thief Exhorting.

Wichita, Kan., Feb. 12.—In the midst of a revival meeting in the church at Hazelton today the congregation was thrown into a commotion by the entrance of a Sheriff and the arrest of Jack Pool, one of the exhortors, on a charge of horse stealing.

Pool suffered himself to be led to the door, where he pulled a revolver and began firing. He hit the Sheriff in the right hand, the officer returned the shots with his left, but Pool managed to get away and has not been recaptured.

Pool came from Missouri a few months ago and soon took a leading part in church work. Three months ago he disappeared for a month, and at the same time some valuable theological books disappeared from the Hazelton Book Store. The books were traced to Missouri. It is said there is ample evidence to show that Pool stole them and also that he has secured a team in the Missouri Territory.

A Terrible Railroad Accident.

Newark, N. C., Feb. 14.—The mixed passenger and freight train on the C. and N. Railroad jumped the track on the Saxe Road, two miles south of this place at 1 o'clock this evening. W. W. Ross, Engineer, of the S. C. and H. M. Morrow, of Cleveland, Ohio, were killed in the wreck and J. Hoag, fireman of Chester, died two hours later from injuries.

Rev. M. I. Little, of Dallas, is very seriously injured about the head and has been unconscious since the accident. Conductor C. C. Drupp, of Chester, S. C., and Mr. Johnson of Gastonia and Frank Collier of Catawba are also seriously injured. The dead and wounded have been removed to Newton and the doctors are now dressing the wounds of the latter.

Fastening to Unite His Church.

Lawrence, Pa., Feb. 15.—Martin Rupp, a prominent farmer at Freyville, in this county, has been fasting for two weeks. He is a member of the peculiar sect known as "Purkists" and the congregation to which he belongs had a disagreement and divided. This so premed upon his mind that he went to bed and has remained there ever since, refusing all food, but partaking of water. He says the Lord commanded him to fast until his church becomes reunited, and declared that his fasting will bring about a reconciliation. Thus far his fast has failed to bring the answer. Doctors say there is no trouble physically. He shows no ill effects from his long fast. He converses rationally on every subject but that of his church.

A Strange Mail Notification.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 12.—Henry Strider, a merchant living at Chattanooga, Tennessee, says the Lord appeared to him in person last Tuesday and commanded him to sell all his possessions, save the proceeds to the poor, and to go to the Holy Land. In pursuance of the command Strider began this week, much to the distress of his family, to dispose of his property and divide the proceeds among the poor of Chattanooga. His neighbors, who are profiting by his distress, are endeavoring to obstruct the order. Strider has been a very true Christian man, but he never before showed any signs of weakness. He will not argue the matter with any one, his only remark when questioned being, "If Christ commanded the young man to do this, why should he not command me also?"

Inquest on a Live Woman.

Demora, Feb. 15.—Off. Andrew Owsen and others today held an inquest on the body of a woman, who was called for by a jury. Yesterday a coroner's jury had presided at the inquest.

Bold Robbery.

Lawson, February 16.—Two expert bank robbers today robbed the clerk of the Lawson branch of the Bank of Scotland of a leather satchel containing \$15,500 in Bank of England notes. The clerk was sitting at the teller's window of the National Provincial Bank with his satchel beside him. One of the satchel carriers of the clerk's attention and snatched him to the floor, while the other snatched the satchel and slipped away with it. In the confusion the first man escaped, and then another man took the satchel. The thieves are described as tall, darkish young men and the police venture the opinion that they are Americans. The clerk who was robbed is only 17 years old. The money is easily disposed of.

Way Cross, Ga., Feb. 15.—Conductor Pierson, of the Brunswick and Westru Road, has asked for a day run because of a ghostlike apparition which, he avers, ghosts the night trains near here. The ghost appears on the track as if to signal down the train. Several gls ago loud screams were heard as the train dashed by here. All the working force of the road is demoralized.

I have used Ayer's Pills for the past 30 years, and am satisfied I should not be alive today if it had not been for them. They cure me of dyspepsia when all other medicines failed.

—P. P. Bonner, Coonroe, Pa. Ayer's Pills are sold by all druggists.

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The wrong methods in the conduct of the Pension office are constantly being tacitly acknowledged by the authorities by making changes in those methods. It had not been for the exposures made by special papers as the New York Herald those changes would never have been made. It is the fearless press of the country that always looks out for the real interests of the people.

After the practical killing of the eight hour bill and the copyright bill in the Senate early this week that body and the House have devoted most of the time to the regular appropriation bills. The night sessions of the Senate, as was expected, are a fizzle. There hasn't yet been a quarrel at one of them.

The radical republicans are brewing some devilry in connection with the Force bill, but the democrats are wide awake. Articles of impeachment against Judge Alexander Beards of Louisiana have been prepared and will probably be presented to the House this week. There are at least a dozen articles, charging the use of public funds and allowing his decisions to be influenced by financial considerations.

An article shown up as a fraud must have favor with the public. Salvation Oil has been shown to be a genuine and good preparation. 25 cents.

Your life is in danger when you allow a severe cough or cold to go unchecked. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is a cheap, harmless and reliable remedy.

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My old friends in Durham are invited to call on me when they visit Durham and I will guarantee to satisfy them in everything in Staple and Fancy Groceries: SUGAR, MOLASSES, FISH, MEAT, CHEESE, FLOUR, TOBACCO, COFFEE, SNUFF, CRACKERS, SYRUP, SODA, STOUT, DRY GOODS, NOTIONS, CROCKERY, TINWARE, &c. Special Inducements to Country Merchants! My two stores in Durham are opposite Parrish's Warehouse and at corner Fairly and Morgan streets. Nov. 27, 1890. 3m.

HEADQUARTERS FOR LOW PRICES! A full and complete line of FANCY GROCERIES, CANNED GOODS, CONFECTIONERIES, Fruits, Candies, CROCKERY, &c. SNUFF, TOBACCO AND CIGARS at factory prices. Flour, Meal, Corn, Oats, &c. PLANTS, FARMING TOOLS. Christmas Goods! All goods sold at lowest cash prices. If you wish to save money, come to see me when you visit Durham and you will be convinced. W. H. PROCTOR, (John L. Markham's old stand), DURHAM, N. C. Nov. 27, 1890. 3m.

Hardware! Stoves and Tinware! Wagon Material! CASH, DOORS, DRILLS! LIME, PLASTER, CEMENT! AND HOUSEKEEPING GOODS GENERALLY! TOOLS and CUTLERY. BARBED WIRE FENCING, ETC., ETC. LOADED SHELLS, 2 CENTS EACH! Prices to Suit You! THOS. H. BIGGS & SONS, RALEIGH, N. C. G. F. & V. V. RAILWAY. Condensed Schedule. In effect January 11, 1891. DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.

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