

The Legislature is now drawing towards the close of its session, and is beginning to hold meetings at night as well as in the day time.

The Senate, by a large majority, has passed the bill to create the new county of Scotland out of the four lower townships in Richmond. It is doubtful if the bill is passed by the House.

A bill has passed both branches and is now a law, that ought to have been passed many years ago. It amends the statute of distributions, or the law that regulates the distribution of a dead man's estate, who dies intestate. This amendment gives to the widow all the personal estate of a man, who dies intestate and leaves no child or representative of a deceased child and no next of kin. Heretofore, in such a case the widow received only one-half, and the other half celebrated to the University. This bill was written by me and introduced by our request, and we are gratified to know that it was passed by a unanimous vote in both the Senate and House.

Mr. Self has introduced a bill to allow the people of Chatham to vote for their county commissioners. Of course this bill will not pass, nor did Mr. Self expect it to pass, because the Legislature would hardly change the State constitution for only one county! It is not surprising, however, that Mr. Self should introduce this bill, for being an old "fire-tried" republican and having been nominated "out of courtesy to the republican party" it is only natural that he should attempt to overthrow our present system of county government, and restore the system which he and his party forced upon North Carolina in 1868 and well nigh ruined our State.

The public printing question, which has been a bone of contention for several years, will no longer trouble our Legislators, for, at a caucus of the democratic members, it was decided to let out the public printing and binding to some responsible firm or person at the lowest actual cost. This action seems to meet with general approval, and it is said will save the State some between four thousand dollars a year. In accordance with this action of the democratic caucus, the Legislative committee on public printing has let out the printing to the two well known printing establishments in Raleigh of Edwards & Beaufort and E. M. Uzzell, at prices 25 per cent. less than those heretofore paid.

After being thoroughly and fully discussed in the House, the bill to amend the homestead exemption was defeated by a large majority. We suppose from this action of the House that this Legislature will propose no amendment whatever to our constitution affecting the homestead or personal property exemptions.

The result of the late Presidential election was formally and officially declared, on Wednesday of last week, in the presence of both branches of Congress, as prescribed by law. This official result, as then announced was 277 votes for Cleveland and Stevenson, 145 for Harrison and Reid and 22 for Weaver and Field. The States which gave their solid electoral vote for Cleveland were Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin. The following States gave their solid electoral vote for Harrison, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming. And the States that voted solid for Weaver were Colorado, Idaho, Kansas and Nevada; and the votes of the other States were divided as follows: California, 8 for Cleveland and 1 for Harrison; Michigan, 5 for Cleveland and 9 for Harrison; North Dakota, 1 for Cleveland, 1 for Harrison and 1 for Weaver; Ohio, 1 for Cleveland and 22 for Harrison; and Oregon, 3 for Harrison and 1 for Weaver. So that, according to this, there were 22 States that voted solid for Cleveland, 13 for Harrison and 4 for Weaver, and the vote of 5 States was divided.

Tax Downfall of Ferdinand De Lesseps is truly distressing, and awakens very general sympathy. He has been convicted of frauds in his attempt to construct the pet project of his old age—the Panama Canal—and sentenced to five years' imprisonment, which means imprisonment for life, as he is now

87 years old. Not only had he received high honors and decorations from his own country, but from every civilized country in the world. His great life work was the construction of the Suez Canal, which will send his name "sounding down the ages" as one of the greatest benefactors of the human race.

Washington Letter.

(From the Capital, dated yesterday.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 1892.

An early extra session of the Fifty-third Congress now appears more certain than at any time since Congress met. Ex-Gov. Campbell, of Ohio, one of the prominent democrats who were in Washington this week, who is believed to enjoy the confidence of President Cleveland, said while here: "Yes, I think the chances of an extra session are good, if not almost certain. The silver law should be repealed, and as it will not be done at the present session, judging from this week's attempt and failure, it must be done by an extra session. The democratic platform demands such a repeal; a general sentiment in this direction pervades the democratic party; the silver question was one of the main issues of the last campaign; the party stands pledged to its repeal and it will keep its pledges." Gov. Campbell acknowledged that he could name several of the cabinet, but courteously declined to do so.

Senator Morgan introduced a bill this week that will simplify the proceedings should the present negotiations result in the annexation of Hawaii. The bill provides that when ever the United States shall acquire dominion over any foreign country or place by treaty of annexation or otherwise the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, may appoint a governor and legislative council for the same, whose term shall be subject to revision or repeal by Congress. Mr. Morgan has not yet officially notified the Hawaiian cabinet of his intention to introduce a bill of this nature. It is known that Mr. Morgan, who is believed to be the person who is to be named to the position of governor of the proposed Hawaiian territory, is taking very careful action. In the meantime the State Department is gathering information about Hawaii and its financial condition and prospects, in order that Congress may act intelligently on the matter when a decision is reached by Mr. Harrison.

The investigation of the money spent in the United States by the agents of the Panama Canal Company has been continued in a House committee. The committee is now inquiring into the expenditures of the company for the purpose of determining whether or not the money was spent in this country and if not, how much of it was spent in other countries. The committee is also inquiring into the expenditures of the company for the purpose of determining whether or not the money was spent in this country and if not, how much of it was spent in other countries.

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A bill has been introduced into the Maine Legislature providing that the main standards shall be "Kely cured" at State and county expense. Capt. William Black, a prominent lawyer of Bangor, has been ordained a minister of the Presbyterian church.

Forty-Four Lunatics Burned.

Dover, N. H., February 10.—Last night the insane asylum of the Strafford county work-house, about four miles out of the city, was entirely destroyed by fire, and only four of the inmates escaped. The building was a wooden affair, 150 by 35 feet in dimensions, and burned like tinder. Only four of the inmates survived. In the morning the fire started after 10 o'clock, when a Chinese discovered it. He at once gave the alarm, and Wm. P. Dinsell, keeper, and the attendants, rushed through the inmates' quarters, which were mainly on the second floor, and burst the doors to the cells and tried to apprise the inmates of their danger. The fire had gained rapid headway, and a majority of the inmates were so confused that they retarded the escape of others.

The scene was beyond description, and heartrending to witness. Keeper Dinsell used every possible effort to liberate the inmates, and remained in the building until obliged to jump from a second story window in order to save himself. A messenger was at once dispatched to the city for assistance, and a portion of the Fire Department was sent to the scene, but before assistance arrived the building was reduced to ashes, and nothing remained but smoldering ruins. By the efforts of the firemen the main building of the institution was saved. Those who arrived on the scene early will never forget the horrible scenes witnessed. The fire brightly illumined the country for miles around, and the poor unfortunates could be plainly seen as they writhed and turned about in the blazing furnace.

The fire was first discovered in the cell occupied by a woman named La Tomlin, and was very small, but watchman Chelsey states that it spread with a rapidity that was astonishing, and before he had given the alarm to Keeper Dinsell, it had gained such headway that the only thing left to be done was to attempt the rescue of the inmates. The two blocks of the locks of fifty cells, and then Chelsey got out his wife and two children, who lived in the building. The fire extended to the main building of the county jail, which is occupied by over half of the county poor. Superintendent Dinsell states that it took a fire brigade of about twenty men, and through their efforts the fire was subdued. One of the inmates of the insane asylum, named John Dinsell, was in the building at the time, but was unable to escape owing to the high fence that surrounded that portion of the building, and shared the fate of others. The building was erected 20 years ago and cost \$10,000. How the building caught is a mystery that no one seems able to explain.

An Element Frustrated.

Several of the most prominent members of the State Bar Association, who were in the city on Monday night, were disappointed to find that the bar had not met at the hotel where it was expected to meet. The bar had been adjourned to meet at the hotel, but the members had not arrived in time. The bar had been adjourned to meet at the hotel, but the members had not arrived in time.

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Southern Fever Among Cattle.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Secretary Bask has issued a circular to the managers and agents of the railroad and transportation companies, stock men and others, notifying them that a contagious and infectious disease known as splenic or southern fever exists among the cattle in the left of country which he describes in detail and which extends from Kansas, Missouri and Tennessee to North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland. From the 15th of February to the 1st of December, 1892, no cattle were transported from any part of the United States north or west of the dotted line, except by rail for immediate slaughter.

The Refund Cotton Tax Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The Cotton Tax bill today secured a favorable report from the majority of the House Committee on Judiciary. The bill provides that the tax collected by the United States during the war times on raw cotton shall be refunded in the event that the United States Supreme court holds the laws under which the tax was collected to have been unconstitutional. The bill authorizes any person who paid the cotton tax duty to bring suit in the Court of Claims against the United States for recovery of the money, the right of appeal being given to each side to the suit.

A Fearful Blizzard.

Sioux City, Iowa, Feb. 11.—The blizzard which raged yesterday continues with unabated fury. A general blockade prevails on all lines in South Dakota. Engines with snow plows have been snowed up, and several trains abandoned in the snow. In some places the drifts which cover the railroad tracks are ten feet deep and extend for miles, while the surface of the snow is so hard that it sustains the weight of horses and cattle. The storm is general throughout the Northern and Western portions of the country, and in many places it is said to have killed hundreds of men and animals.

Alliance Store Failed.

Waco, Tex., Feb. 11.—The store of Messrs. J. C. Davis and Co., located in a building of substantial character, for several days past has been a scene of confusion. A number of the best men belonging to the Alliance party, who were in the city, were refused to consult lawyers on the organization, but found it necessary to get legal advice when the business was closed up yesterday. The stockholders, who are responsible for all the debts, say they will lose 75 cents on every dollar invested, but are glad to get out of it.

State News.

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when one of them, Della Dunn, aged ten years, sat down upon a rapidly revolving shaft. Instantly her clothing caught on the shaft and she was being whirled around. When the machinery was stopped the child was found to have been beaten into a jelly, every bone in her body was broken. The child's body was found at the base of the shaft and it is believed she died.

The Agricultural Convention of Hawaii will be held at the Congress in a hall or two.

The Legislature of Kentucky has elected Lindsay, Democrat, to succeed David in the United States Senate. The Democrats voted for Lindsay, and against Gibson, Republican.

Aerobics, whose fans of leaping and vaulting so interest the crowd and charm the children at the circus, ought to take with them from town to town a supply of Salvation Oil. They will find it a first-class disinfectant, just the thing they need for removal of the miasm spread by too violent exercise, for asthma in the back and neck, or for any abdominal strain which may be subjected to. Price 25 cents.

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NOTICE OF INCORPORATION, STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA. The undersigned do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the articles of incorporation of the WACO ALIANCE STORE, as filed in the office of the Secretary of State of North Carolina, on the 11th day of February, 1893.

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