

The Chatham Record

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H. A. LONDON, Editor.

Gov. Russell's inaugural address is an able, forcible and remarkably well written document. While we condemn the vindictive, untrue and unseemly sentences at the beginning and close of his address, yet there are many parts of it that we heartily approve.

The opening sentences of this address were evidently for partisan political effect and intended to arouse the feelings of his partisans, especially his colored hearers who wildly applauded them. The idea of Gov. Russell prating about "a free and honest ballot" and denouncing the Democrats for a "debauched but hot" is very much like "Satan reprobating sin". It certainly comes with a bad grace from a man whose nomination is alleged by his own party to have been secured by the grossest frauds!

Gov. Russell very properly says that the evolution of the State Treasury is to "to demand the most severe economy in all departments of the State Government". We hope that the Legislature will heed this admonition and not cost our taxpayers as much as the last one did, which expended more money than any of its Democratic predecessors. He shows that the expenses of our State Government, outside of the Penitentiary and Agricultural Department, have increased from \$42,900 in 1889 to \$227,000 in 1895. This surely is a bad showing for the "reform and retrenchment" of the last Legislature.

The Governor's denunciation of lynchings meets our hearty endorsement, for as our readers are well aware the Republicans always condemned lynchings in the most earnest manner.

The lease of the North Carolina railroad is vigorously condemned by Gov. Russell and he calls upon the Legislature to revoke it, and in the most emphatic manner he declared that "the fault will be with this General Assembly" if the Southern Railroad Company is not made "to pay for this property a sum commensurate with their needs and its value to them". So that if something is not done about this lease the fault according to Gov. Russell will be with our legislators.

Gov. Russell speaks in no uncertain sound as to the necessity of protecting the towns and cities of the State from the misgovernment and misrule of "the profligate and ignorant elements", as he calls a certain class. This paragraph of his address is very significant, and for it he cannot be too highly commended. It is to be hoped that his influence may prevent the Legislature from tampering with the charters of our cities and towns, and avert a danger that now threatens them.

He speaks a kindly word for our disabled and needy soldiers and — "As we advance in material wealth we should increase our expenditures for the destitute and disabled veterans".

He takes strong ground in favor of sustaining the University and says "it is to be regretted that there is among some of the best people of the State a sentiment that does not sustain the existing law which gives an annual appropriation to this institution".

He briefly calls the attention of the Legislature to several important matters, which we copy as follows:

"There are many matters of domestic concern which command your thoughtful attention, such as the increase of the tax rate for the common schools and improvements in their management; the establishment of reformatories for youthful criminals; the adoption of a system of vagrant laws which, without cruelty or injustice, shall authorize the arrest and commitment of the homeless young and of the vagabonds and vagrants of the streets and highways; the adoption of a system of apprenticeships by which the neglected young may be taken from degradation and subjected to useful and elevating control; the protection of lawful public meetings against disturbances; the investigation of the conduct of judges charged with drunkenness on the bench; the extension of the Criminal Court districts so as to embrace more counties, and the establishment of an additional criminal district and the rotation of these judges; and the adoption of measures calculated to attract the immigration of desirable persons into the State".

Taking Gov. Russell's inaugural address as a whole we may truly say that it is as surprising and gratifying to his political opponents as it is disappointing to some of his political adherents.

SENATOR JOHN McKNIGHT is to be President John Sherman's Secretary of State. This is a bad beginning for "free silver" or international bimetalism.

Washington Letter.

To our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1897.

Fitzgerald was duly re-elected United States Senator yesterday, just as the Recons predicted when it was announced that it was only necessary to buy fifteen Populists. This could be, and was, so easily done that we do not understand how there could have been any doubt of his election!

The *Progressive Farmer*, in its last issue stated that "gave every chance to elect Pritchard over Mark Hanna to buy some Populist votes". As that paper is good authority with all Populists its statement cannot be doubted by any Populist in good standing, and must be accepted by them as gospel truth.

The remainder of the Populists voted for Dr. C. Thompson, and the Democrats voted for Lieutenant-Governor Douglass, after the Populist caucus had treated with some contempt their offer to "co-operate" in the election of a free silver Senator.

Now, that Pritchard is elected, we presume that the investigating committee will make a forced investigation, instead of making a thorough investigation before Pritchard was selected, so as to prevent it of possible by an exposure of the bribery and corruption that was publicly stated was being tried.

And to think that these heretical legislators were elected as the only representatives?

Thank the Lord just no Democratic legislator in this State have ever been thus bribed and bought.

The arbitration treaty recently signed by the United States and Great Britain is one of the most notable events of this century, and reflects the greatest credit on the wise and humane statesmanship of those two countries. While this treaty is extended for a period of five years only, yet at the expiration of that time it will be doubtless perpetuated.

The new treaty divides all disputes into three classes. Arbitrations amounting to \$500,000, etc., excluding that sum, and that involve claims to territory are to be referred to arbitration. In the first two cases arbitration with an umpire is to be resorted to. Each of the contracting parties is to appoint three members. In case of dispute one member will be called in.

The umpire in all cases is to be selected by the two members of each party. The parties are given the vacancy on the first office committee.

Arbitrators are to be chosen by the Pacific Railroad Company, and the Pacific Coast Conference.

One episode occurred in connection with the Pacific Railroad Company that was this week decided by the House, that in the old days would have resulted in a duel or perhaps no representative of either state who supported the binding arbitration agreement.

When they fail to settle then the king of Sweden shall name one.

This treaty is a long step towards universal peace and is the crowning glory of President Cleveland's administration, and especially noteworthy phase to the history of all political parties.

Now that Pritchard has been re-elected, we hope our legislators will proceed to enact some laws that will give credit to the suffering masses", so that they may have some relief as well as those Populist legislators who obtained their "silver" vote, Mark Hanna. This senatorial election has thus far been the all absorbing subject with our legislators, and they have not yet enacted any general legislation.

The Legislature was not in session on last Saturday and Monday, in order to give the legislative chambers a thorough cleansing, which we would think was greatly needed after the sixty days session of the last Legislature.

Many members have been sick, suffering with the prevailing grippe.

The *Progressive Farmer* — If the Legislature hands up any drunken judges, it ought to make a pass or two at drunken Congressmen also". We wonder if this is a reference to Col. Harry Sawyer's condition when he made notorious Pritchard speech at the Populist convention.

Land has become very cheap in England. A grain farm of 763 acres in Essex has been sold for \$31,400 although in 1872 it was valued at \$150,000 and mortgaged for \$100,000.

The London Times has a dispatch from Hong Kong saying that an American Methodist mission station about 50 miles from Foo Choo, in the province of Fukien, has been attacked by a mob. A number of shots were fired, but none of the inmates of the station were injured. The local officials defended the mission.

It has been accidentally discovered that to bury a man up to his neck in wet sand is a practically certain cure for apparent death from an electric shock.

Out of a total population of 280,000,000 in British India, 41,000,000 are Moslems, who, although the queen regards the sultan of Turkey as their spiritual ruler,

Gifts for the President.

From the Washington Times.

Gits are already beginning to pour in upon President-elect Mr. McKinley. During the next four years he will be the recipient of a continual stream of them, representing the spontaneous offerings of the people. The latter are always eager to be shown things upon the President, and such contributions constitute one of the nuisances of the Child Executive office, says the New York Journal.

Even now the White House is besieged and crowded full with contributions which have accumulated during the past administration. This small addition to the stock on hand has been made by Mr. Cleveland, and only by the gift of a big collection of articles, sufficient to satisfy the desire to stock a nation's son, was sought over and transferred to the top.

Naturally, there is some difficulty in disposing of things of this kind. I would never do for the President what the Democrats would do for the present D. Essex, I suppose. With one exception in the Senate \$3 will be a majority, but if that majority is filled by a democrat, the Republicans will have 46 to 45 in the Senate. So, the point is referred to the Committee on Privileges and Ethical Conduct, which consists of five Republicans and four Democrats, but as Senator Palmer, of Indiana, is one of the latter, he appears to be bound to have two friends of the committee.

The variety of the contributions is extraordinary. They include every sort of thing that the President might be supposed to require — for example, the kinds of lights, oil, doors, plates and stands, lamps, boxes for clothes, and a variety of other objects, which will easily be understood by the reader and all on which will be their value.

A few weeks ago people have already had lists made of it. Among them is Mrs. Vanderbilt, who, as the wife of one of the richest men in the world, is to be indulged where.

Her list is headed up with a splendid collection of glasses of silver, and a large number of chinaware.

There is a large number of

silver, gold, and bronze objects.

There can be no doubt that by the

method of listing of the same

and the manner in which may be

done to increase its value.

Engaged in a Gold Mine.

The railroad of the Rock Island is not an appendage, so said

some one in the press.

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have it in their possession.

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