

The Old North State

SALISBURY FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1871.

THE TAXATION QUESTION

Many think that under the present constitution of the State the Legislature is compelled to tax a tax sufficient, not only to defray the expenses of the State Government but for the "prompt payment of the interest on the public debt" also. The following is the clause of the Constitution which, it is supposed, implies it in substance on the Legislature's duty and tax:

Art. V., Sec. 4th says: "The General Assembly shall be appropriate legislation, and to a adequate taxes and duties for the prompt and regular payment of the interest on the public debt," and after the year 1850 taxes will have to be laid to pay the principal also.

A careful reading of the above section will show that the Legislature is not compelled to taxation alone whereby to meet the interest of the public debt; but that it may also, and first, resort to "appropriate legislation."

Would it be a violent and wholly unjust and unauthorized construction of the above quoted section of the Constitution to say that under it the Legislature may meet the interest on the debt by funding it, and thereby placing it on the same footing with the other portions of the debt? If so, then let the Legislature take that course with regard to the interest on the debt, and levy a tax sufficient to defray the expense of the State Government. Would not such be meeting the interest on the debt by means of "appropriate legislation," and the ordinary expenses of the State by "adequate taxation?" We merely throw out these suggestions and inquiries for the public consideration.

If the Legislature should conclude that it had authority, without any very strained construction, to meet the interest on the debt in the manner suggested above, let it at once propose and pass an amendment striking the above quoted section from the Constitution. That alone

the Legislature would have all the power over the debt that a convention would have. And until the amendment becomes a part of the Constitution let the Legislature continue to fund the interest:

CLOSE OF THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL—CONVICTION OF W. H. LEITCHON ON SIX OF THE EIGHT ARTICLES

As we are nearly ready to go to press the Raleigh papers come to us with the announcement which heads this article. The impeachment will proceed to a final examination or censure, instead of trial, as has been expected from the beginning. It will be seen from the following statement, which we copy from the *Telegraph*, that the vote was not strictly a party one on several of the articles.

The Senate proceeded to vote on the articles of impeachment this morning, at 11 o'clock. Forty-nine Senators were present—Mr. Flynt (Republican), absent—sixty. On the first two articles, the Managers failed to concide by a two-thirds vote. He was found guilty on the remaining six.

On the first two articles Messrs. Cook, Cowles, Fleming, Gilmer, Norment and Speed, (Conservative) voted "not guilty."

On the 3d article, Mr. Moore, of Craven, (Republican) voted to impeach with the Conservative.

On the 4th article Messrs. Cook, Cowles and Fleming, (Conservative) voted with the Republicans, "not guilty."

On the 5th article, Mr. Person, and the same Republicans in a strict party vote.

On the 7th article Mr. Fleming (Conservative) voted "not guilty," and Mr. Moore, (Republican) "guilty."

The last article, and the order impeaching Gov. Holden, did not come up from ever holding any office of honor or profit in the State, received a strict party vote—26 to 13.

THE CONVENTION BILL

On Tuesday the vote was taken in the House of Representatives, on the convention bill, when it lacked eight of the required twelve-thirds, the vote being yes, 71, Nays 44. Immediately after the result was announced Mr. Strudwick, who had voted in the negative for that purpose, moved a reconsideration of the vote, which motion was adopted by a vote of 70 against 40. Mr. Strudwick then moved that the bill be amended by striking therefrom the words, "two thirds concurring," which was adopted by a vote of 57 against 51. The bill, as thus amended, was then passed by a vote of 61 against 46.

The bill was originally drawn with special reference to the cause which has been taken by the House. An examination of its details will show that it provides for its own execution quite independently of the Governor, and other Executive officers of the State. It will now go back to the Senate for concurrence in the House amendment, and if the Senate concurs the people will be called on to vote upon the proposition on the first Thursday in August next. From the vote in the House we take it for granted that the Senate will concur readily. That it may do so we believe to be the wish of all the worst Radical politicians, both in Raleigh and Washington. We have no doubt that in the action which the House proposes to the Senate the General Assembly will play into the hands of the Radical party on a measure that should not entirely above party.

Our readers know our views of such a measure, and we leave them to vote, as to whom may seem best with all the lights before them.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION

The election in New Hampshire last week resulted in a complete political revolution in that State. The Democrats elected all three of the Representatives in Congress and both Houses of the Legislature.

Owing to the fact that there were three candidates in the field there was no election for Governor. When the Legislature assembles the Democratic candidate will be elected by that body. This election is another event that points with unerring certainty to the overthrow of Radicalism. Its influence will be felt for good in the legislature of the present Congress. No more violent measures are likely to be passed by that body soon.

Gov. Vance, we believe, will be admitted to his seat early in the December session, if not at the present, and a spirit of greater moderation will prevail.

THE CAPITAL

Don Platt and George Alfred Townsend, two of the most noted journalists and essay writers at the capital, have chosen *The Capital* as the name of their new weekly paper at Washington. The enterprise is one to which success is assured from the start. The combination is a strong one, embracing wit and wisdom and facility with the pen that are already known over the length and breadth of the land, in newspapers, magazines, books, and on men's tongues. The *Capital* cannot fail to be as good as its name.

A NOBLE EXAMPLE.

THE WAR IN EUROPE!

THE REVOLUTION IN PARIS.

The City in the Hands of the Mob!

London, March 20.—The general tone of the Paris news indicates that the National Guards, who had been disbanded by their troops, were again armed with arms by the insurgents.

Paris, Monday, 12 P.M.—(From Special.)—A Thiers, president and it is reported to assist the insurgents at 2 o'clock A.M. The Seventeenth Chasseurs and three regiments of the line advanced on Montmartre, another holder on Belleville. The troops were successful in capturing it. At the close of the war he surveyed, and meditated upon, the condition in which he found his neighbors and deators. He saw that they were all ruined by the war—that they had lost their means of subsistence to pay him. He saw that they must now commence the world anew, and he did not think they ought to be compelled to labor for years, and neglect the support and education of their children, to replace the means pledged for their indebtedness—which had been swept away by the war over which they had no control.

He thought that as all had, willingly or unwillingly, embarked on the same boat they should all share alike the losses occasioned by her sinking. So thinking he deliberately assigned all his notes to the flames, and resolved with his neighbors, to commence the world anew also. Sustained alone by the high consciousness of the correctness of his views and the rectitude of his intention he has been successful, and is now a merchant at Lyons, N.C. Such noble example are as refreshing as they are rare. And history will record the fact to our discredit that immediately after the close of the war the Federal authorities were compelled to interpose to prevent the creditor from sending the debtor class into exile on the cold charities of the world, homeless and penniless, because of their misfortunes and not their faults.

THE BANKRUPT LAW.

We learn that Hon. JAMES M. LEITCH.

represents us from the 5th District, has introduced a bill to amend the Bankrupt Law so as to make the State exemptions of 1820 the exemptions under said law, instead of those of 1824. The bill was lost at the last session only for want of time, and if it fails this session it will be for the same cause.

It is stated that these terrible events have caused a halt in the homeward march of the German army.

The Insurrection led by Garibaldi—Thiers Government going to Toulon.

London, March 20.—It is thought the revolutionary proceedings will extend to Marseilles, Lyons, and even to Bordeaux. The Thiers Government contemplates going to Lyons.

The mob is firm, but full of grief. General

Venoy was killed and pelted with stones at Montmartre.

General Paladine is a prisoner at insurgent headquarters.

General LeCompte was sentenced to be shot, and was adjourned to the 1st of April.

General Thomas, who was executed by the insurgents, fell at the third discharge of the muskets. His last word addressed to his executioners was, "Forward."

M. Thiers is firm, but full of grief. General

Venoy is dead, and is lying in the hospital.

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The corps of the murdered generals were exhumed.

A Versailles dispatch says the Government is determined to maintain its authority.

The Journal Official says the Government is indulgent, but must rise and punish the assassins, otherwise the whole people will be their accomplices.

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The Germans decline to interfere in the revolution.

A report from Paris says that the gen d'armes collected from the Provinces by Gen. Venoy have deserted and joined the insurgents.

Paris, March 20.—No resistance is made to the insurgents. Generals LeCompte and Thomas were executed by order of Garibaldi, who directs the insurrection.

Official Dispatch from Minister Warbkun—Generals Venoy, Thomas, and LeCompte Murdered by the Mob—the American Legation to Lyons.

Washington, March 20.—Minister Washburn telegraphs Secretary Fish as follows:

"Paris, March 20.—The National Guard Committee is master of Paris. The Departments of the Interior, Justice and Police are occupied by the insurgents.

Generals Venoy, Thomas and LeCompte have been murdered by the mob."

Arrival of Napoleon in England.

London, March 20.—According to a report of the *Times* of Paris, the Emperor Napoleon, having been driven from France by the mob, arrived at Dover to-day. Immense crowds were awaiting him, and cheered enthusiastically.

The Death of Gen. Clancy.

General Chauncy was sent with a large body of troops to Montmartre to suppress the demonstration there. The troops, however, for the most part went over to the insurgents, and Chauncy was taken to the Garden of Rue des Rosiers, where the Central Revolutionary Committee was sitting, and, after a short trial, was shot.

The regular troops fled from the mob everywhere, and all army discipline seems gone.

Mob law is triumphant, and the city will give up to pillage unless more determined measures are taken by the Government.

The Insurgents going to Versailles.

Immense numbers of insurgents have left for Versailles with the intention of endeavoring to overthrow the Assembly, which will sit to-morrow.

All the members of Thiers Government have gone to Versailles. I follow with the whole department corps.

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Gen. Duvau is at the head of the insurgents, leading them on their wild career. The 81st and 126th regiments were the first to join the insurgents.

Hardy had the House met to-day when signs of a row were presented. As usual, Butler was centre figure of the quarrel, but was overthrown by Speaker Blaine, who came prepared for a fight, and in the debate completely overpowered the representatives from Massachusetts. The affair sprung out of a manifesto from Butler giving reasons for declining to serve on the committee of investigation of the 1st of April, and the 2nd of April, and the 3rd of April.

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It is reported that the Government has fled Versailles.

The News at Rosen.

Rosen, March 20.—The people here are deeply excited over the news from Paris, but no outward demonstration has been made. The Guards are prohibited from crossing to the right bank of the Seine. It is rumored that the German forces will re-occupy their former posts if the disorder in Paris continues.

The Funding System.

Mr. Boutwell begins on Monday next his effort at new loans, when he tempts the redemption at the pleasure of the Government.

It is proposed to redeem these \$200,000,000 by the sale of bonds, drawing 4 per cent.

We wish Mr. Boutwell, better success than he apprehends he will have with gold at 11½, while 5-20's are only 10½, or there-

between, there being a gap of about 1 per cent.

between the bonds and gold at the present prevailing prices. Yet it is stated that there will be purchasers in the London market, as well as in our own, at the lower rates. A sale of a thousand millions at 5 per cent. will save the Government ten millions per annum—an important economy. It would very likely be used as an argument for the reduction of taxes, very much to the dissatisfaction of economists; but it is far from being a idle matter to relieve the people of heavy weight that presses upon them.

Whether Mr. Boutwell can sell readily his 5 per cent. bonds (which loss his 4 per cent.), with gold at 11½, while 5-20's are only 10½, or there-

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