THE REPORTER

J. PEPPER, SR., J. T. DARLINGT THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1877

THE SEGINNING OF THE END.

On the 14th instant Congress will equinence the task of counting the electoral vote. As all our readers probably know, a joint committee has been appointed from both Houses of Congress to devise a plan for the counting, and determining all issues connected therewith. The plan suggested by that committee is embodied in the following bill, which has been passed by both the House and the Senate, The principa opposition to the passage of this bill came from the most extreme Republican members, one reason of which doubtless being that a great deal of Returning Board rascality and corruption will now be brought to the surface. The plan seems to give immense satisfaction in the North and West, and is regarded everywhere as at least an easy way out of present difficulties. Its constitutionality is doubted by some, while extreme partisans question its wisdom. For the information of our patrons, as it may become a prominent document in the history of our Republic, we present the full text of

THE BILL A Bill to provide for and regulate the counting of votes for President and Vice-President, and the decision of all questions arising thereon, for the term commencing March 4th A D.

Be it enacted Se. That the Senate and House of Representatives shall meet in the Hall of the House of Represen-tatives at the hour of 1 o'clock past meridian, on the first Thursday in Feb-ruary, A. D. 1877, and the President of the Senate shall be their presiding officer. Two tellers shall be previously appointed on the part of the Senate and two on the part of the House of Repre-sentatives, to whom shall be handed, as they are opened by the President of the Scuate, all the certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the elecvotes, which certificates and papers shall be opened, presented and acted upon in the alphabetical order of the States, beginning with the letter A, and said letters having then been read the same, in the presence and hearing of the vetes as they shall appear from the said certificates, and the votes having been ascertained and counted as in this act provided the result of the same shall be delivered to the President of the Senate who shall thereupon aunounce the state of the vote and the names of the persous, if any, elected, which announce ment shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons elected President and Vice-President of the United States, and together with a list of the votes, be entered on the jurnals of the two Houses. Upon such reading of any such certificate or paper, when there shall be only one return from a State, the Presi deut of the Senate shall call for objections, if any. Every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely, and without argument, the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House of Representatives before the same shall be received. When all objections so made to any vote or paper from a State shall have been received and read, the Senate shall thereupon withdraw, and such objections shall be sub-mitted to the Senate for its decision, and the Speaker of the House of Represen tatives shall in like manner submit such tives for its decision; and no electors vote or votes from any State from which but one return has been received shall be rejected, except by the affirmative vote of the two Houses. When the two ately ugain meet, and the presiding officer shall then announce the decision of question submitted.

Section 2 That if more than one re turn or paper, purporting to be a return from a State, shall have been received by the President of the Senate, purporting to be the cortificates of the electoral votes given at the last preceding election for President and Vice President in such State, unless they shall be duplicates of the same return, all such returns and papers shall be opened by him in the presence of the two Houses, when met as aforesaid, and read by the tellers; and all such returns and papers shall there-upon be submitted to the judgment and ision, as to which is the true and lawful electoral vote of such State, of a by: During the session of each House, on the Tuesday preceding the first Thursday in February, 1877, each House shall, oy vira voce vote, appoint five of its members, who, with the five Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, to be a certained as hereinafter provided, shall constitute a commission for the decision of all questions upon, or in respect of such doubtful returns named in this section. On Clerk of the House of Representatives the Tuesday next preceding the first at the Clerk's desk; for the other offi-

s of said camespectively take wing oath: "I solemnly swear, or affirm, as may be, that I will impartially and consider all questions submitted to the commission of which I am a mem-

ber, and a true judgment give thereon-agreeable to the Constitution and laws, so help use God." Which oath shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate. When the commission shall have been thus organized it shall not be in the power of either House to dissolve the power of either House to dissolve the same, or to withdraw any of its members. But if any such Senator or member shall die or become physically unable to perform the duties required by this set, the fact of such death or physical inability shall be, by said commission, before it shall proceed further, communicated to the Senate or House of Representatives, as the case may be, which body shall immediately and withdraw proceed by the same water the same with the same water water water the same water w out debate, proceed by uses voce vote to fill the place so vacated, and the person so appointed shall take and subscribe the cath hereinbefore prescribed, and become a member of said commission,

and in like manner if any of said Jus-tices of the Supreme Court shall die or tices of the supreme Court shall die or become phys cally incapable of perform-ing the duties required by this set, the other of said Justices, members of the commission, shall immediately appoint another Justice of said Court a member of said commission, and in such appointments regard shall be had to the impartiality and freedom from bias, sought by the original appointments of said com-mission, who shall thereupon immediate-ly take and subscribe the oath hereinbefore prescribed, and become a member of said combission, to fill the vacancy so occasioned. All the certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes of each State shall be opened in the alphabetical order of the States, as provided in section 1 of this act. When there shall be more han one such certificate or paper as the ertificates and papers from such shall so be opened, (excepting duplicates of the same return,) they shall be read by the tellers, and, thereupon the President of the Senate shall call for objections. If any, every objection shall be made in writing, and shall state clearly and concisely and without argument, the ground thereof, and shall be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House of Representatives before the same shall be received. When all such objections so made to any certificate, vote or paper from a State shall have been received and read, all such certifi cates, votes and papers so objected to, and all papers accompanying the same, together with such objections, shall be forthwith submitted to said commission, which shall proceed to consider the same which shall proceed to consider the same with the same powers, if any, now possessed for that purpose by the two Houses, acting separately or together, and by a majority of votes decide whether, and it any, what votes from such State are the votes provided for by the Constitution of the United States, and how many and what persons were duly appointed electors in such State, and may therein take in view such petitions, depositions and other papers, if any, as shall, by the Constitution, and now existing, be competent and perti-

Sec 3. That while the two House shall be in meeting, as provided in this act, no debate shall be allowed and no question shall be put by the presiding ficer, except to either House on metion to withdraw, and he shall have no power

ing otherwise; in which case, such con-current order shall govern. No votes or papers from any other State shall be acted upon until the objections previ-

ously made to the voters or papers from any State shall have been finally dis

nent in such consideration which

ion shall be made in writing stating briefly the ground thereof and signed by the members of said commission agreeing therein. Whereupon the two Houses shall again meet and such decis-

Sec. 4. That when the two House may have been made to the counting of any electoral vote or votes from any state, or upon objection to a report of said commission or other question aris-ing ander this act, each Schator and Representative may speak to such objection or question ten minutes and not oftener than once. But after such debate shall have lusted two hours it shall be the duty of each House to put the main question without further debate.

Sec. 5. That at such joint meeting of the two Houses scats shall be provided as follows: For the President of the as follows: For the President of the Senate, the Speaker's chair; for the Speaker, immediately upon his left; the Senators in the body of the hall upon the right of the presiding unicer; for the Representatives, in the body of the hail not provided for the Senators; for the tellers, Secretary of the Senate and Thursday in February, Anno Dumini, 1877, or as soon thereafter, as may be, the Associate Justices of the Supreme Speaker's platform. Such joint meeting the United States, new as signed to the first, third, eighth and ninth circuits, shall select, in such a manner as a majority of them shall deem for another of the Associate Justices of the stakes, unless a question that manner as a majority of them shall degut shall be taken, unless a question shall fit, mother of the Associate Justice of have arisen in regard to counting any said Court, which five persons shall be such votes or otherwise, ander this act, members of said commission, and the in which case it shall be competent for

acting separately in manner hereinbefore provided, to direct a recess of such House, not beyond the next day, Sunday excepted, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forencon. And while any question is being considered by said commission, either House may proceed with its legislative or when here proceed with its legislative or other but

Set. 6 That nothing in this act shall be held to impair or affect any right now existing under the Constitution and laws to the question by proceeding in the Federal Courts of the United States the right or life of the persons who shall claim to be President and Vice President of the United States, if any such right

Sec. 7. That said commission shall make its own rules, keep a record of its proceedings, and shall have power to employ such persons as may be necessary for the transaction of its business and the execution of its powers.

The Florida Vote.

As we suggested twenty days ag would be the case, the difficulties around the Florida vote are being removed. We Drew's inauguration that we did not see said on the morning after Govern with a Democratic Legislature, a Den pratie Returning Board and a Demo ratio Governor, what was to prevent all the defects attending the action of Tilden lectors from being thoroughly cured Che mode of appointing electors is a matter purely of State law, the Federal Constitutional provision being that elecors of a State shall be appointed as the Legislature thereof shall direct and the equirements of the Federal statute in egard bathem extending only to the fixing of the day and wthe manner in which they shall wete, and what shall be dune with the votes after being cast All the rest is within the domain of the

What then are the facts in record o the Florida voto? They are that the Tilden delectors were appointed by a najority of 91 votes, but owing to the fraudulent action of the Returning Board, failed to receive the certificate prescribed by the State law. It was not their fault that they did not receive them, but the fault of the Beturning Board. On the day prescribed by the rederal statute, these electors met no east their votes for Mr. Tilden, in literal compliance with the requirements of the Federal statute. At a subsequent day he Legislature of Florida having passed statute directing the Returning Board to canvass the vote according to the preme Court, the count was made and the fact definitely and officially ascertained that the Titden electors received majority of 94 votes This judically determines that the Tilden electors were duly "appointed," and the only question that remains is whether the liegislaturent, by another statute, cure the forma defeat caused by the want of formal certificates. The requirement being one loubt of the power of the State Legis lature to excuse and forgive its non-fulfilment. Indeed, bothing is more Houses shall again meet and such decision aball be read and entered in the journal of each House, and the coxatoning of the votes shall proceed in conformity therewith; unless, upon objection made thereto, in writing, by at least five Senators and five members of the House of Representatives, the two House shall separately concur in order. common in the annals of legislation than just such laws as is the one the Florid: Legislature will now doubless proceed to pass. alla England, unless our little aw bleatning fails us, they were called statutes of jeefuils, and have been quite frequent from the carliest times a la our own State we doubt it any session of a Legislature passes without enaction one of these statutes to oure defects.

The next pews, then from the Florida Legislature will be that it has passed a was thrown across the saddle, and the as having been duly appointed, and other, Ames walked alongside and held their votes as having been duly cast, and pardoning their lack of certificates at the river, where a hole was cut in the of appointment at the same of casting to and the body thrust out of sight. A such votes. ver return my

Presented to them in such shape as his we do not believe that any live udges of the Supreme Court of the United States loan be found who, upon their oaths, will say that Mr. Hayes is entitled to the vote of the Electoral College of Floridant It will be remen bered that these five Judges will be specially aworn upon the Holy Evanget ste of Almighty God to deside upon the law and the testimony in this particular case. If, therefore, they count the vote of Florida for Mr. Hayes they will say upon their oaths that men who had false certificates, but had never been ap pointed electors, were entitled to vote a such instead of men who had been duly sppointed in accordance with the law of the State, and whose lack of certificates had been pardened by the only power that made them necessary.

We cannot believe that with the eve of the world upon them any five Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States can be found capable of committing so great a crime.—Raleigh Observer.

the recents were open, and Sheriff Wall, of Anson county, o pice four solumes in the Pee Dee Herald advertising land for sale for taxes due. ISONED TO

18th inst., gives an account of the terrible tragedy near Albany, Mo., enacted just across the line in Iowa. The paper

About one year ago a man by the name of Phil. Ames moved in that neighborhood, bringing with him a wife, a small child and his sister in law. He secured a small piece of land and erected upon it a neat two story dwelling. For time all things appeared to go on nicely inside the family mansion, but it soon became evident to those who grew intimate with the Ameses that there was a skeleton in the bouse, and that all was not as levely as it should be, or, in other words, the love of the household was cattered around among too many women. There was a coldness growing up between husband and wife, only equalled by an apparent warmth existing between the husband and the sister-in law. The neighboring women noticed that the wife appeared often in tears, was neglected and left unprovided for, while her sister received the smiles and caresses of the husband. Whole days the wife passed alone, having no company save the chiid, a bright, golden haired girl of five sum mers, who clung to her, and in whose existence she appeared to live and have her being. At length, on the lots of November, the little child

sickened and suddenly died. It was buried the next day-s rude country barid, a bitter cold north wind, leafless trees and a cheerless grave crushed the mother's spirit and broke her heart. Then it was that the spirit of the first born Cain appeared to take possession of the husband. He frequently beat his wite, drove her from his bed and forced her to occupy a miserable straw and husk pallet on the kitchen floor while the sister occupied the place which belonged to her. At length the wife, driven to despair, told the story of her wrongs to Mrs. Rosn McGuire, and she laid the situation in the Ames, household before her husband, and he soon had the meul of the neighborhood worked up to a point of lynching the unnatural husband .They visited the house, and would have hung the mouster but for the pleadings of his fore the angry crowd and begged the life of the man who had so wronged her while her sister, at the first sound of danger, had sought safety in flight! The neighbors listened to the poor woman ppeal, removed the rope from the man's ock and set him tree. To any but a man possessed by a devil this would have proved a warning that would have turned him into better ways But not so with Ames. Scarcely had the crowd

photo raph of her dead child in her hand, he found his wife. In a instant he had struck her to his f et with the ou. b bit, dragged her to the head of the stairs, and thrown her to the floor below where he continued to beat her with the bridle until life had departed. In the meantime the sister had returned from her hiding place Another horse was saddled, the body of the dead woman

dispersed when he want to the barn,

saddled his horse and returned to the

house with a heavy curb bridle Up

stairs, kneeling and at prayer, with a

young man returning home saw the parties journeying to the river, and when he reached the settlement told what he had seen. A number of armed men started in pursuit, and arrived at the river bank just as the murderer and his paramour were mounting their horses. They were called upon to bult. when Ames drew I's revolver and fired into the aroud . The fire was returned by a voiley, and the guilty woman fell dead from her horse, shot through the neck. The man put spars to his herse

and attempted to escape in the dark, but a fortunate shot brought his animal down and the murderer was captured. A rope was provided and all the neces sary arrangements made for a frontier funeral, when the wretched man made a onfession, the chief points of which are neosporated in the above statement, and he further stated that the sister of his wife bad administered poison to her little niece in order to get henout at the way, and that they were planning the murder of the wife, that they might live unmolested togethered In this they were prevented by the , mob of a few hours before, and that he then killed the mife ag aboved stated. The rope was shrown

over tieb, strong men pulled at the

nde hen miled to hen miled to hen and the on them and the lead in their to the number of logs were then rolled together, brush was piled from them and the two inhuman beings placed in their midst. A match was applied to the pile, and all that now rema the spot and the tragedy is a bed of ashes. The body of the murdered woman was recovered on Saturday and buried by the side of her dead child

Startling and Conclusive.

The Hon Zachariah Chandler was for three hours before the committee on elections and privileges of the house, and was put through an examination so embarrassing that at last, after declining to answer several embarrassing questions, he asked the privilege of time to answer He was given until next Monday consider. The committee have proof positive in their hands, being messages over the gentleman's signature, that be advised the manipulating of the ballots in the disputed States, and provided a corruption fund for that purpose. Mr Chandler was not shown the proof pos sessed by the committee, and whether he answers or not, the result is precisely the same.

Thus we have coming to the surface to be tested by the light of day, the dark conspiracy which was organized to chest the people out of their choice and continue in power the gang of dishonest officials who, not content with degrading their places, have plotted to destroy the government by an attack on the ballot

In add tion to this fact, for the truth of which we hold ourselves responsible, it is reported that the President, sick of Hayes as Hayes has been sick of him, has General Sheridan preparing a reutter corruption of the Kellogg faction, and that he will therefore be forced to recognize the Nicholls government. We give this as rumor upon the street. One fact is well known upon the streets and in the hotels and clubs, that Gen. Sheridan is open in his denunciations of Madison Wells, and asserts, to use his own language, that in his report he will

"sult" that gentleman. 9 "1 Thus do the righteous prevail and confusion and defeat come to the wicked. Out of their own mouths are the con spirators wonvioted and put to shame. We learn from a witness that Chandler left the committee room pale and hag-gard, and driving home, sent for Garfield and William E Chandler. These be able advisers, but the great political manager cannot escape the pit be has dug himself The Republicans are sadly depressed, while the honest lovers of their constitution and country are refriced - Hashington Capital

NEWS OF THE WEEK

STATE NEWS. Shoe Heel, Roleson county, has

changed its name to Tilden Sam'l R Fowle, father of Judge

Fowled died at Wushington, N. C., on the 13th inst. Farmers in the vicinity of Warrenton

re losing their horses by some prevailing disease | se go In attempting to lift a cloaded gun

f om a rack, a man by the name of Falkper shot himself near Wadesboro.

A society of young ladies in Concord has resolved that its members shall not speak to any young man who uses "cloves" to perfume his breath.

A snake cloud is supposed to assed over Charlotte, as live snakes were picked up about there the day after the shower of sankes fell in Memphis.

A Boston company has leased for ten years the property of the old Cape Fibre. Company for the purpose of establishing and operating a paper mill at Wilming ton, N. C.

Nisbet & Bro., a firm in Charlotte, threaten to publish the names and amounts of accounts of these customers who refuse to pay bills and yet wear flue clothes and live fast, yet and he had be true.

Mrs. Mangaret Little, of Graysburg, advertises that her child, a hoy twelve years old, was stolen from her by one Frank Daniel, and offers a reward of ten dollars for his restoration

The princers at Concord conspired and broke juil, but owing to the courage of Mrs. Burn wife of the jailor who stood at the window with a pistol in her hand, only one made his escape.

A Releigh young man tried to po himself with landanum and it was with the utmost difficulty that his life could be saved. Disappointment in a love affair is said to have caused the rash act.

Gov. Vance has issued a proclamation offering \$200 reward for George Liloyd, a fugitive from justice. Liloyd killed Mr. Wm. E. Thompson, some masks since, in the county of Grange, and fied

the State.

Chatham county jail was burned last week, being set on fire by one of the three negro prisoners coulined therein.

Dallas Harris, said to be a very desperimental three of the large of the he State, at notice ate character, the hause

Robert Harris was shot by Cornelius inst, and died on the 13th inst. The murderer has ded and a reward of \$200 has been offered by Gov. Vance for his apprehension.

The per little twin children of Mr.

J. E. Langley of Nash, died suddenly
last Saturday precisely at the same hour.

They were this or fost years old and
no one had notice that they were unwell.-Rocky Mount Mail. A solored J. P. of Craven sounty was

recently applied to for a warrant for the arrest of a negre charged with assault on another negre, with intent to kill—He said he didn't know how to write a warrant, and sent the applicant to another magistrate. On last Thursday morning Mr. George

Bowman, who resides near Mulberry, in this county, went to his stables to attend to his stock, as usual Mr. Bowman was suffering with a cough and cold and it is believed he died of heart dis ease.— Lenoir Topic.
Ulysses Vesson, a Frenchman, living

three miles from Chapel Hill, had his dwelling burnt on Christmas. The snow was on the ground, and he and his wife and four children were forced to walk parefoot for somiler Mr. Vessow

since died from the effects.

Concord Sun: While the fate heavy snow was, on the ground, a sportsman fired his gun at a rabbit in a hole under a stamp and on going up to the place found ix rabbits, "dead as a hammer" and frozen so hard that the shot country not penetrate the rabbit fired at.

Watson Rumple, son of Rev. Jethro Rumple, of Salisbury, a promising young man, died at Plavidson College recently from the effects of a trivial wound re-ceived while playing shinny about six weeks before his death. A ball struck his head and purst the drum of the ear.

The Wilmington Star leagns that a ding at Stump Squad, Onslow county, together with his wife, a grown daughter and a little son, all died with diptheria during the last week or two, within a tew days of each other. The only mem-ber of the family left is an infants

A party of capitalists bave combined o make a preliminary investigation to satisfy themselves as to the true extent and value of the coal beds recently discovered on the lands of Rev. John T. Clark, in Rockingham county, N. and will commence operations as soon as the state of the weather will permit.

A man by the name of Gasperson andertook to cross the French Broad a few miles above here in a canoe. The breaking up into huge blocks. They undertink to pole the cause through the floating ice when it was upset and both men haried into the isy tide. Casperson not knowing how to swim was drowned. The other man succeeded in getting ashore, almost frozen to death—Asheville

A Chicago artist has painted a picture of hell, representing stoners in a lake of burning brimstone. He desire to sell it to some evangelist to be displayed in re-

The manager of the San Francisco Benevolent Association is accused of stealing the society's money, and spend-ing it in profligacy. He had kept up a pretence of piety, and was an eloquent exhorter. exhorter.

On Wednesday night a daughter of E.J. Pensen Williamston, S.O., was stabbed in eleven places by Lawrence condition. Smith had been visiting the young lady for several months, and his action is supposed to have been the re-sult of failure in his suit.

It seems to be generally agreed nov that but one shot was exchanged between Mesers. May and Benuett; and that nobody was injured. Beanett clandestine-by left for Europe Sacarday on the City of Richmond of the Inman line. The reports of his marriage with Miss May are utterly unfounded. It is said be will remain abroad for two years. Nobody seems to know what has become of May. If the first circles of northern May If the first circles of northern society can produce no better specimen of chivalrous romance than this, we suggest that they would do well to roost lower hereafter, and to have less to remark about the barbarous South.

POLITICAL NEWS.

The policy of the Administration with regard to Louisiana seems to be to maintain things in statu quo until the Presi-

The Democratic State officials in South Carolina have formerly demanded their offices from the Radical officials, with the purpose of bringing the whole case before the Supreme Court upon quo warranta. A decision in favor of the Democrats is relied upon.

Springfield Republican: The work of the Louisians Returning Board in count-Springfield Republican: The work of the Louisians Returning Board in counting in Hays was so glaringly illegal that it ought not to stand. Constituted throughout in disect violation of the very law of the being, the board disobeyed all other laws when they stood in its way, and the result of all this lawlesaness is no more entitled to stand than in 1874, when the leading Republicans in Congress compelled a reversal fits work.