

# Watauga Democrat.

State Librarian

VOL 2

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 1890.

NO. 35.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

### For the Democrat:

President Harrison is about as mad a man as it would be possible to find in a days travel. He has become fully satisfied that at least two men, prominently connected with the administration—Assistant Postmaster General Clarkson and U. S. Treasurer Huston—have been abusing him at every opportunity and telling other friends that they intended to resign just as they could find an opportunity to embarrass him by so doing. He also has under suspicion several other high officials and it would not be at all surprising if several resignations were peremptorily demanded by him in the near future.

Balloting for the selection of a location for the World's Fair will begin in the House late this afternoon or tomorrow and be kept up until the question is settled. Chicago will start in the lead, but your correspondent has the best of reasons to believe that no World's Fair will be held at either Chicago or New York, even if one of them should be selected. The Senate will kill any measure that does not locate the Fair at Washington, because they fear that its location at Chicago would mean the loss of Illinois, or at New York City, the loss of New York in the next Presidential campaign. This is in accordance with boss Quay's orders before he went on his Florida fishing trip. Mr. Mills, of Texas, will make a strong effort to defeat the Fair bill in the House, but he will fail.

The new styles of postage stamps were placed on sale Saturday by the Post-office department. The improvement, if there is any, is hardly visible to the naked eye.

For many years one of the regular Congressional jobs has been the proposition to have the Government buy all the real estate south of Pennsylvania avenue between the Treasury and the Capitol. It has been knocked out so often that it was thought to have been entirely abandoned, but it is again on deck, and a bill has been introduced in Congress. Only a few months ago, when there was a freshet in the Potomac river, the greater portion of this ground was under from six inches to four feet of water. Nice sort of property to ask Congress to buy to put public buildings upon isn't it?

Notice has been given that as soon as the House finishes with the World's Fair the contested election cases are to be called up. There are four cases ready. Three of which the committee have, by a party vote, reported in favor of the republican contestants, and one, by a unanimous vote, in favor of the democrats now occupying the seat.

The investigation of the Civil Service commission, which was begun last week,

will be resumed this week. Ex-Commissioner Oberly is to be one of the witnesses examined.

The chairman of the New York anti-monopoly league, made an argument against Mr. Wanamaker's postal-telegram bill before the House Postoffice committee Friday. He opposed the bill because it proposed to give the business of the country to a private corporation. He said he represented the working people who sent few telegrams and who would get little if any benefit from the law, and that the Postoffice department had more business now than it could manage satisfactorily without adding this experiment.

Twelve bids have been made to the Treasury department for the exclusive privilege of taking seals in the waters contingent to Alaska for twenty years, and in every one of them the price named is much higher than the Government now receives. No award has yet been made.

It is hinted in inside republican circles that Mr. Harrison's trip to Pennsylvania last week was really for a political purpose; he is trying to capture the State delegation to the next republican national convention, and while Quay was in Florida he thought it a good time to visit the State, and the opening of the free library at Allegheny City furnished the opportunity.

The Senators, or rather some of them, are growling about the newspaper men finding out everything they do in secret session, and are trying to devise means to prevent it. If they would have their ordinary executive sessions open, the trouble would be ended.

The regular war on lotteries which is made in early days of every session of Congress, by the introduction of bills, has begun. It's a farce. Why not enforce some of the laws we now have on the subject, instead of wasting time enacting?

The House and Ways and Means committee are practically at a stand-still in the preparation of a tariff bill.

The finance committee of the Senate have decided to report the bill for increasing the coinage of silver dollars to \$4,000,000 a month.

Ex-secretary Whitney is here with the New York World's Fair delegation.

Washington, Feb. 24.

The Knights of Honor paid over to Mrs. Henry Grady \$2,000, the amount of her husband's life insurance policy while a member of that order. He had several life policies, but the Knights of Honor was the first to make payment. This order has a large membership here.—Reidsville Review.

There are many accidents and diseases which effect Stock and cause serious inconvenience and loss to the farmer in his work, which may be quickly remedied by the use of Dr. J. H. McLean's volcanic oil Liniment

## REMINISCENCES, COGITATIONS AND NEWS ITEMS.

NUMBER IX.

### For the Democrat.

Carson Lake, a versatile writer in a New York daily, "The Press," fills a column of that paper several times each week with reminiscences similar to the following:

J. J. Browne of Spokane Falls, Wash. is a leading Democrat of the new State. He has the Western relish for a good story, even when it hits one of his own party friends, and he told me one yesterday. Early in the seventies Ohio Democrats carried that State for Governor, their candidate being William Allen, a veteran who had sat in the United States Senate before half of the voters of the day were born. He was variously dubbed "Old Bill Allen" from his age, "Foghorn Allen" because of his tremendous voice, with which he was said once to have drowned the shrill whistling of a locomotive, and "Rise up, Bill Allen," because he was literally dragged out of obscurity into the field of modern politics. On the morning after the Ohio election Mr. Browne was on a railroad train approaching Chicago, where he saw in the morning paper the announcement that Allen was elected. Stepping off the train, he met an old Democratic friend, named Douglas, when this conversation took place:

"I say, Douglas, have you heard the news from Ohio? Allen is elected."

"Is that so? No, it can't be true. Are you in earnest?"

"Certainly. Here are the headlines of the news in the morning paper. See, Allen elected."

"Well, that's a blessing indeed. God must have stuffed the ballot boxes for him."

The political success and career of William Allen was curious.

About 1802 three young men hailing from the same neighborhood, left the Shenandoah valley in Virginia and emigrated to Ohio because they desired to escape from the blighting curse of slavery with which the Old Dominion had been afflicted since the landing of the pilgrims in Massachusetts in 1620. One was named McArthur, another Lucas; the name of the third has escaped my memory so completely that I can not recall it. All these young men became governors of their adopted State. McArthur was particularly conspicuous in the early history of Ohio. He had already been governor when the said Wm. Allen, (also a native of Virginia and uncle to Allan G. Thurman, who ran for Vice President on the ticket with Grover Cleveland in 1888,) married his daughter.

Young Wm. Allen studied law with Gov. McArthur, and was well thought of by him as well as by most if not all his acquaintances.

In 1834 or '36, Gov. McArthur was nominated by the Whigs for Congress. Wm. Allen was always a Democrat. It was universally supposed that McArthur had a walk-over in his district, so no Democrat of distinction carried to contest with him for the honors of representative in Congress. This being the case Wm. Allen easily won the nomination in opposition to his father-in-law. He took a curious position in the canvass, which was to represent himself as filling a gap in the contest which no

other Democrat cared to occupy because McArthur was so sure of being elected, but he wanted to get as many votes as possible, so as to, in some measure, approximate the old man's vote. He was popular with the young Whig lawyers and also with hundreds of young Whigs who were not lawyers. So he appealed to them to vote for him, since McArthur was sure to be elected, and obtained a promise from as many of them as possible. In the meantime he incited the Democrats to work as though success was possible if not probable. The result was that when the polls closed and the votes were counted Wm. Allen received one more vote than his popular opponent, to the great disappointment and chagrin of the Whig party. A great many of those young Whigs who pledged themselves to vote for Mr. Allen and did so regretted their action exceedingly.

The Whigs accused Mr. Allen of having used unfair means to induce minors and repeaters to vote for him, which was really and in fact the truth, but McArthur refused for family reasons, though urged thereto by many of his supporters.

I remember coming across an elderly man in 1867 who assured me that he voted for Wm. Allen on that occasion, though he was but 19 years of age the time. He also said that many voted for Mr. Allen who had no right to vote.

I was in Ohio in 1839. The Whigs had an overwhelming majority in the county in which I then was. But for some reason, the Whigs were attacked by General Apathy and lost their representative by one vote. It was brought about by two many stay-at-homes and one man who dearly loved the sweets of life. This latter was a young farmer who remained at home at work on his farm till after dinner and then started for his polling place. He lived six miles from it. On his way by a short cut through the woods he discovered a bee tree and determined to regale himself with some nice honey. He was a long ways from any house. At the first one he came to he borrowed an axe, returned and cut down the tree and stuffed himself to satiety. He then resumed his journey to the polls to hear, before he fairly reached the polling place, the unwelcome sound of the judge's voice, "polls closed." A Democrat was elected to the legislature by one majority. His vote would have tied the candidates. The legislature was Democratic by one majority a joint ballot, or by one majority in each house, I forget which. At any rate, Wm. Allen was elected U. S. Senator for six years in the winter of 1839-40, by one vote. Mr. Allen took his seat in the U. S. Senate in due time. And he made the "welkin ring" when he rose to speak. Henry Clay once said that if Mr.

Allen could plant one foot on the Rocky Mountains and the other on the Alleghenies he could be heard from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Mr. Allen was elected governor of Ohio in the early seventies by less than 800 majority, to be beaten by Rutherford B. Hayes in the next two years by a very much larger majority, for it reached to the thousands.

J. S. W.

Lynchville Feb. 25.

### A Dying STATESMAN.

It is useless to conceal the mournful fact that Samuel J. Randall is slowly sinking—dying by inches.

The brave heart bears up, and the clear eyes look cheerfully into the anxious faces about him, but the grand face bears the seal of death. Talk about the will power of Cardinal Richelieu! This man has it, with more than the old Frenchman's courage and integrity back of it.

Sam. Randall belongs to the old race of statesmen—the giants of the better days of the republic. More than once he has shown the country that he would rather bright than be President. His career almost leads one to think that some old Roman has stepped out of the pages of Plutarch into our commonplace American life.

When Sam. Randall dies we must build him a mighty and massive shaft of granite. Nothing else will so fitly represent him and commemorate his glorious virtues. As the leader of a forlorn hope he was matchless. When hestood between the stricken South and her enemies he was as a stone wall. When the little men of his party wanted to move him he stood for right as he understood it, ready to be sacrificed, but as far as ever from the swarm of huckstering politicians below him.

No one misjudges him now. His enemies are silent. His mistaken friends in late repentance whisper with bated breath, "What shall we do without him?"

Does no echo of this reach our stainless knight, as his stout heart flutters and his stalwart arm falls nervously by his side? Does he not know as he closes his eyes and goes to pleasant dreams that his countrymen are dreading that fatal flash along the wire that shall announce "Sam Randall dead."—Atlanta Constitution.

### Cardinal Gibbons on the Negro.

Baltimore, Md. Feb. 24.—Before beginning his sermon yesterday at High, Mass. Cardinal Gibbons made an appeal to the congregation in behalf of negro and Indian missions. His Eminence reminded his hearers that, in compliance with the decree of the last Plenary Council of Baltimore, an annual collection was taken up in behalf of those missions on the first in Lent in all the churches of the country. "There are now," said His Eminence,

"about seven millions of negroes in the State, and the negro question has become a serious problem to the American people. The best solution of this problem, in my judgment, will be found in christianizing the negroes. In some sections of the country, if reports are true, their religion has degenerated into a kind of fetishism and is entirely emotional, devoid of all religious restraints and obligations.

"The negro race is naturally a religious people. They are kind, affectionate and grateful, submissive to authority, and their conduct towards the close of the late war, when they had power to do mischief, was above all praise. By proper religious and christian instruction they are sure to become a most useful element in any community."

### TALMAGE ON GRADY.

Dr. Talmage has preached a funeral sermon on Grady from which we make the following extract:

"Mr. Grady might have had any political reward in the gift of his State, said Mr. Talmage, but he wanted none and remained "plain Mr. Grady." He stood for the new South, "and was just what we want to meet—three other men, one to speak for the new North, another for the new East, and another for the new West. The bravest speech made for the last quarter of a century was that made by Mr. Grady at the New England dinner in New York about two or three years ago. I sat with him that evening and know something of his anxieties, for he was to tread on dangerous ground and might by one misspoken word have antagonized forever both sections. His speech was a victory that thrilled all of us who heard him and all who read him.

"Who will in conspicuous action represent the new North as he did the new South? Who shall come forth for the new East and who for the new West? Let old political issues be buried; let old grudges die. Let new theories be launched."

In conclusion Mr. Talmage said: "And now, thou great and magnificent soul of editor and orator! under bright skies we shall meet again. From God thou comest and to God thou hast returned. Not broken down, but ascended. Not collapsed, but irradiated. Enthroned one! Coronated! Sceptered one! Emparadised one! Hail and well.—News and Observer.

When nature falters and requires help, recruit her enfeebled energies with Dr. J. H. McLean's strengthening Cordial and blood purifier \$1.00 per bottle.

Physicians prescribe Dr. J. H. McLean's tar wine lung balm, as it they find no trace of opium or morphia, while its efficacy in curing all throat or lung diseases is wonderful.

Children will freely take Dr. J. H. McLean's Tar Wine Blood Balm unlike cough syrup, it contains no opium, will soothe and heal any disease of the throat or lungs quicker than any other remedy.