

We have given our readers on this page a long sketch of the doings of the Legislature taken from the News and Observer, and we ask that each of them peruse it carefully, and then hand to some neighbor who may profit by reading it. This has been the most remarkable session of the Legislature since that of 1868-69. While it has sounded the death knell of the Republican and Populist parties, yet we feel chagrined and humiliated over it. Any citizen ought to be proud of the law-makers of his State, no matter what party is in power, if their actions justify it, but there is no denying the fact that all parties of our State feel ashamed and humiliated over the action of our late Legislature. All fair-minded republicans denounce and condemn many of the efforts to enact laws made by the Fusion crowd. During the campaign we were told that the Democrats had been very extravagant in various appropriations, and some of us believed that it was true. Noticeably the appropriation to the State University and the Western Asylum. These appropriations have been left the same, and in many other instances an increase has been allowed. The late Legislature has increased the amount of appropriations over \$100,000 above the last Democratic Legislature. The only reduction that has been made was for the state troops, and this seems to have been done for partisan ends. The negro element of the State has been aroused by the success of the Republican party, and we may expect race troubles in many parts of the State and no doubt we will need the State troops more than ever.

We look upon the present as anything but favorable in our State, but we trust that everything will be peace and quiet. But in reading the speech of Judge Russell to a large crowd of negroes in Wilmington assembled there to receive him on his return from Raleigh after the adjournment, shows the temper of both speaker and negroes. The brother in black is extensively aroused on politics and this arousement generally leads to violence and hatred to white people.

The Legislature failed to pass the Code commission bill and our young friend Spencer Blackburn, of Jefferson, is left out in the cold. Spencer is young and can wait.

It is sad to hear of Capt. Buck Kitchen falling outside of the fusion Breastworks on the penitentiary reorganization bill. Buck was to get the position of boss, but the bill failed to pass for want of a quorum. Poor old Buck.

Ewart and Cox were elected by the Legislature as Judges for the new criminal courts but Gov. Carr stopped that shrewd little game by appointing Mears and Jones as the judges. So Ewart and Cox are not yet presiding and may be never will be.

Nearly all the State Senators got a soft easy place by the fusion party, except our own Senator Farthing. Perhaps Wiley was too modest to push himself forward.

RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM.

News and Observer.

The legislature, which would still be in session if the Fusion majority had not gone home when the pay stopped, was elected upon the distinct platform of retrenchment and reform. Every speaker on the Fusion ticket told the people that the democrats had been wickedly extravagant, and that, in these days of four and five cent cotton, every appropriation and all salaries and fees ought to be cut in proportion to the fall in the price of cotton since the salary or fee was established by law.

The favorite campaign argument was along this line: "The farmers get less prices for their products than ever, but the salaries and fees of the State and county officers are at the same figures as when cotton brought ten and twelve cents. There ought to be a scaling down of salaries and fees just in proportion to the reduction in the price of farm products. The Superintendent of the Penitentiary and President of the University get \$2,500 a year. Cotton has gone down one half. Their salaries ought to be cut just half in two. This ought to be carried out in every institution and department of government. It is nothing but fair that the office-holders should feel the pinch of hard times as well as the farmers."

This was the argument and the pledge of retrenchment and reform was made on every stump and in every "Reform" paper in the State. The people were suffering from low prices of crops, and as the Democrats did not promise to cut down every body and everything, the people, in their depression, voted with the party that promised to slash right and left.

The Legislature has adjourned and the people will look to see whether the promises made were fulfilled. They were promised lower taxes. Instead of decreasing the taxes this Legislature increased the rate from 4 1/2 cents, levied by the "extravagant Democrats," to 4 5/8 cents on every \$100 worth of property. This is the increase in the tax on personal and real property, but the Legislature did not stop with this increase, but hunted up new ways to raise revenue in order to meet the new expenditures created. They have even gone to the widows, who take boarders to support their children, and taxed them 50 cents on every bed. The county doctors, who practice largely among the poor and neither get or expect reward, are compelled to pay ten dollars a year for the privilege. They are required to pay the same that is demanded of the richest city doctors. These are some of the ways the pledges to taxation were fulfilled.

How did they carry out their promises to cut down appropriations, salaries and fees to the basis of five cent cotton? 1. By establishing two new criminal circuits, which are not needed and were not wanted except by office seekers. The cost of these new circuits cannot be ascertained in advance. Smith, of Gates, estimates that they would cost \$104,000. 2. By electing three new magistrates in every township in the State, not one of

whom is needed or desired by the people. There are 1,197 townships in the State. It will cost \$7.50, at a low calculation, to furnish each new magistrate the Code, Laws, docket books, etc. This will give 2,591 new magistrates. At \$7.50 each, the expense to the State will be \$26,932.50. This is an utterly useless expense and was made purely for partisan ends.

3. Fusion candidates for the Legislature were encouraged, immediately after the election, to contest the seats of the members elected, and as a result of this advice, there were more contests this year than ever before. The Legislature this year appropriated \$3,262.37 for this unnecessary expense. In addition to this expenditure, unusual expense was incurred to investigate alleged election frauds in Eastern counties.

4. A committee of three was authorized to sit during recess and examine into the case of Mrs. Pattie D. B. Arrington, who alleges that the lawyers and the Judges have injured and defrauded her. There is no limit in the bill to the expense this committee may incur. They are authorized to employ necessary clerical help, send for persons and papers, require attendance of witnesses, etc. This is a wholly indefensible expenditure. If the Legislature should employ this method of determining the rights of litigants, it would involve an expense of a hundred million dollars a year. It is a bad precedent, and could not have passed any Legislature that had an ounce of wisdom. If Mrs. Arrington has been wronged, the courts are open to her. If the Judges are corrupt, they should be impeached. But to authorize a committee of incompetent Fusionists, with no limit on the expense, to investigate and report to the Supreme Court, is a piece of folly never equalled, and is, besides being expensive, an unjust reflection upon the bar and bench of the State.

6. The Legislators brought their sons, nephews, relatives and other dependents to Raleigh and quartered them on the Treasury to such an extent that the expense of this Legislature has cost the State about five thousand dollars more than the last one which we declared then to have been too expensive.

7. There are various other ways in which new and unwise departures in squandering public money were inaugurated to which we shall hereafter allude.

Are you all tired out, do you have that tired feeling or sick headache? You can be relieved of all these by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

No body is better pleased than we are that our incapable possum hunting Legislature has adjourned never to meet again to afflict and disgrace the State. Of course we do not mean that all the members were a set of pigmies and rascals, for there were honorable men of all parties in the crowd, who could not help bad legislation. It is very evident, however, that a number of the members were ignorant raw material and could be shaped to suit the leaders in all their partisan movements. There is hope of the country however, when the honest men of all parties condemn such legislation.

Increase in Appropriation by the late Legislature.

Raleigh Asylum increase \$8,029.41. Morganton Asylum increase \$8,000. Eastern Hospital increase \$13,500. Deaf and Dumb at Morganton increase \$21,500. Penitentiary increase \$24,000. Normal and Industrial school \$23,500. A. and M. College at Raleigh \$30,000. Colored Normal schools \$5,000; making a total increase \$133,528.

The following is amount of decrease. Soldiers Home decrease \$2,000. Oxford Asylum decrease \$3,000. State Guard decrease \$20,000.

These figures show an increase of \$108,529 over our last Democratic Legislature. It is proper for us to note that heretofore the appropriation made of \$10,000 to the State University for repairs has been left off by the late Legislature as there was no further need of it as all the repairs were completed. So there will be \$10,000 saved in this item, which will make our increase of taxes by this great reform Legislature only \$98,528, now add the amount for the Confederate to the above which is \$10,000 and we still have the \$108,528. We have gained all this by having a fusion Legislature to make our laws. How many more of the kind do we need? Especially when cotton is 4 1/2 cents and horses and mules only worth about half what they formerly brought and can't be sold at that.

Dr. John A. Broadus the great Baptist Divine died at Louisville, Kentucky on the 16th.



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NOTICE OF PUBLICATION. North Carolina, Watauga county, in the Superior. E. B. Miller vs. J. F. Steelman. The defendant in the above entitled action having been summoned to appear at Watauga Superior court and put in the sheriff's hands for service and he making his return as follows viz: "Diligent search made J. F. Steelman not found in my county." Now, therefore, by virtue of an order for publication the defendant in above entitled action will take notice that he is to appear at Watauga Superior court the same being the 29th of April, '95 and answer complaint of plaintiff where said plaintiff claims of defendant the sum of \$180.00 with interest at balance of purchased money on a tract of land purchased of plaintiff and lying in Ashe county. Herein take notice and fail not. This March 21, '95. E. B. MILLER PLUFF.

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