

The civil service fraud will occupy the most of the time of Congress. If it is possible to repeal the law it will be done in order that about 45,000 places may be filled by certain henchmen, that each Republican Congressman can get places. Many of them will fail of a reelection if the law is not repealed. In the outset Congressmen pledged certain of their constituents if they would "hump" themselves in the campaign they should have certain amount of "pie." Well they all "humped" and elected their man, but lo! an behold, there were not enough places to go round and now there are a bitter "cussings." Hence the great effort to let the bars down, so to speak, and let the finally faithful enter in, displacing the old crew both of radicals and democrats. The new hungry crowd are extremely anxious. But it looks gloomy for much of a chance. The whole effort will be to satisfy the hungry crowd. Linney and Pearson of the 8th and 9th districts in this State have undertaken to repeal the law, but they will only make the effort, thinking that they will satisfy their followers by their efforts. At the same time it is probable that they know that nothing can be done. This civil service law was endorsed by the National Republican Convention and McKinley is bound by it. No doubt but Linney and Pearson were also.

Cotton at 4 1/2 to 5 cents is prosperity in a whoop. The gold standard, Dingley tariff, the pension outrage, the extravagance of the republican appropriations; their mean legislation and the general 'cussedness' going on all over the country under republican misrule, have brought the country to the very verge of despair. But was it not amusing to hear the republican papers on the wave of prosperity sweeping the country like a cyclone. Wheat, they said, was now 80 cents and would go to \$1. and perhaps \$2. These papers even claimed that it was Dingley and gold that brought about the great results. How will they account for the ruinous prices of other farm products? Banks and business are failing as usual, and the South is now having a gloomy time and the end is far off so far as any one can see. What is Congress doing to assist the people? They are trying to remove the civil service law, that more of their crowd can get jobs; annex Hawaii, so as to get more negroes: feeding the Cubans, while Spain is murdering them; sending money to the Klondike to feed the gold seekers. The people, yes, the millions of people, who are suffering in our own country, are not considered of enough importance to be looked after. This is indeed a great country.

The civil service matters seem to become very "uncivil" among the pie hunters. The law is being "cussed" as a great fraud, though the Simon pure Republicans endorsed it in conventions as the proper thing to have, but they find it mighty in the way now. The whole thing is a fool system we think.

The people of North Carolina remember vividly the great clamors for reform during the last campaign by the fusionists. When the State was turned over to this reform crowd, reform commenced in earnest. Reform increased expenses in nearly every department. The first fusion Legislature of 1895 was a great reform body, but the succeeding one was greater in reform than any Legislature prior to it. The reform legislature of 1895 increased the cost of the legislature over \$15,000 but that of 1897 went still higher and added \$12,000 more to it. This increase in legislative expenses is only an item of reform. In other things they reformed more in the same portion. The two reform legislatures of North Carolina have about ruined the State's credit. Capitalists have recently refused to invest money in our State on account of the condition of our finances and laws made by the reformers. Two more years of such reforms will completely ruin the old State's credit abroad. Fusionism, Butlerism, Russellism, Negroism and Radicalism will do the work. Of course the people will retire all of them the first chance, but then it will take some years to build up again.

We have been among the people of the eastern part of the county recently, getting contracts on ivy lands for Messrs. Vanses Bros., for their plant now going up in Boone. Our success was all that we could ask. Plenty of ivy and the people anxious to have it grubbed out of their lands. Bartlett Brown & Sons, L. P. Watson & Sons, A. J. Moretz, Levi Morphew and others have a large amount of ivy on which we got contracts. The ivy root business will become a huge affair, and will circulate money among the people; say \$20,000 to \$40,000 per year for five years. Everybody who wants to work can get some of it. It will require many grubbers and haulers to supply the plant with 500 tons of roots each month. The business will be difficult to any thing our people have engaged in. It will not by any means injure the county but will improve it, as the ivy growing on the lands is an injury, and expensive to get rid of.

Six thousand men were scattered over New York on the 27th, cleaning the snow from the streets. It will cost fifty thousand dollars to remove the snow fall. Thirty five hundred carts are used.



"The Foot of a Fly" says an eminent English doctor, "will carry enough poison to infect a household." In summer-time, more especially, disease germs fill the air, multitudes are infected, fall ill, die; multitudes escape. These messengers of mischief do not exist for millions. Why not? Because they are healthy and strong—protected as a crocodile is against gunshot. It is the weak, the wasted, the thin-blooded who fall; those who have no resistive power so that a sudden cough or cold develops into graver disease. We hear of catching disease! Why not catch health? We can do it by always maintaining our healthy weight.

Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil, is condensed nourishment; food for the building up of the system to resist the attacks of disease. It should be taken in reasonable doses all summer long by all those whose weight is below the standard of health. If you are losing ground, try a bottle now. For sale by all druggists at 50c. and \$1.00.

CHANDLER OUT FOR SILVER. A Signed Editorial in the New Hampshire Senator's Newspaper.

Concord, N. H., Jan. 3.—The Evening Monitor, Senator Chandler's paper, contains the following as a leader by W. E. Chandler under the caption: "The reduction of wages is caused by the gold standard—Work for silver money says Senator Chandler." "A good New Year's resolve for Republicans is to demand and during 1898 struggle for bimetallism. Every man who works for wages should fight against the single gold standard of money, which is the most potent cause of the recent reduction in wages made in all the factories in New England. The demonetization of silver and the consequent appreciation of gold, which measures values, have contributed to so reduce the prices of commodities that goods which would once have brought the producer \$100 now bring him only \$60. This is a world-wide condition, where gold prices prevail, and because manufacturers cannot get the old prices for goods they say they can not pay the old prices for labor. But if it had not been for the demonetization of silver the wages of labor everywhere in recent years would have risen, because each laborer has been able, year by year, to create a larger product, and he has therefore been entitled to larger wages as his share of that product. This legitimate rise in wages the adoption of the gold standard has prevented, and instead of a rise comes a fall."

The above is strong language for free silver. Senator Chandler is making things hot for the goldbugs. Other Senators who, like Chandler, have been life-long Republicans have been bold in their silver views since the return of the monetary commission from Europe. Senator Wolcott, the chairman of commission, has declared for bimetallism without regard to Europe. It has developed since the return of Senators Wolcott, Payne and Adlia Stevenson, that the McKinley administration is opposed to bimetallism and in favor of the gold standard being more closely adhered to in this country, as it suits Hanna & Co., better than bimetallism. The United States Senate will be strong for silver. Senator Teller will soon test the strength of both houses on his bill to pay off certain demands with silver dollars. Bimetallism is a sure thing. It may coin before 1900. The silver advocates are becoming bolder and more hopeful. The failure of the prosperity promised the country under the Dingley tariff and gold standard, to materialize, has increased the demands for free silver. The next Congress will be largely a silver Congress. The Senate is already so.

Chatanooga News: "Going! going! going!" cries Father Time, the auctioneer of eternity, and the old year is on the block. At midnight it will be knocked down and the past will be the purchaser. It is not an "old horse" sale nor the purchase of a "pig in a poke." He has seen the goods and knows what he gets. An accumulation of joy and sorrow, heart aches and blessings, pleasure, pain and turmoil. The sum total of human woe and human happiness huddled together and laid upon the shelf for the ready reference of some future deliver after knowledge.

Edicate Your Bowels With Cascarella. Cascarella Cathartic, cure constipation forever 10c, 50c. If C. C. C. fail, druggists refund money.

North Wilkesboro had a damaging fire on the 3rd. The loss is estimated at about \$14,000. A number of houses were burned including stores and dwellings. The Hustier's outfit was consumed, without any insurance. This is a great hardship on Mr. Robinson, but we hear that he will "hustle" around and resume publication at once. Much of the property destroyed was insured. The building of the bank barely escaped. This is a sad affair for the young active town of North Wilkesboro. The fire originated in the store of Stafford Bros.

No news from our railroad. What has become of the matter? Where is Mr. Milner? It is getting so muddy we wish we had a railroad to do our hauling. We hope to hear some favorable reports about the road. We often think that the Morganton Herald will give us some dots on this matter, but it fails to say much.

Exposure to Disease Does not necessarily mean the contraction of disease provided the system is in a vigorous condition, with the blood pure and all the organs in healthy action. When in such a condition contagion is readily resisted and the disease germs can find no lodgment. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best medicine to build up the system because it makes pure, rich blood, and pure blood is the basis of good health. In cold weather it is especially necessary to keep up the health tone because the body is subject to greater exposure and more liable to disease. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the safeguard of health.

Judge Dick seems too slow in resigning to suit certain parties. If the old judge improves in health he may not resign. Pritchard had better hold his present position. It is good enough, and it may be a hard struggle to get in again—Guess it will.

Household Gods. The ancient Greeks believed that the Penates were the gods who attended to the welfare and prosperity of the family. They were worshipped as household gods in every home. The household god of to-day is Dr. King's New Discovery. For consumption, coughs, colds and for all affections of throat, chest and lungs it is invaluable. It has been tried for a quarter of a century and is guaranteed to cure, or money returned. No household should be without this good angel. It is pleasant to take and a safe and sure remedy for old and young. Free trial bottles at M. B. Blackburn's store.

A Walking Advertisement.

"In February, 1862, I had six hemorrhages from the lungs, and for some months was under the care of two doctors, and finally went to Denver, but returned without any benefit to my health. I then read of your treatment, and sent for some, from which I felt great relief, and have continued using it steadily up to the present time, with good results." "I am certain your treatment has been the means of restoring my health. I have added fifteen pounds to my weight and am still gaining, have a good appetite and sleep well. In fact, I can conscientiously say I am a walking advertisement for your treatment." J. Fallon, 154 South Grand St. Chicago, Ill.

If you will know more of this treatment, and read the testimony of many others, who have been cured by the Compound Oxygen Treatment, not only of consumption, but of various other diseases, send for book of two hundred pages, sent free. Or call and see us, treat patients at the Office as well as at home.

Dr. Starkey & Palen, 1529 Arch St. Philadelphia, Pa. Please mention this paper.

THE VIRGINIA FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE CO.

ORGANIZED.....1833 Paid in losses in last ten years, over.....\$2,000,000.00 Paid in losses last year over.....\$250,000.00

Rates on unexposed frame farm houses, with shingle roof, 2 1/2 cents per day, or 75 cents per month, or \$9.00 per year, for \$1,000 insurance payable in easy installments.

The names of a few of our most prominent Watauga County policy holders:

- Dr. L. C. Reeves, J. F. Hardin, B. J. Council, Jr.
R. F. Vannoy, J. C. Horton, Mrs. R. L. Council,
Wm. Holsclaw, Coffey Bros, Council, Taylor & Co,
J. B. Johnson, J. P. Council, W. E. Norris,
D. F. Baird, B. F. Baird, J. C. Shull,
S. N. Bingham, W. B. Council, L. W. Farthing.
Capt. E. F. Lovell and J. A. Edmisten.
LEE F. MILLER, Agt. J. F. HARDIN, Local Agt
ELIZABETHTON, TENN. BOONE, N. C.

OH! LADIES! Make your breath Sweet by using KEY & CO'S VIRGIN DIP SCOTCH SNUFF. ASK YOUR DEALER FOR IT. PLEASE

READ And By a Small Outlay Perhaps Save a Home. The Farmers' Mutual Fire Association, Watauga and Mitchell Branch.

A company of the people, for the people and by the people; as safe as the safest and cheaper than the cheapest. Fair and honorable adjustment without lawsuits. W. H. Calaway, President. W. L. Bryan, Treasurer. SUPERVISORS: A. J. Critcher, Jeremiah Harrison, W. C. L. Hulcher, N. L. Mast, H. H. Farthing, J. M. Shull, L. D. Lowe, A. J. Moretz, H. A. Davis, W. N. Thomas, and J. R. Hodges. For a policy apply to the Local Agent, J. B. Miller, Brookside, N. C., or to the President, Treasurer or any one of the Supervisors. J. F. HOSKINS, Gen. Man.

Don't Forget That MORETZ & FARTHING ARE STILL IN THE LEAD

LOW PRICES. And are making glad the many patrons who daily crowd our store. Friend, if you have never taken the opportunity to examine our goods and prices, please do so, and you will be convinced that your neighbor has not been jesting when he said we give the most goods for the least money. Our stock of General Merchandise is increasing daily. New Bargains every week. Come often and get your share as they go. Very Truly, Moretz & Farthing.

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1898! 1898. 1898. THE OLD YEAR.

With its losses, crosses and anxieties is now numbered with the things of the eternal past, and the New Year is upon us. But the death of the Old Year is too sad a subject on which to dwell, so let's have a short chat on GROCERIES. In these hard times it behooves every man to purchase his supplies on the Lowest Market, and thereby save considerably in the transaction. If you propose to buy anything in my line I can and will

SAVE YOU MONEY On every purchase. Let me tell you, my goods are first class and marked down at the lowest figures. Call and see if this is not true. Sugar, Coffee, Flour, Bacon, Rice, Canned Goods, Cheese, Oat meal, Crackers, Potted Ham, Salmon, Sardines, Jellies, Preserves, Pickles, Soaps, Cigaretts, Snuff, and Matches. always on hand. Come right along, bring your cash, buy your supplies of me and be happy. You will find me at my old stand at Blowing Rock always ready to serve you. VERY RESPECTFULLY, 1898. J. B. CLARKE.

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