

DAILY OBSERVER.

JOHNSTONE JONES, Editor and Proprietor.

Wednesday, April 23, 1873.

USURY LAWS.

One of the great questions of the day is that of repealing the usury laws. It is being agitated all over the country, or has been within the past few years. Georgia has repealed her usury laws, and so has other States in the Union. An effort has recently been made in New York to get the Legislature to abolish the penalties of usury; but this failed on account of the antipathy of the rural Representatives who share the fears of their constituents that the repeal of the law will eventuate in dearer terms for the use of money borrowed by the farmers and country people upon bond and mortgage. Notwithstanding this defeat, however, another and stronger effort is being made by the merchants, bankers and brokers of New York to accomplish the desired object, if not for the whole State at least for the city of New York.

It will be remembered that this subject was considered at the last session of our Legislature. But it was finally laid aside without action. A majority of the body seemed to prefer to take no responsibility of a change either for the better or worse and so let the law remain as it is. The question will no doubt be brought up again in the next General Assembly.

It is very certain now that business men are almost unanimous in the opinion that "free money will make easy money, the theory being that money, like water, will seek its level and will go where it commands the greatest interest with proportionate security in the investment." This is the prevalent opinion in all the leading countries of Europe. England, France and other European governments long ago abolished the usury laws. The result in those countries has in every instance been good. The law must eventually pass away in every country, for experience proves that it does not affect the end for which it is designed. It does not check the loan of money upon usurious rates; and the law has become a dead letter upon the statute books whereon it is still in vogue. The old idea that the practice of requiring in repayment of money lent, anything more than the amount lent, was a great moral wrong, has faded out of the minds of people. And all laws based upon it have long since ceased to have any practical or legal force. As this is the case, wisdom dictates a repeal of the usury laws.

Personal Intelligence.

Hon. S. H. Rogers, of Raleigh, is still suffering from Rheumatism. Mr. Fuller's new novel will soon be out. Mr. Fuller is the author of the "Angel in the Cloud."

W. D. Haywood, Esq., will be an independent candidate for Mayor of Raleigh. Judge Albertson produced a favorable impression upon the bar of Raleigh, while holding Court there.

Hon. James Brooks is no better for his trip to Norfolk. His disease seems to be of a medical skill. The principal Judge of Havana has been arrested for gambling.

Col. W. F. Green, of Franklin, has been invited by the Ladies' Memorial Association of Raleigh, to deliver the Memorial Address in that city on the 10th.

A man named Bundy, living in Wayne county, attempted to commit suicide a few days ago, by hanging himself, but was cut down before life was extinct.

It is stated that young Mr. Bennett, the editor and proprietor of the New York Herald, has fallen in love with and is trying to marry one of the daughters of King Christian of Denmark.

SOUTH CAROLINA ITEMS.

The annual meeting of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad will be held on the 1st of May.

A boy, 15 years of age, ran against an iron awning post in Charleston on Thursday, and killed himself. He was in pursuit of a colored boy with whom he was playing.

Miss Partridge, a teacher at the Methodist Female College, in Columbia, died Wednesday night. The body has been carried to Florida—of which State she was a native—for interment.

The Greenville and Columbia Railroad, has been informed by the Enterprise, has in contemplation the purchase at an early day, three new engines and a large quantity of railroad iron.

A shooting scrape occurred between some colored men on Mr. D. A. Duncan's plantation, near Unionville, last Sunday, in which Peter Craft was badly wounded in the head by Trip Sartor.

The Columbia Carolinian says: It is reported that another County Treasurer, Mr. Grace, of Colleton, is in trouble. He has been arrested, we hear, like Messrs. Allen and Eichberger, at the suit of State Treasurer Caldwell.

STATE NEWS.

Wilmington married eight couples during the last week.

The Good Templars of Raleigh will have a grand Festival on the 9th of May.

Rev. Dr. McCosh preached in the Presbyterian Church of Raleigh on Sunday.

Fifty colored laborers have left Wake county within the past week for the South.

A party of Baltimore capitalists have purchased Ore Knob Copper Mines, in Ireddell county.

In a neat and tasteful Salutory, T. B. Kingsbury again assumes a position on the editorial staff of the Raleigh Sentinel.

The Carolinian says the river fisheries near Elizabeth City are hardly paying expenses, but those on the Sound are doing unusually well.

The decision of Judge Albertson in reference to the change of the gauge of the N. C. Railroad, has by agreement of counsel been postponed for the present.

Dr. H. J. Menninger, late Secretary of State, has entered the drug business, and is located on the corner of Thirty-Sixth Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Mr. W. T. Bowden, of Granville county, N. C., has invented an important apparatus for curing tobacco, by the use of which much time and money may be saved.

In consequence of the recent dry spell the waters of the Tar have receded to such a degree that the steamers have failed to make any trips for the past week.

The young ladies of Wilmington have reorganized their Archery Clubs for the Spring campaign and are now busily engaged each afternoon in trying to obliterate the bull's eye.

Raleigh News: On Friday, at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Rail Road, at Company Shops, Hon. W. A. Smith resigned his position as President of the road, giving as his reason for so doing, pressing private affairs. A meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on the 14th prox., at Salisbury, to elect his successor.

The New Postage Law.

There is an error prevailing in certain quarters in regard to the new postage law. It seems to be an impression among some of our exchanges that the clause prohibiting the transmission of free mail matter was stricken out and failed to become a law. This is a mistake. The Postoffice Gazette for April, which we presume is standard authority, calls attention of publishers to the fact that after the 30th of June, the new arrangement goes into effect, which puts an end to free exchanges among newspapers. The law is attached to the appropriation bill for the Postoffice Department, and is given and commented on by the Gazette as follows:

Provided, That all laws and parts of laws permitting the transmission by mail of any free matter whatever be, and the same are hereby, repealed from and after June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-three. [Approved, March 3, 1873.]

This law will exclude all exchanges between publishers, and weekly newspapers which are printed in the county where delivered, from free circulation. Regular postage must be paid, as provided for other matter of this class. From and after the 30th of June, then, newspapers and periodicals now sent free will be subject to the following quarterly rates of postage:

Not exceeding 4 ounces in weight, sent to any part of the United States: Weekly, 5 cents; semi-weekly, 11 cents; tri-weekly 15 cents; six times a week, 30 cents; daily, 35 cents. Exceeding 4 ounces and not exceeding 8 ounces, 10, 20, 30, and 70 cents. Exceeding 8 ounces and not exceeding 12 ounces, 15, 30, 45, 50 cents, and \$1.05. Exceeding 12 ounces and not exceeding 16 ounces, 20, 40, 60, \$1.20, and \$1.40.—Ed. News

As there seems to be, from what we can learn, some very unjust imputations thrown upon us for what we said, in our issue of the 5th inst., about what we believed the disease, then prevailing in Shelby, to be, and as the statement has been denied by several parties, we are now prepared to say, that upon consultation with friends, and one of the most skillful physicians in this country, we can now assert positively, that the disease with which the young men, Messrs. Priestner and McGowan, died, was meningitis, as we first stated. We learn that Dr. Brevard, of Lincoln, who has had a great deal of practice and experience with the disease, and who was sent for when the disease was prevailing in Shelby, also says that it was meningitis, but not cerebro spinal meningitis. Who has ever said that it was "cerebro spinal" meningitis? Have we not a right to our opinion, though hosts may be arrayed against and believe contrary to us? We can substantiate by certificates from the physicians above alluded to what we have heretofore and do again in this article assert, in regard to said disease being meningitis.—Shelby Banner.

Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, who succeeds Gen. Canby in the campaign against the Modoc Indians, is an eminently fit and proper man to butcher the redskins. He is the same individual who killed Gen. Nelson in a private brawl during the war, and who caused the massacre of negroes at Ebenezer Creek, near Savannah, where men, women and children were cruelly murdered. It is more than likely that he would not hesitate to scalp an Indian, or roast him at the stake. And then if he should accidentally get near enough to be scalped by Capt. Jack, there is scarcely an officer whose death would not be more regretted.

The Way They Legislate in Pennsylvania.

Just before the recent adjournment of the Pennsylvania Legislature Mr. Brockway offered a resolution appointing a committee to invite Hon. A. K. McClure and the balance of the Liberal Republican party to address the House on the corruptions of all the political parties in existence." The resolution was agreed to. Messrs. Brockway, Joseph and Titterton were appointed the committee, and proceeded in quest of Senator McClure. He was soon found and escorted into the hall. As he entered, the members of the House rose and greeted him and the committee by whom he was escorted, with a volley of paper missiles, consisting of a general assortment of all the Legislative documents of the session, in addition to cigar boxes, newspapers, and large printed bills of lila.

After running the gauntlet the entire length of the hall the Senator took his place upon the Speaker's stand amid applause, which was half earnest and half jeering. He addressed the members as follows:

Mr. Speaker and: Commissioners of the State of Pennsylvania: I thank you for the distinction you have conferred upon me by your invitation to address you on the subject of reform. I know of no other body of men, either of the present or past, that needs instructions on the necessity of both public and private morality so much as the House of Representatives of this State now before me [laughter], or that has so broadly and deeply experimented in the line of individual and official profligacy. [Laughter and applause.] I am not surprised, however, that it is so, when I consider that of the members serving in this House from my immediate locality many are not even nominated, and few, if any, were reelected. [Shouts of laughter.] I sent you reform bills which cost me many days of anxious thought and labor to perfect; but you danced not when I piped to you, neither did you weep responsive to my mournings over the degeneracy of the body politic. I must admit, however, that you were prompt executioners, for every bill that looked toward reform was negatived, with a yell as fast as the rules would allow. But in political, as often in moral and religious cycles, the darkest hour is just before the dawn of day, and it is gratifying that after you have consummated all the harm you can possibly inflict upon the State, you have by a unanimous resolution called for a confessor. [Laughter.] It was well to pause thus, just for the sake of novelty or reference, so that when the tempest breaks you can point to this becoming act of contrition for the wrongs done to your constituents and Commonwealth. [Applause and sarcastic shouts.] Most of you who have for the past three months been serving in the places to which other persons were elected by the people, have discounted the retributive wave of popular reprobation by creating offices by legislative enactments, to which you hope to retire, and those unprovided for, hope to be placed on the indefinite pay-roll of the pasters and folders of the House, in accordance with the prevalent custom here to pension decayed statesmen. [Shouts of laughter.] That you seek liberal counsels to have good seed sown in the chaos of virtue that surrounds you is a hopeful sign of the times, and that if you do not cheat us more than \$0,000 in Philadelphia next fall the places that know you now will know most of you no more forever. [Laughter.] But I turn to the faint silver lining on the deep cloud of your record. One act of this House gladdened the hearts of the whole people of the State and reinspired hope throughout the length and breadth of the Commonwealth. I refer to your vote, in the midst of disorder that at Philadelphia fire would be called a riot, on Monday evening last, fixing an early day for your final adjournment. [Laughter and applause.] I have heard of no citizen of the State who did not heartily approve of that act. [Laughter.] I am happy to point to it as the oasis in the withered desert that you have made about you, and to accord you credit for it.— Hoping, gentlemen, if I may be pardoned the use of the term [laughter], that the length of your lives may correspond with the measure of your virtues, better men than yourselves, I bid you good-night.

The Senator retired amid roaring applause and a liberal shower of paper balls.

THE WAR IN CUBA.

The telegrams from Havana give assurance that the colonial war against the authority of Spain is far from ended. Official despatches informed the government in Havana of the occurrence of a severe battle between the insurgent forces, under command of Calixto Garcia, and the troops of the Republic on the 15th inst.— Gen. Biquelme reported that 21 insurgents and four Spaniards were killed and 13 Spaniards wounded. The number of insurgents killed, if it is stated correctly, indicates that there must have been a good many rebels present in the fight.—N. Y. Herald.

The legal status of cotton "futures" has got into the courts. The question was raised last week before United States District Judge Busted, in Montgomery, Alabama, on a petition to force a party into bankruptcy. The party pleaded that it was illegal consideration, the contract being for cotton and founded on what is called "futures." The judge instructed the jury that if they believed from the evidence there was to be no actual delivery of the cotton, defendant had committed no act of bankruptcy. The jury brought in a verdict for defendant. The plaintiffs will appeal to higher courts. This involves the whole question for losses on futures.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE OBSERVER.]

From the American Press Association.

By the Southern and Atlantic Line.

NOON DISPATCHES.

War on the Beer Men.

"FRANKFORT ON THE MAIN," April 22.—A riot occurred in this city yesterday, in opposition to the beer sellers, which at one time threatened serious consequences. The mob attacked several breweries and many of the public houses, destroying furniture and throwing liquor into the streets. The disturbance was finally quelled by the military, but not till many houses were badly damaged.

Spain.

MADRID, April 22.—Information received here states that Terrades is being subjected to a siege by the Carlists who are attacking the town, in large force. The Carlists having invested the city of Figuras, the inhabitants of Lajunguera have gone to the assistance of the Alcade of that city to strengthen the garrison and assist in defeating the insurgents.

Suppressing the Slave Trade.

CALCUTTA, April 22.—The negotiations of Sir Bartlet Freere for the suppression of the slave trade on the African coast, and the Eastern Gulf, have been successful. The Sultan of Muscat and the Chiefs of the Arab tribes bordering on the Gulf, have signed an anti-slavery treaty. It is believed that this example will be followed by numerous other chiefs of the adjoining petty principalities, where the slave trade still exists.

The Murderer of Fisk.

NEW YORK, April 22.—The case of Stokes is before the general term of the Supreme Court to-day for argument on the bill of exceptions. The argument of his counsel has so far consisted in a motion to delay the hearing.

Fire in New York.

NEW YORK, April 22.—About 5 o'clock A. M., to-day, a fire was discovered in the building of the Emigrant Industrial Institution, 51 Chamber Street, occupied by some lawyers, and business men. The fire speedily attained alarming proportions, and it was with the utmost difficulty that the fire department prevented its spreading over the Block. The upper part of the premises were completely gutted and the roof was almost totally destroyed. The loss on the building is estimated at \$5,000, and the general law firms loss from one to two thousand each. Many valuable papers were destroyed, or irretrievably damaged.

Probabilities.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The storm Centre in the Ohio Valley moves during the rest of Wednesday Eastward into Ohio, and a second barometric depression develops in North Carolina and Virginia. For the Southern States increasing Southerly winds, and possibly light rains, except in Florida.

NEW YORK MARKET.

NEW YORK, April 22.—WALL STREET.—Money higher at 1-64, and interest. Exchange higher; 31. Sixty days, 92. Light Gold, 174; has sold at 174. Governments firm, stock steady. Cotton quiet, steady; low middling 188, middling 198.

NIGHT DISPATCHES.

Robbery on the Waters.

BROOKLYN, April 22.—This morning four persons boarded a bark lying at the foot of Washington Street. Three entered the cabin where the wife and children of Capt. Ford were sleeping and commenced ransacking. The dog began barking and Mrs. Ford awaking and seeing the thieves screamed. The captain, who was sleeping in an adjoining cabin, came out, when one of the thieves presented a pistol at his head and threatened to blow his brains out if he made any resistance. He therefore remained quiet; and the thieves took \$70 worth of jewelry and other property, leaving in a small boat, and wishing the captain a very good morning.

Edward S. Stokes.

NEW YORK, April 22.—The case of Stokes came up in the Supreme Court to-day. On motion for an order to compel the District Attorney for the people to join issue in an assignment of error in the facts in accordance with the practice of the court, the District Attorney contended that the practice is absolute. After a lengthy argument, the Court took the papers and stated that the decision on that point would be rendered to-morrow, when the main argument will proceed.

Henry Ward Beecher on South Carolina.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Henry Ward Beecher, in a characteristic sermon at Plymouth Church on Sunday last, on South Carolina for an illustration, said that he did not know on earth a more pitiable sight than South Carolina. It was at one time the richest and proudest of the States. It inaugurated those ideas which led to the disasters of the war, and the cleansing of the continent. The people of South Carolina had risked and sacrificed everything for their principles, and their households are reduced to beggary; and yet, in the plenitude of their sorrow, they would take back no particle of their faith in the cause.

A Leap-Hole for Tweed.

NEW YORK, April 22.—It is said a clause has just been discovered in section 119 of the new charter by which it is thought possible that Tweed, Conolly, and others of the Tammany Ring, may escape from the criminal prosecution begun against them.

MARKETS.

NEW YORK, April 22.—Flour, for State and Western, is dull and in buyers' favor; Southern flour is steady with fair demand; \$6.00@6.15 for common to fair extra. Wheat firm, with only moderate demand. Cotton steady, with fair demand; low middling 188; middling 198.

The situation in financial circles to-day is marked by general dullness. Money market hardening. Gold was weak to-day, prices ranging from 117 1/2 to 117 3/4, until just before closing room, when gold sold freely at 117 1/2 to 117 3/4, finally closing at 117 1/2.

Governments closed firm. Southern State bonds dull and steady; Tenn. six and new 7 1/2, old 7 1/2; Virginia six and old 42, new 45; Consolidated bonds 83; Deferred 13 1/2; North Carolina funding tax, 1866, 17; special tax 14; South Carolina sixes 25; Stocks closed quiet and generally steady. Galveston—Cotton quiet; good ordinary 15 1/2; receipts 737.

New Orleans—Demand fair, prices steady; middlings 18 1/2. Savannah—Dull; middlings 18 1/2. Charleston—Quiet; low middling 18. Norfolk—Firm; low middling 17 1/2. Memphis—Quiet; low middling 17 1/2.

Telegraphic Notes.

The epizootic has nearly subsided in Arizona. The Bull's Head Bank of New York, will resume business to-day. The sale of Southern Bonds in New York Monday, reached \$200,000, at steady prices. The larger part of the town of Conistota, N. Y., has been burned, loss \$80,000.

A party of negroes in Salt Lake, fought over a game of cards Monday. Two were shot and one razored. Most of the striking gas men in New York, are working at other occupations.

Two of the worst bands of Apaches, have surrendered unconditionally. They have defied the Government for twenty years, but two hundred of their warriors being killed last campaign dispirited them.

The agents of the White Star Line are out in a lengthy letter, showing that there were provisions on board the Atlantic sufficient to last for 33 days, and that there was also considerable margin over the amount of coal necessary for the voyage.

A Letter From Judge Orr.

The Columbia Carolinian says: Through the courtesy of Col. L. D. Childs, to whom it was addressed, we have been permitted to publish the following extract from a letter of Judge Orr, now Minister to the Court of St. Petersburg. The letter is dated St. Petersburg, March 24, 1873. After speaking of his improving health, of which his many friends in the State, will be glad to hear of his introduction to the Emperor and to the other Magistrates of the Court and foreign Ministers, and his pleasant reception by all the Judges, gives the following chatty description of St. Petersburg:

The city is a very fine one, has about six hundred thousand inhabitants, and many superb public buildings. The most prominent of these is Isaac's Church, and is said to have cost fifty or sixty millions of dollars. It is built entirely of metal, stone and marble, and is of princely dimensions; on the top it has four small and one large tower; the latter being one hundred feet in diameter. All of these are covered with gold plate, which has been exposed to all kinds of weather for a great while without showing the least discoloration. Within it is most superbly decorated, and has many thousands of dollars worth of diamonds and precious stones in it, besides having a small model of the church made of pure gold, weighing 200 pounds. There are also eight of the finest Mosaic pictures in the world, three times the living size of the persons they represent. The Emperor's palace is the largest in the world, and it is said that six thousand people stay in it, that is live there. They have elevators, &c., for the convenience of the inmates.

I am very truly yours, JAMES L. ORR.

MAJOR HODGES, THE PARDONED DEFAULTER.

I witnessed a singular spectacle on Pennsylvania avenue the other day; that of a gentleman gayly dressed and driving a fast team, and evidently in excellent spirits.— Yet this gentleman is just out of the Albany Penitentiary, and he, only a short time ago, stole hundreds of thousands of dollars from the treasury. It was Major Hodges, the thief who, by the interference of the President, was not punished for taking a vast amount of the people's money. He is warmly welcomed by many of his old friends—which shows that the American people do not care much for theft in itself, so that it is done in a respectable and gigantic fashion. There can be no question as to the facts in this case: Major Hodges robbed the treasury of tens of thousands of dollars, and he is not punished, simply because his social standing was high. If he had stolen a watch or diamond pin he would still be in the penitentiary, but to steal a hundred thousand dollars is a safe and respectable crime, and that is the lesson his life teaches to the boys of America.— Wash. Correspondent Springfield Republican.

A Mississippi man, who is Quartermaster General, private secretary to the Governor and Circuit Clerk of Bolivar county, is trying to be elected Commissioner of Immigration.

The Boston Post says that "not one third of our army officers are graduates of the Military Academy." No, but two-thirds of the least skillful of them are.

DESTRUCTION OF SAN SALVADOR.

LARGE LOSS OF LIFE.—PANAMA, April 20.—The destruction of San Salvador is confirmed. A population of 40,000 were ruined. Every city within a radius of twenty miles suffered more or less. The shocks continued from the 4th to the 19th of March, when the climax took place. Fortunately such citizens as had not left the city were living in the plazas, hence the loss of life, though great, is much diminished. The hotel de Plague, and the Government palace only are left standing. The loss is estimated at \$12,000,000. The aggregate loss of life is 5,000.

The Department of Art of the Vienna Exposition will present a fine display. England sends paintings valued at two millions. France contributes five hundred paintings, and Italy three hundred statues. Ekblot's rate show cases have already arrived from all parts of Europe. America is behind in this respect.

New Advertisements.

SCHOOL NOTICE.

The undersigned having employed an assistant, is prepared to increase the number of her Pupils, and respectfully solicits the patronage of Charlotte. The Laws of the Free Common School have been compiled with. A Teacher of Music is also connected with the School. MRS. M. L. CLARKSON, April 23-1 t.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, GASTON COUNTY.

Joseph Crow and D. C. Beam, vs. The McNary & Claffin Manufacturing Company. Superior Court.

To the Sheriff of Gaston County—Greeting: YOU are hereby commanded in the name of the State of North Carolina, to summon the McNary & Claffin Manufacturing Company to appear at the next term of the Superior Court of the county of Gaston at the Court House in Dallas, on the 5th Monday after the 4th Monday in March, 1873, then and there to answer the complaint of Joseph Crow and D. C. Beam, Plaintiffs in this suit; and you are further commanded to notify the said McNary & Claffin Manufacturing Company, that if they fail to answer the said complaint within the time specified, the Plaintiffs will take judgment against them for the sum of Three Hundred and nine dollars and ninety-eight cents, with interest from January 1st, 1873, and for costs of action. Witness E. H. Withers, Clerk of the Superior Court of Gaston County, at Oule in Dallas, this the 28th day of March, 1873.

E. H. WITHERS, Clerk Superior Court.

And the above named defendants are notified that the plaintiffs in above action have obtained from said Court a warrant of attachment returnable at the same time and place, which said warrant has been served on the Richmond & Danville Rail Road Company, who were said defendants. JONES & JOHNSTON, Attorneys for Plaintiffs, apt 23 oaw8w.

W. R. BURWELL & CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,

SPRINGS' CORNER, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

BACON! BACON!!

A Large lot of very superior North Carolina Bacon, Hams, Sides and Shoulders at STEPHENSON, MACAULAY & CO'S. apt 22

BACON, BACON!

100,000 pounds C R Sides, 25,000 lbs S C Hams, 5,000 lbs Leaf Lard, Flour, Corn and Oats, constantly on hand. Apply at Nat Gray's, opposite Presbyterian Church, of T. H. MEANS. apt 22 tf

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

There will be a call meeting of the Board of Aldermen at their Hall this afternoon at 4 o'clock. F. NASH, apt 22 1t

CABBAGE

AND not Kraut, our Kraut has played out 80 heads of fine, sound, white cabbage, just in from the mountains, and are very nice when eoked with our excellent country bacon. Also fine lot of country hams just received at apt 22 B. N. SMITHS.

For Sale.

DESIRABLE Residence for sale. My house and lot, nearly opposite the residence of Col. Wm Johnston, on Trade Street. Apply to JACOB DULS. apr 2-1w