

Any measure which in this matter will place all men upon the same footing is much to be desired, not only because it will prevent the honest poor man paying more than his just proportion of taxes, but still more so for the reason that it will remove in great measure the temptation which the present system places in the way of people of all classes. From the reading—rather cursory it is true—which we have been able to give this bill of Mr. Alexander, we are strongly disposed to think that it furnishes the remedy for evils under which we now labor in this regard. The bill, after describing at great length and with the utmost minuteness, every species of property liable to taxation, provides for the abolition of the present assessors and the election by the people of district assessors, for districts covering not more territory than the present townships. These are to leave with each property-owner within their respective districts, blank forms upon which such property-owner shall make out a list of all his taxable property, these lists to be revised by the district assessors, and all to be sent in to the county commissioners by a given time. The next step after this is the annual meeting of a county board of equalization, which is to be composed of the county commissioners and four citizens appointed by the county commissioners—these to meet on the Wednesday after the first Monday in August of each year, to hear complaints and to equalize the value of all real and personal property, moneys and credits.

In each town of more than two thousand inhabitants there shall be an annual board for the equalization of the value of real and personal property, money and credits in such town, to be composed of as many members as there are senatorial districts in the State, there to be elected at the same time and in the same manner as members of the General Assembly. This is to be known as a decennial board—to meet in Raleigh once in ten years and the members thereof to receive the same pay as is given members of the General Assembly during the time they are in session.

We have not undertaken to do more than present the faintest outline of this bill. It is a pamphlet of sixty-two pages and in an article of this length we could not do more than convey to the reader a vague idea of its general character and purposes. To be thoroughly understood it must be carefully read and studied in its entirety. We repeat our expressions of approval of it, and trust that the General Assembly will in its wisdom see fit to adopt at least the main features of the bill, if not the bill entire as it now stands printed.

FRANKLIN THINGS PROPOSED.
The Wilmington Star thus threatens the General Assembly:

If the present Legislature undertakes to carry out the plans of the railroad schemers, and to thus destroy old and important lines of railroads as well as to injure the only commercial city in the State, and all this to benefit a few clamorous foreigners who have no real interest in North Carolina beyond what they can make out of her, then it will pave the way to some astounding results in 1880 in the Cape Fear section.

The idea of the Cape Fear section going back on the Democratic party is one too frightful to contemplate. For New Hanover to fall to roll up its usual Democratic majority next year would be a result fraught with disaster to the party throughout the State. If the Star really thinks that there is any danger of its section reversing the handsome majority by which it returned Col. Waddell to Congress last year, then must we strike hands with our Cape Fear contemporary and surrender all our hopes of western greatness. The building of a railroad is as the smallest dust of the balance as compared with the continued supremacy of the Democratic party—which is to say the continued fealty of the entire Cape Fear country, the former being contingent upon the latter.

In a fine article, written from Washington to the New York Sun, "H. B. S." discusses the deterioration of the Senate, and exhibiting the men of to-day in the light of the illustrious past, but a poor show is made for the statesmen of the present generation. While showing that the Senate which will go in on the 4th of March next will be superior in intellectual capacity and acquaintance with public affairs to the present, the writer maintains that even it will not compare in strength with the Senates which sat in the earlier days of the republic; and speaking individually of the great men of the past, the correspondent thus refers to one whose memory is yet green in the heart of every North Carolina-loving North Carolinian:

But the wisest man from the South was Nathaniel Bacon, of North Carolina. Entering the House at the opening of the second Congress under Washington, he was three times its Speaker. Transferred to the Senate at the close of the war with England, he was often its presiding officer. On suitable occasions he delivered short, weighty speeches. Mr. Benton testifies that he never said a foolish thing in his life. When he arrived at the age of three score and ten he voluntarily retired from the halls of the capitol, where his navy blue suit, cut in the style of the revolutionary fathers, had been a familiar spectacle for thirty-seven consecutive years—the longest service in the annals of Congress.

A just tribute to one of the wise men of the republic; and it may be said that if there were a wiser in his day, it is perhaps that other man of North Carolina birth, whose name is also mentioned in this paragraph—Thomas H. Benton.

BURGAW AS AN ENEMY TO THE NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM.

Burgaw wants to be incorporated. We hope the Legislature will gratify our neighbors. We can stand two cities in this vicinity.—Wilmington Star.

Really, this is not "the North Carolina system." It is very wrong in Burgaw to wish the Legislature to give it a charter. In truth it ought not to have one. Some capitalists or foreign company might come in and build up the place with their own money, and it might thus be able to rival its "sister city" and do "some business" which Wilmington would otherwise get. It is very unparliamentary in the people of Burgaw to ask such a favor, slight as it is. The good citizens of Wilmington should hold meetings and send delegations to Raleigh to see that the Legislature does not pass an act the results of which will be so disastrous to North Carolina's chief port. Long live Wilmington! Down with Burgaw!

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.—We again welcome this publication to our table. It continues to grow with each issue in interest and popular value. The contributors to the current number are Paul H. Hayne, W. H. Babcock, James C. Lamb, Espy W. H. Williams, W. C. Johnston, George Davis, W. W. Alexander and M. E. Hyams. This number contains the fifth and sixth chapters of "Carnelia," and chapters eighth and ninth of "John Davidson's Wife," a continued story, the scene of which is laid partly in Charlotte. In addition to the articles included, and shorter sketches by others, whose names are given above, this copy of the magazine contains articles on current subjects, notes and opinions and paragraphs of interest. The South Atlantic, published at Wilmington by Mrs. C. W. Harris, at \$3 per annum is a credit to North Carolina and Southern literature. We feel a deep interest in its welfare and trust that our people may continue to give it a liberal patronage.

President Hayes has whipped Senator Conkling out on the New York custom house appointments, the Senate having confirmed the President's nomination over Conkling's opposition. We are glad that it is so—not that we love Hayes more but Conkling less. This defeat takes the top-official Senator from New York off at the knees and scores another victory for the moderate wing of the Republican party.

We print on our fourth page this morning a very excellent and excellent well written article from the Newbernian in reference to the late convention of Northern settlers in this city. The editor of the Newbernian, Mr. S. M. Carpenter, is himself a Northern man, who has settled in the South since the war.

The refinement of sarcasm has been reached when New Hanover county threatens to withdraw its support from the great Democratic party of North Carolina.

Civil War at Cabul.

LONDON, February 4.—A dispatch from Lahore to the Times says an official telegram from Jellalabad reports that civil strife has broken out at Cabul. Yakob Khan is shelling Chandol, the Kizilbash portion of the city. Numerous sirdars have left Cabul with their families.

Harridge's Successor Named.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Feb. 4.—The first congressional district convention to-day to nominate a candidate for Congress for the unexpired term of Harridge. On the twentieth ballot the name of Col. W. T. Thompson was drawn; Hon. W. B. Fleming, of Liberty county, was unanimously nominated.

All for Love.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 4.—Martha Collins killed her brother-in-law, Jonathan Drake, at Buckner, Jackson county, Mo., on Sunday. The lady had been receiving attentions from a man who was objectionable to her family. Drake forbade him to come to the house. The girl hearing of it, shot Drake through the heart.

The Davenport Investigation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—The Davenport investigation was resumed. The witnesses for the defense of the commissioner, principally federal marshals, chiefs and deputies, were examined at length.

A London dispatch says the council of control and the associated chambers of agriculture have resolved to memorialize the privy council in favor of the abolition of the States under the cattle disease act.

A Subsidy Deal Proposed—Conflicting Reports in the Butler-Corbin Case—Bayard Buckles Edmunds—Stormy Debate in the House—Refused to Reduce the Army—Mackey and Wallace Testifying Before the Teller's—The Tilden Investigation Committee To-day.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3. SENATE.—Mr. Maxey, of Texas, from the committee on post-offices and post-roads, reported an amendment proposed by that committee to the post-office appropriation bill, so as to establish a steamship line between New York and Rio by way of Norfolk, Va.; and another line between New Orleans and Rio by way of Galveston, Texas, and proposed a subsidy of \$150,000 per annum for each line. Referred to the committee on appropriations.

Cameron, of Wisconsin, from the committee on civil service, and elections, submitted a majority report of the committee, declaring that David T. Corbin has been duly elected Senator from South Carolina, and is entitled to his seat.

Hill, of Georgia, from the committee, submitted a minority report, signed by the Democratic members, in favor of M. C. Butler, the present incumbent of the office. Ordered that both reports be printed and placed on the calendar. Senator Butler returned to Washington last night.

Mr. Matthews, of Ohio, from the committee on foreign relations, reported back a number of petitions in regard to claims of citizens of the United States against the government of Nicaragua, together with a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of five Senators to sit during recess and inquire into the claims of citizens of the United States against the government of Nicaragua for indemnification for the lives of relatives, imprisonment, etc., and to what extent the government of Nicaragua should make compensation therefor. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, from the committee on finance, reported a bill in favor of constructing a railroad in Texas to the Rio Grande, after which the Senate resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, being the resolution of Edmunds declaring the validity of the amendments to the fourth and fifteenth amendments to the constitution of the United States, and Bayard spoke, declaring that the first one to throw doubt upon the validity of the amendments was the Senator from Vermont (Edmunds). Edmunds followed in a speech of some length, after which White, of Maryland, obtained the floor, and will speak to-morrow.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to amend the act relating to the States marshal for the northern district of Alabama.

House.—The House in committee of the whole on the army appropriation bill. An amendment reducing the force of the army to 15,000 has been defeated by a large majority.

Quiet a stormy debate arose on an amendment offered by Cox, of New York, to reduce the army to 17,500 men, in the course of which Mr. Texas, charged the Democrats with being responsible for Custer's death, because of their miserable economy, which he stated appeared to be the only idea of statesmanship which the House possessed. The House rejected the amendment, and also another reducing it to 20,000. The vote was 66 yeas to 118 nays.

The House took a recess without further disposition of the bill.

To-night's session is for the consideration of the Mississippi levee bill.

COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS.

The Teller committee this morning examined Col. Mackey, of South Carolina, in regard to the late election in that State, his testimony being to the effect that the Republicans were in North Carolina and Southern literature. We feel a deep interest in its welfare and trust that our people may continue to give it a liberal patronage.

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The Railroad Question Argued Before the Committee—Captain Robinson to be Lieutenant-Governor—Senator Vance to Lecture.

RALEIGH, February 4th.—The Charlotte and Wilmington delegations appeared to-night before the legislative joint committee on internal improvements. Speeches were made in favor of granting the extension of charter asked for by the Raleigh & Augusta Air-Line Railroad Company, by Chas. R. Jones and R. P. Waring, of Charlotte, and against it by Messrs. Stedman and Currie, of Wilmington. The committee has not yet made its report, but the impression here is that the bill will pass. A hard fight is, however, being made against it by the people of Wilmington. Two delegations from that city are now here using their influence against the measure.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR ROBINSON.

The Democratic members of the Senate held a caucus in their chamber to-night, and nominated for president of the Senate Capt. James L. Robinson, of Macon. The other Senators balloted for were Messrs. W. A. Graham, of Lincoln, J. I. Scales, of Guilford, and W. T. Dortch, of Wayne.

VANCE'S LAST DAY AS GOVERNOR.

Gov. Vance retires from the gubernatorial chair to-morrow, and Hon. Thos. J. Jarvis will be at once inaugurated as Governor. At the same time, Capt. Robinson will be installed as Lieutenant-Governor.

THE SCATTERED NATION.

By special request Gov. Vance will deliver his lecture "The Scattered Nation" before the members of the General Assembly in the hall of the House of Representatives Friday night. J.

INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS ITEMS.

Embarrassments and Failures, Foreign and Domestic.

LONDON, February 4.—Unless the masters or the men yield, a strike in the engineering trade in London will commence on the 7th. The amalgamated society of engineers took final action last night in favor of resistance to the proposed reduction of wages. The strike will include the engineers, boiler makers, pattern makers, steam engine makers and iron mongers, workers at the eighteen establishments which have given notice of reduction. These include only a small proportion of the employers in the trade. None of the railway companies have joined in the movement, and many large private firms have not.

Kendall & Co's bank, of Helston, known as the Union Bank of Helston, has suspended.

PATERSON, N. J., February 4.—The warpers in the silk mill of Dexter Lambert, to the number of 34, have gone out on a demand for higher wages, and serious embarrassment in the operations of the mill is feared.

BOSTON, February 4.—The firm of Fenno & Long, stock brokers, is financially embarrassed, but to what extent has not been ascertained.

UTICA, February 4.—The Utica Daily Republican suspended publication this morning.

Virginia's Public Debt—Proposition from the Bondholders.

At the conference in Richmond, Va., on Saturday last, between a sub-committee of the joint committee of finance and the representatives of the bondholders of the United States of America, and Isaac H. Carrington, representing the council of foreign bondholders, of London, submitted a proposition regarding the creation of registered and coupon bonds, dated January 1, 1879, payable in forty years and bearing interest at 3 per cent. for five years, 4 per cent. for ten years, and 5 per cent. for the remainder of the term. The proposition was to be subject to the ratification of the State. Mr. S. G. Ward, who represents Baring Brothers in the interest of the sterling bondholders, does not join in the proposition. After a reading of the bill remarks were made by Maj. Carrington, McCulloch, Ward, of the Baring house in London Mr. Fry, of New York, Mr. Moffett, Mr. Biscoe, Mr. Barbour, Gen. Anderson and others. The bill is now before the joint committee, and the result of their deliberations will be made known to both houses to-day or early this week. Mr. McCulloch, in the course of his remarks, gave two pieces of advice, as follows: "If the debt is not to be repaid, do not keep it before the public; let it rest; and, second, do not run down your lands; and do not speak of the poverty of your State; but be hopeful and cheerful, and the future will be bright."

The Richmond Dispatch considers the proposition of the bondholders a liberal one, allowing the State to pay the smallest rates until times are better and the larger rates when the people are more able to bear a heavier taxation—the effect being to relieve the State of \$900,000 per annum for the first five years; \$600,000 per annum for the next twenty-five years, and of \$300,000 per annum for the last ten years. The State will have the right to redeem any of her bonds at the end of ten years.

The Richmond Whig, on the other hand, after analyzing the bill, says: "We will not do it! The people of Virginia demand relief—and this bill is offered them! They ask for bread, and a stone is proposed. The legislator who votes for it—may, he who favors it, or even remotely assents to it, be damned politically in Virginia forever."

Threatening Attitude of Ohio Miners.

CINCINNATI, February 4.—A dispatch from Cynthiana says the striking miners threaten violence to any one attempting to work the mines until their demands are acceded to. Last night a number of miners who had been down on the mines were assaulted upon coming out, and would have been badly beaten but for the intervention of the police. The town is full of drunken miners and further trouble is anticipated.

A Ship on Fire.

LONDON, February 4.—The flagship Duke of Wellington is on fire at Portsmouth. The signals are flying and the alarm signal guns are being fired. Tugs have gone to her assistance.

The Wilkesboro Witness has been shown the foot of a large catamount, which was killed in the Brushy Mountains a few days ago by a party of young men. They killed two, male and female in one day.

In speaking of the proposed visit of the editress Miss Annie Maria Barnes, to Wilmington, the Star local man carries his in the serene and yellow leaf, but there's lots of gallantry in Wilmington. 'Twon't do. Stand up to the rack, old gentleman; your age won't exempt you from service.

The Wilmington Star says the latest intelligence from the bark Success, from Allentown, and recently wrecked south of Kitty Hawk, is that the Baker Wrecking Company, of Norfolk, had stripped her and carried to that port such things as they were able. The cargo is scattered upon the beach for a distance of fifty miles, and the vessel is a total loss.

The Wilmington Review says that on Sunday morning about 3:30 o'clock, one of the female members of Mr. J. W. Moody's family, was awakened by the dense smoke which filled her room. She wakened the family, who had barely time to escape in their night clothes. The alarm of fire was sounded, but so rapidly did the flames consume the building that it was too far gone to be saved. The fire originated in the store attached to the dwelling of Mr. Moody and owned by Mr. Christian Hussell. The first building consumed was that occupied by Mr. Moody as a store and dwelling. A one-story building occupied by C. H. Strode, was next destroyed, and at the time of the burning of the Strode building, the Brooklyn market house caught fire and was soon destroyed. A building opposite the market, owned by Allan Evans, and occupied by Carrie McKoy, was next ignited, and a house east of Strode's residence soon followed suit, but the fire on these two dwellings was extinguished by the fire department. The property was partially insured. Mr. Hussell's loss will be quite heavy.

Sentence of Election Judges.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 4.—In the United States circuit court to-day, Judge Bond sentenced Thomas Perry, Robert B. Perry and Wm. S. Wilkinson, judges of election in the eighth district of Ann Arundel county, who were yesterday found guilty of irregularity at the congressional election, to pay a fine of \$50 each and the cost of the suit.

For Sale.

FOR SALE. About fifteen thousand pounds of Corn Bran for sale, at 50 cents per hundred, at the residence of JOHN KIRKLAND'S MILLS, Feb. 2—d.w. West Charlotte.

LOCKADE TOBACCO.

FOR SALE. Having purchased a nice line of Tobacco, at the Government price, I am prepared to offer inducements to buy. Call early. THOS. H. GAITHER, Nov 7

WELL IMPROVED.

CITY PROPERTY FOR SALE. Any person desiring to purchase a well improved City Lot, House with nine rooms, and modern conveniences, fine well water, brick kitchen, within five minutes walk of the public square, can be accommodated by applying at THIS OFFICE.

1000 FEE SIMPLE DEEDS.

MOST APPROVED FORM. Must be Printed and For Sale at the OBSERVER OFFICE.

FOR SALE.

The Bourgeois and Minton type on which this paper was lately printed. It was made by the old Johnson type foundry, of Philadelphia, and was not discarded because no longer fit for use, but because it became necessary to use a different style of type. It will do good service for several years to come. It will be sold in lots to suit purchasers, in lots of 50 to 1,000, with or without cases. Address OBSERVER, No. 65 Charlotte, N. C.

Miscellaneous.

FOR A FIRST CLASS. Smoke call and get a Specier, at LEROY DAVIDSON'S.

\$200 IN CASH WILL PURCHASE.

A Power Printing Press, Guernsey make, old style, size of bed 20 1/2 inches. Was in use until replaced by a new one. Address J. C. BAILEY, Fort Enterprise and Mountaineer, Greenville, S. C. Jan 14th

10 CASES HUNTDY JANOS.

Mineral Water: 10 baskets (50 jugs each) Coplinaris, just received. Jan 30 WILSON & BURWELL.

WE HAVE.

Just received a fresh supply of superior Tea. Jan 30 WILSON & BURWELL.

BUIST'S GARDEN SEED.

A large supply of these popular seed, just received. Jan 22

WE ARE ALWAYS READY.

And willing to show goods whether or not you are ready to buy. L. R. WEISTON & CO. de 13

CLOVER.

ORCHARD GRASS. LUCERNE. WHITE CLOVER.

Ground and Cut Glass Bottles, the handsomest in the market. The latest styles of Perfume Boxes, including some novelties, which will pay you to call and examine. Jan 30 WILSON & BURWELL.

FANCY GOODS.

Ground and Cut Glass Bottles, the handsomest in the market. The latest styles of Perfume Boxes, including some novelties, which will pay you to call and examine. Jan 30 WILSON & BURWELL.

FINE FLORENCE and CELLULOID TOILET Cases.

French Plate, Hand Mirrors, Russia Leather Pocket Books; also a full stock of English and American Tooth, Hair and Nail Brushes. de 13 L. R. WEISTON & CO.

Tiery Stables.

NEW LIVERY STABLE.

If you want first-class Carriages, Phaetons, Buggies or Saddle Horses, go to the New Livery Stable.

If you want a Carriage and Baggage Wagon to meet arriving or departing trains, go to the New Livery Stable.

If you want your horses well fed and well groomed go to the New Livery Stable.

Careful drivers, promptness and reasonable prices are our motto. R. CHAMBERS & CO. MAY 25

AT THE CENTRAL HOTEL SALOON.

Cochrane keeps the best RYE WHISKEY, Standard Pure, Two Years Old.

FOR FINE WINES.

And Pure Liquors, Three Years Old, go to the New Livery Stable.

WE PAY.

Special attention to the retail trade, and all our Goods are warranted of the best quality. de 13 WILSON & BURWELL, Druggists.

DISOLUTION.

S. S. PEGRAM has withdrawn from the firm of PEGRAM & CO. All persons who owe the late firm, prior to February 15, 1879, must call and settle with PEGRAM & CO.

We will continue the Boot and Shoe business at the same stand as before, First National Bank Building, Charlotte, N. C.

February 2, 1879. Home and Democrats opp. PEGRAM & CO.

PROUDE'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

12 volumes \$15.00.

AUNT CHARLOTTE'S STORY.

Of English, French and Greek History.

Store and Hardware House for CHEAP HARDWARE.

OF ALL KINDS.

Buy four COOK STOVES from me, as I have 12 good reasons why they will do your work Quick and Easy, Cheap and Clean:

BECAUSE They are cheapest to buy.

BECAUSE They are best to use.

BECAUSE They bake evenly and quickly.

BECAUSE Their operation is perfect.

BECAUSE They always have a good draft.

BECAUSE They are made of the best material.

BECAUSE They roast perfectly.

BECAUSE They require but little fuel.

BECAUSE They are easily managed.

BECAUSE They are suited to all localities.

BECAUSE Every Stove is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

Boarding.

CALDWELL HOUSE, CALDWELL HOUSE, CALDWELL HOUSE, CALDWELL HOUSE.

Corner Tryon and Sixth Streets, Corner Tryon and Sixth Streets.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. CHARLOTTE, N. C.

S. P. CALDWELL, Proprietor.

This house is permanently established and offers all the conveniences and comforts of a first-class boarding house. Persons visiting the city will find it a pleasant home. Permanent boarders wanted. Can be furnished with rooms.

RATES—Per day, transient, \$1.25; per week, \$6.00. Regular—table, \$13.00; board and room per month, \$18.00. Jan 10

Holiday Goods.

WE GREAT BARGAINS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.