

BILLS CONCERNING THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD.

Mr. Brown, of Mecklenburg, has introduced in the House two bills in reference to the Western North Carolina Railroad. The first is to amend "an act to provide for the speedy completion of the Western North Carolina Railroad," ratified the 10th day of February, A. D. 1877, and concerning the appointment of State directors in said company.

The text of the bill is as follows: "The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact that an act to provide for the speedy completion of the Western North Carolina Railroad, and to amend an act in relation to the Western North Carolina Railroad, ratified March 13th, A. D. 1875, being chapter 105, acts 1875-77, be amended as follows: In the second section thereof, strike out these words: 'And that one director shall be appointed from each of the congressional districts and one from the State at large.'"

The effect of this bill would be to leave it with the Governor to appoint the State directors on this road from whatever part of the State he may elect, regardless of their residences, so far as relates to congressional districts. We do not apprehend that this bill will encounter any material opposition; certainly it should not. The Governor should be left free to choose his directors in this work in whatever district or districts he may find them, having only an eye to their qualifications, and their special adaptability to the services required of them.

The other bill, above referred to, proposes to amend the same chapter and section, as above, as follows: "That all of section 2, of said act, (chapter 105), in line 23, after the word 'compensation,' be and the same is hereby repealed."

By reference to the chapter, section and line, as noted, it will be seen that the remainder of the section after the word "compensation" is as follows: "Except ten cents per mile for the distance traveled from and to his home by the most direct usual route of travel to the place of meeting of the board of directors," and the effect of this bill will be to leave the directors to perform their duties without any compensation whatever.

The Raleigh News, referring to the introduction of these measures, characterizes the introducer as "the able and useful member from Mecklenburg," and adds: "These measures are well-timed and much needed."

HOW IT WAS IN THE OLDEN TIME.—Speaking of salaries, fees and retrenchment, a recurrence to the salaries paid our public officials in the earlier days of the State will be interesting just now. An Almanac for the year 1844 is before us and suggests a comparison. At that time John M. Morehead was Governor of North Carolina and his salary was \$2,000; that of his secretary was \$800 and fees; the Secretary of State received \$800 and fees; the treasurer \$1,500 and \$500 for a clerk; the comptroller \$1,000; the judges of the Supreme court—Ruffin, Gaston and Daniel—\$2,500 each, and the judges of the Superior Court \$1,750.

There is no questioning the fact that the salaries paid in 1844 commanded the services of just as able and upright men as those paid in 1876. How will the salaries proposed to be paid henceforth, under the Senate's retrenchment enactments, compare with those of '44? The question turns upon the purchasing power of a dollar then and a dollar now. Money then was not very much more valuable than now, and it is safe to assume that we are as economical as our ancestors. To be this is, we suppose, the goal of the ambition of the most cast-iron retrencher. To follow in the footsteps of the fathers is generally safe. Let us, however, not out-father the fathers.

FOR WHAT ABOUT A RAILROAD.

An associated press telegram, printed in THE OBSERVER yesterday, conveyed the information that the Grand Duke Nicholas, of Russia, has been banished on account of a pamphlet which he had written "in favor of the speedy construction of the Orenburg & Tashkend railway by way of Iara Turgal and Sir Darga river." If the Grand Duke had written in favor of building a railroad from Newton, Catawba county, to Rockingham, Richmond county, they would doubtless have beheld him. We do differently over here, however. When men manifest eccentricities of this sort we send them to the Legislature.

A vessel was seized by the government seventeen years ago, and the case has not yet been disposed of. The original claim was \$300,000—it is now \$300,000. It was brought up in one of the New York courts last week, and will probably be disposed of before the next centennial celebration.

It is not apprehended that the tobacco tax reduction will encounter any serious obstacle in the House. If not the reduction will go into operation on the 1st of May. The friends of the measure in the Senate endeavored to have the 1st of April fixed as the time, but were not quite able to secure their wishes.

A Georgia paper speaks tenderly of "the thrilling serial known as the Supreme Court decisions." We have given this thrilling serial the go-by this year. Our readers would rather have the same space devoted to good jokes.

The New French Cable.

LONDON, February 20.—A Paris dispatch to the Times says the new French cable company have under serious consideration the proposal of the Anglo-American cable for an understanding whereby competition between the two companies may be considerably reduced. (NOTE.—This is probably the revival of the former scheme for leasing one of the Anglo-American companies cable.) A syndicate has decided to offer \$1,600,000 of the new company's stock for public subscription.

Knocking at the Door.

LONDON, February 20.—About twenty deputies from East Roumelia and six from Macedonia are here claiming admission to the assembly, but they will probably be refused.

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

A DULLER DAY THAN WEDNESDAY.

The Army, the Postoffice and the Brazilian Subsidy Bills in the Senate. From Florida—The Army and the Inter-State Bills Before the Committees.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—SENATE.—Mr. Blaine, from the committee on appropriations, reported back the army appropriation bill, with amendments. Placed on the calendar. "Blaine gave notice that he would call it up for consideration at the earliest opportunity. The bill as reported from the committee is a bill to re-organize the army re-organization sections inserted by the House. The so-called 'Butler railroad telegraph amendment' is retained in the bill.

Mr. McMillan, of Indiana, called up the Senate bill to appoint Spruille Braden ensign in the United States navy. Passed. [Bradley, it will be remembered, took the prize for excellence in the English nautical school, but was refused a commission in the English navy as it would have compelled him to renounce his American citizenship.]

The Senate passed the following bills: The calendar house bill to give circuit courts supervising jurisdiction in certain criminal cases; House bill to amend section 824 of the revised statutes, relative to the fees of district attorneys. The Senate laid aside, temporarily, the postoffice appropriation bill in order that Shields, of Missouri, might speak in favor of the bill granting pensions to the surviving soldiers of the Mexican war.

The Senate has been discussing the Brazilian mail subsidy bill all day, and a number of amendments were voted. An amendment of Easton, designed to protect the New Orleans line, was agreed to. It provides that the contract for neither line shall be considered in force if the service on either line be abandoned or discontinued.

An amendment of Bayard, providing that the amount of the subsidy shall not exceed \$150,000 per annum, was agreed to. Nearly all the Southern Senators support the bill. The Senate continued in session tonight.

HOUSE.—The House, by a vote of yeas 135, nays 122, had determined to take up for consideration the contested election case of Finley vs. Bisbee, from the first district of Florida. The resolutions of the majority of the committee on elections declared that Jesse J. Finley, the contestant, is, and Horatio Bisbee, the sitting member, is not entitled to a seat as the representative from the first district of Florida.

After some discussion the majority voted to withdraw and the vote taken on the majority resolutions which were agreed to—yeas 131, nays 122. Finley was then sworn in, taking the modified oath. The South Carolina contested election cases will be called up next Monday.

The House then took a recess. The evening session is to be for memorial services in honor of the deceased members of the Nebraska, and Williams, of Michigan.

COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS.

The House committee on military affairs to-day agreed to report favorably the bill appropriating the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of providing quarters for troops on the Grand Frontier as may be deemed necessary by the secretary of war and the general of the army.

The Senate committee on railroads to-day decided to report to the Senate the following proposition with the recommendation that it be incorporated in the sundry civil appropriation bill: That a commission of nine persons, composed of two Senators, to be appointed by the vice-president, three members of the House of Representatives, and four citizens of the United States, not members of either House of Congress, to be appointed by the President, shall be created on or before March 15th, 1879, whose duty it shall be to make thorough examination into and investigation of the relations existing between the Western Union and other telegraph companies and the public, also the relations between such telegraph company or companies and the New York Association of Press Associations, and other press associations of the country, national and local, in so far as the interests of the commerce of the country and the public generally are affected thereby, and to report to the President of the United States on or before the first day of December, 1879, the report of such investigation, together with the testimony taken, and also their recommendations as to what legislation, if any, is expedient and proper affecting the business of telegraphic communication between States, in the interest of the public generally and of inter-State commerce in particular; and especially to report their conclusions and recommendations as to the constitutionality and policy of the creation by Congress of a postal telegraph system under the direction and control of the general postoffice, and as to the right and duty of Congress to regulate the rates of existing telegraph companies on inter-State lines, and to prevent such companies from acquiring exclusive or exceptional privileges to press associations, national and local, of the country. The commission shall meet in Washington on or before April 1st, 1879, and organize by selecting one of their number as president and another as secretary. The commission shall have power to sit at any place within the United States, issue subpoenas, send for persons and papers, administer oaths and take testimony. Each member shall receive his actual expenses while engaged in the service of the same, and those members who are not members of either house of Congress shall, for the time actually engaged in such service, receive the same per diem as members of Congress.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL.

Strikes, Failures and Embarrassments in Great Britain.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 20.—A considerable number of dock laborers remain out on the strike. Some of the dock heavers, claiming to have resumed work under a misapprehension, have struck again. The borough justices yesterday decided to retain the troops brought here during the riots, thus indicating that they do not think that the danger is entirely over.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The Bolton cotton operatives, the masters to reduce their wages five per cent only, but the masters insisted upon a reduction of ten per cent. The spinners consequently have ordered a general strike on the expiration of the notices except at the mills where only five per cent reduction is enforced.

The scissor manufacturers of Sheffield have reduced wages in all departments from five to fifteen per cent. The Daily Telegraph's financial article says: "Within the last few days the embarrassment of an old established house in the China tea trade has been freely referred to. A group of speculative builders in Glasgow are also reported to be in difficulties."

Knocking at the Door. LONDON, Feb. 20.—About twenty deputies from East Roumelia and six from Macedonia are here claiming admission to the assembly, but they will probably be refused.

STATE NEWS.

ANOTHER INSURRECTION IN CUBA.

Armed bands of insurgents have been seen in the mountains of Cuba. The Government needs for aid.

KINGSTON, Jan. 12.—(Times) simultaneously on the 1st inst., two bands of armed men landed at different spots in the North and South of the island, and proclaimed General McOmney Benjamin president, hoisting the white star. The naval authorities dispatched the gun boat Floyer and the corvette Sirius to Moravia Bay, but before the British cruisers entered the insurgents' steamer had disappeared and with her the majority of the Haytian refugees in Kingston. The rest subsequently disembarked their leaders in a small schooner and joining them in the bay at Gonaves which was the appointed rendezvous. To the South a body of filibusters from St. Thomas, in order to land near the bay, sailed on the 7th inst. and landed near Jamied but from the fact that nothing has been heard of their success it is considered that the attempt was disastrous.

On the 7th inst. a detachment of troops for the seat of war in the North whither the English and French consuls had, at the request of the Government, dispatched men of war. Meanwhile the insurgents landed in San Marco, overcoming the guard at the harbor defences and taking possession of the town. The inhabitants giving in their adherence. The next day they pushed up the river Arribonito to San Miguel, which they occupied. Here they were found by the government troops, headed by General Canales, and a battle ensued. The insurgents were defeated and a considerable number were killed. The remainder fled to the mountains. The government troops, in an engagement which took place on the 15th inst. were killed and 50 wounded. The loss of the rebels is believed to have exceeded that of the government troops. The president has dispatched a vessel for reinforcements and when these arrive a decisive battle may be expected.

A penal code, prepared for the island, has given great dissatisfaction. One of the features being a provision that any libelous matter admitted into a newspaper may subject the editor to five years' penal servitude and flogging.

Merchants, travelers, visitors to New York, don't fail to remember that in order to economize and save your money, to make your price, and to get the most for your money, go to the Grand Central Hotel on Broadway, N. Y. It is a big hotel, and it is the best in the city. It is in the heart of the city, and it is the best in the city. It is the best in the city. It is the best in the city.

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The Raleigh News, a citizen here, while out serenading Monday night, was brutally knocked down by "masked men," and a hand-organ, whence he was extracting delicious music, was rudely torn from his grasp. It is regarded as the boss outrage of the season.

Statesville Landmark: Monday of last week while Mr. G. W. Rowe, a worthy farmer who resides near New Hope postoffice in this county, was felling a tree, a large white oak tree which he was cutting fell on another tree near by, bouncing back several feet. The butt struck him on the right side and fractured several ribs. Both legs were broken. After lingering twenty-four hours, suffering the most excruciating pain, life became extinct.

The man found dead on the line of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, a few days ago, was Isaac J. Pickett, an inmate of the poor house and a fanatic. The Review says Mr. Pickett was at one time a clerk at the freight office of the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroad and afterwards at that of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, and was one of the old members of the Wilmington Light Infantry and during the war a lieutenant in Company F, third North Carolina Infantry.

The Sun says a colored man, about twenty-five years of age, attempted to pass off a counterfeit gold coin at Wilmington Tuesday. His story was contradictory, he first alleging that it was paid him for labor in Monroe, Union county, and stated that his name was William W. Adams, and afterwards that his name was Isaac Buchanan. Letters were found on his person postmarked Lilesville. He finally worked up with the story that he procured the money by sale of a white horse to New York.

Winston Sentinel: During the past week our citizens have been excited over the question of consolidation. Some of our leading business men are ardent champions of the movement and the United States as it is opposed to the measure. The plan to be submitted is to call both places Salem, to be divided into four wards, with two aldermen for each ward, with a proviso that the population of each ward shall not exceed 300 cents on the \$100 valuation of property, and \$1.50 on the poll.

A Crisis in the Egyptian Government.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The Times in an editorial article says: "Neither England nor France is likely to be able to do business with indifference the success of a coup d'etat which would place Egypt again under the personal rule of the Khedive."

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The London papers, commenting on the Egyptian crisis, consider that the Khedive, even if he did not contrive the demonstration will take advantage of it for attempting to restore personal power.

More Dissensions in the French Assembly

LONDON, Feb. 20.—Advices from Paris agree that there is considerable discussion among the Republicans concerning the question of amnesty for political offences, and the impeachment of the De Broglie minister. M. De Marcere, minister of the interior, has been very unpopular with the extremists in consequence of the annulling of the vote of the municipality of Paris granting money to the latter returning communists and his assertion of authority over the police.

Rough on the Prom. Cts.

CINCINNATI, February 20.—A dispatch from Newark, O., says there is a great commotion there on account of the publication, by order of the city council, of the names of former members of the council, with dates and amounts of money illegally taken from the city treasury, under different pretexts, aggregating \$3,000. Many of them are among the most prominent citizens. The collector is instructed to commence suits for the recovery of the money at once.

Bloodshed by the King of Burma—Establishment of Despotie Government.

CALCUTTA, Feb. 20.—A report from Mandalay asserts that the king of Burma has murdered all the royal princes and their families and removed the new ministers and replaced them by ministers who were formerly in opposition, thus restoring the former despotic government.

SMITH'S WORM OIL.

A few nights since I gave my son one dose of the Worm Oil, and the next day passed fifteen large worms. At the same time I gave one to my little girl, four years old, and she passed eight or six worms from four to fifteen inches long.

Worm Oil for sale by Druggists generally. Prepared by E. S. LYNDON, Athens, Ga. Price 25 cents. Sold by Druggists.

Miscellaneous.

A Power Printing Press, Goussier make, old style, size of bed 20x24, inches. Was in use until destroyed by fire. Address: BALLEE, agent Enterprise at Mountaineer, Greenville, S. C. Price \$147.

Tailoring.

M. LICHTENSTEIN, MERCHANT TAILOR, Has just received samples of Spring Goods. His friends and customers are most respectfully invited to secure their choice in due time.

JAMES MURPHY, PRACTICAL TAILOR.

Has just received samples of Spring Goods. His friends and customers are most respectfully invited to secure their choice in due time.

DR. A. W. ALEXANDER, DENTIST.

Office over L. R. Whiston & Co's Drug Store. With 25 years' experience I guarantee entire satisfaction.

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Confectioneries.

THIS DELICIOUS FRUIT, THE Finest in the Market, has just been received at FERRY'S.

FERRY'S CARAMELS.

A fresh supply of these celebrated "Caramels" to be opened at FERRY'S.

CONFECTONERIES

Can be found at Ferry's. Try the Walnut Taffy if you want something new and nice.

HEADQUARTERS

At Ferry's. The very best in the Smoking and Chewing line can always be found there. Some old brands being closed out very low.

THE "RISING SUN."

SO though Constantine when he became a convert, because a "Pagan" refused to absolve him from the guilt of his crimes, and the "Christian" readily agreed, and specially manufactured for him a "sign" by which he was to "conquer."

FOR SALE.

Having prepared a nice line of Tobacco, at the Government rate, I have prepared to offer extra inducements to buyers. Call early. THOS. H. GAITHER, NEW YORK.

WELL IMPROVED CITY PROPERTY FOR SALE.

Any person desiring to purchase a well improved City Lot, House with nice 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 PEE SIMPLE DEEDS.

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

FOR SALE.

The Bourgeois and Milton 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. Address: OBSERVER, Charlotte, N. C.

Hardware.

CALL AT H. S. BULLER'S, Hardware House for CHEAP HARDWARE.

Buy your 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 very low priced. 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, CALDWELL HOUSE. Corner Tryon and Sixth Streets, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

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.

Holiday Goods.

GREAT BARGAINS FOR THE HOLIDAYS. J. T. BUTLER'S. J. T. BUTLER'S. JEWELRY. SILVER AND PLATED WARE.

Watches and Jewelry.

Such as fine Lockets and Chains, Fine Sets, Seal Rings, Initial Cuff Buttons, Scarf Pins and anything in the line you may want. J. M. B. REYNOLDS, Trustee.

Books and Stationery.

TIDDY'S CITY BOOK STORE. THE LARGEST AND CHOICEST STOCK OF POPULAR LITERATURE.

MUSIC & GIFT BOOKS.

OF EVERY STYLE. BLANK BOOKS, INK, PENS, PENCILS, MUCILAGE, AND IN FACT EVERYTHING USUALLY KEPT IN A FIRST-CLASS BOOK STORE.

Photography.

In consequence of the reduction in the price of the original cost of materials, and in order to give my patrons the benefit of the reduction from and after this date Photographs will be taken at my gallery at REDUCED RATES.

Boots and Shoes.

DEALERS IN BOOTS, SHOES, AND GAITHERS.

Boots and Shoes.

Our stock of Boots, Shoes, &c., is acknowledged to be the best in the State, and we would be pleased to have you call and examine for yourself before buying. PROGRAM & Co.

THE PUBLIC.

The subscriber, Trustee of SMITH OR FS, begs leave to call the attention of the citizens of Charlotte and vicinity to the large stock of Boots and Shoes.

AN INFINITE VARIETY.

From the finest to the coarsest shoe made. If you want a pair, or any number of cases, call, and your wants can be supplied.

AT A BARGAIN.

In this connection the subscriber would state that if reasonable prices can be obtained, the whole stock, both Wholesale and Retail, will be sold.

Watches and Jewelry.

Such as fine Lockets and Chains, Fine Sets, Seal Rings, Initial Cuff Buttons, Scarf Pins and anything in the line you may want. J. M. B. REYNOLDS, Trustee.

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