

## The Charlotte Observer.

CHAS. R. JONES — Editor and Proprietor

"Free from the doting scruples that fetter our free-born reason."

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1870.

FREEZING THE FEVER OUT.

The experience of last summer and fall have taught us to regard the yellow fever almost in the light of an ever present danger, and a preventive for it is being sought out with more earnestness than ever before. The approved plan at this time seems to be the freezing process, and from this many experienced persons expect the best results. It is claimed as one of the few undisputed facts in connection with this plague that it cannot exist in a temperature of 30 degrees, and hence the recent appropriation of the United States Senate for the purpose of testing the freezing experiment upon vessels which may be supposed to bear about them the germs of the disease. Discussing this scourge and the method of prevention here touched upon, the New Orleans Picayune of recent date said:

It cannot exist in a freezing atmosphere. It cannot survive a freezing atmosphere. This one fact is known with absolute certainty, and it is on this known fact that the plan of refrigerating ships is based. If the plan should be adopted by Congress, and it is now affected with intelligence and skill, we may have great reason to anticipate from it the best results. If there is one question which may properly claim the attention of Congress, apart from the particular objects of the extra session, it is this one. Summer is coming on, and the country expects something to be done by the national government to avert the danger of a recurrence of the pestilence. Whatever opinions may be entertained as to the general gentleness of this and other cities as to the domestic or foreign origin of yellow fever, it is certain that among the people throughout the country there is a firmly rooted conviction that the disease is propagated by transmission from place to place. The researches of the investigating committee have tended to confirm this belief. The reports of the committees affirm it with remarkable unanimity. Public opinion looks to Congress to take some action to avert what is considered to be the danger of importation during the coming summer. Such a bill will go far toward calming public feeling, and obviating the evils which, in aggravated form, would follow on a repetition of the methods employed last year by the communities throughout the southwest. The question is one of the very highest importance and we trust that Congress will promptly act on it.

The theory here advanced has been most vehemently held by a number of the most scientific minds of this and other countries, but a recent development would seem to falsify it. We have reference to the case of the United States steamship Plymouth which, though she wintered in Boston harbor and was subjected to all the rigors of that climate, and in addition to this was subjected to the artificial-freezing, still bore in her germs of the yellow fever developed into life and began their work upon the ship's crew as early as the ship weighed anchor and sought warmer waters. It is true that this instance has not destroyed the faith of Secretary Thompson, of the navy, in the refrigerating process, and he has instigated an investigation to learn, if possible, if the process was not negligently or imperfectly applied in the case of the Plymouth. His supplemental report will be awaited with interest; and yet on its face this instance would seem to give a very black eye to the theory in question. We confess that this case has imbued us with skepticism as to the efficacy of the treatment proposed, and removed the problem as far as ever from solution.

We are persuaded that, if there is any prevention from the scourge, apart from a national quarantine, rigidly enforced, it rests in absolute local cleanliness. It cannot exist except in an impure atmosphere, laden with the fumes of decaying animal or vegetable matter; and local associations, not only upon and close to the seaboard, but here and everywhere, may as well make up their minds, upon the first news of its approach, that the only sure prevention against it is in the instantaneous destruction of the material from which it draws its sustenance.

GRANT'S LATEST.—The latest news from Gen. Grant is that he says he will not consent to be a candidate for President in 1880. Of this question the sagacious Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun takes what we have no doubt is the correct view. He has all along expected, as the stalwarts of his party have expected him, to be the Republican candidate next year; but if he finds the skies overcast at that time, as he now has a shrewd suspicion, he will find them, the present declaration will be most convenient to fall back upon. He declines the grapes in advance in the event they are sour, but with a manifest reservation in case they are as accessible as he hopes to find them.

"Cubanrus" is back, this morning, with a reiteration of his complaint. As before, however, he is only general in his charges, and we are still left to surmise wherein we have snubbed our Cuban neighbors in the arrangements for the forthcoming celebration of the 20th of May. We surmised before, then answered our own surmises, and since "Cubanrus" gives us nothing further to go upon the discussion will have to come to an end so far as our part of it is concerned until our friend gives us some specific charge to answer.

The Norfolk Landmark touches, too, upon the recent article in the Philadelphia Times which purports to give an explanation of Senator Vance's popular strength. The editor of the Landmark shows himself to have a just and accurate conception of Mr. Vance's capacities, and in an excellently well-written article, which we take much pleasure in reproducing, points out very plainly the sources of that gentleman's acknowledged command over men.

There is room enough in a corner of every travel writing desk to carry the tourist's friend—Dr. Paul's Baltimore File. Price 25 cents.

"STILL HARPING ON MY DAUGHTER."—The Washington Republican is still harping right straight ahead upon Jefferson Davis. Having been repudiated of him by the debate in the Senate at the end of the last Congress, old man Clapp has since failed to forget him, and the leading editorial of the venerable twaddler every day since has been in defense of Mr. Davis. If any one wants to witness a case of involuntary suicide it can be done by carrying a pair of Jeff's pants to Washington and waving them in the office of the National Republican. If the old gentleman who presides over that spirited institution did not break his neck getting down the stairs he would certainly compass his own destruction by running into the Potomac river. All of which leads up to the remark that we of the South never have any idea of what a wonderful man he is who directs the fortunes of the Confederacy until somebody happens to mention his name. Then we know it by the way in which the legs of the "loyal" editors tremble and smite together.

In the United States Circuit Court at Charleston, Monday, the motion to quash the array of jurors was overruled, Judge Bryan dissenting. The test-oath was administered to the jury and the business proceeded, with eight white and four colored jurors. The case against Wm. Kerrigan, charged with assault upon a supervisor, was taken up, argued and given to the jury, and at a late hour at night the report was that he had been convicted.

Judge Hunt of the Supreme Court of the United States, who was stricken with paralysis some time since, has so far recovered as to be able to articulate a few words, but is unable to connect sentences. It is hardly to be expected that he will ever take his seat on the bench again.

Judge Thurman is presiding over the Senate now. The motion to strike out Thurman and insert Ferry did not prevail in this instance, we notice, as it has in the past too often for the country's good.

### SOUTH CAROLINA ITEMS.

A Henry county, Va., tobacco peddler was killed near Newberry, last Friday, by his wagon driver.

Judge Mackay will produce convincing evidence before the United States Senate that Corbin's private character independent of politics, is such as to unfit him to become Chief Justice of Utah.

At the meeting of the grand lodge at Newberry last Tuesday, S. W. Perrin of Abbeville was elected grand dictator of the grand-lodge of Knights of Honor of the State for the ensuing year. The next meeting is to be held at Sumter.

J. R. Boyles, lieutenant during the war of Company C, 12th Regt. South Carolina Volunteers, has published, at the solicitation of many members of the regiment, a call for a survivor's meeting, to be held in Winnsboro, Saturday, the 26th of April.

Judge Pressly has filed his decision sustaining the validity of the York court's bill amounting to one hundred thousand dollars, issued in aid of the Chester and Lower Narrow Gauge Railroad Company. The case will now go to the Supreme Court.

The Rev. H. O. Jud, who for nearly two years has been able to acceptably fill the position of senior rector of Grace church, Charleston, has received a call to the assistant rectorship of Trinity church, Columbus, and has notified the vestry of the church that he has accepted the call and will leave for Columbia on the 15th of May next.

Charleston News and Courier, of Mondy: The large C bell of St. Michael's chimes has been badly cracked, and will have to be taken down and sent to England to be recast. It was cracked on the night of the fire, and the sexton of the church says that the watchman rang it too violently. The crack extends the entire length of the bell, and in the ringing for services yesterday it gave forth a doleful sound, not at all in keeping with the day.

### An Abe Elephant.

[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.]

One side of the elephant has its peculiarities, and when the reporter insinuated that a slight infusion of oxygen would not harm the atmosphere of the building, the lion king assented, and turning to the larger of the two elephants standing in a far corner, he said: "Pete, old fellow, open that door." The elephant wagged his great ears sagaciously, seized the door knob with his trunk tip, gave it a turn, and flung the door wide open. Then the lion king quietly remarked: "Shut the door now, Pete." The elephant laid his trunk against it and gave it a shove, but failed to close it. "Oh, close it up tight, Pete," Mr. Conklin said, with an assumption of impatience in his voice. The sagacious beast pulled the door sufficiently ajar to secure headway, and then, with a rapid push slammed it close, following up its success with a loving embracement of Mr. Conklin, round whose neck it flung its trunk in a most affectionate manner.

### Keeping People Out of Church.

[New York Sun, Monday.]

A curious sight was witnessed in this city yesterday—policemen stationed at church doors to keep people out. Of course, when a church is full it is only natural that overflow should occur. All the same saints and sinners must seek some less popular place of worship. All the same blue-coated, club-twiddling police man at the church door would have considerably astonished the early Christians, and it is difficult to reconcile him with the command to "Go into all the ways and hedges and compel them to come in."

### Migration of British Miners.

LONDON, April 15.—A despatch to the Times from Newcastle states that a number of striking miners, who are now out of work, are determined to return to the mines in America, and have formed a sub-committee, with instructions to ascertain all the facts possible in connection with the disease and report on Thursday at a meeting.

Nearly all the House committees are now organized and ready for business.

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THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

ALBANY, April 15.—In the Assembly on the bill to regulate the sale of cotton, Mr. Brooks said he had a remonstrance against the bill signed by ninety per cent of the people engaged in the cotton trade. No action was taken on the measure.

CONTESTED ELECTION CASES.

The following are among the contested election cases in the present Congress: First North Carolina, Yeates

against Martin; second North Carolina,

### TROOPS AND WAR CLAIMS.

#### THE INTERESTING QUESTIONS THAT

Thurman Presiding Over the Senate Speeches on the Army Bill by Logan and Beck—War Claims Discussed in the House—Interesting Minor Matters.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—SENATE.—The secretary of the Senate, before reading the Journal, read a note from Vice President Wheeler stating that he had received a telegram advising him of the dangerous illness of a sister, and summoning him home, and that it would be necessary for the Senate to elect a President pro tempore.

The secretary asked, "what is the purpose of the Senate?"

Davis of West Virginia, said that as there was comparatively a small number of Senators in attendance, he hoped there would be a delay of the proceedings in order to enable the absentees to arrive.

At the suggestion of Wallace the Senate took an informal recess.

It was discovered at the time the note was read that there were a larger number of Republicans than Democratic members present. A messenger was dispatched for Thurman whom the Democrats intended to elect President pro tempore. At 12:20, however, that gentleman entered the chamber, having been on his way to the capitol while the messenger was in search of him.

The Senate having resumed its session Bayard offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That in the absence of the Vice President, Hon. A. G. Thurman be, and is hereby chosen, President of the Senate pro tempore."

Anthony moved to strike out the name of Thurman and insert that of Hon. Thos. W. Ferry.

This amendment was disagreed to—yeas 18, nays 28—and the resolution passed. Thurman was conducted to the chair by Ferry, and after remarking to the latter on his way thither, "Turn about is fair play," Thurman, on taking the chair said: "Senators it is only necessary for me to say in the fewest possible words that I sincerely thank you for this mark of your confidence."

The journal of yesterday was read.

The army bill was called up. Logan addressed the Senate, denouncing the proposed legislation as bad in itself and as being attempted by unparliamentary practices. He defended the use of the veto power, quoting President Pierce's message of 1853 to show that the Democrats had then guarded the independence of the executive as a wholesome check on legislation. He declared that a system of terrorism prevailed in the South which is now resulting in the migration therefrom of the people whose labor is necessary to cultivate the fields. He alleged that the Democrats expected by this legislation to fraudulently control the election of the next President.

Mr. Beck followed. The South to-day was represented by men who were the peers of any gentlemen on the other side. The Democracy is a strong party, and the appeal to Caesar. They intend to appeal to the people before Caesar comes, before the Rubicon is crossed, and the cry is, "alia iacta est." It is to prevent Caesar from coming that they desire the soldiers to be taken from the polls. Mr. Beck continued at considerable length, defending the Democratic party from the accusations of its opponents, and declaring that they were true friends to the colored race. He argued earnestly against the danger of relying on the army to enforce the laws, saying that the best warrant for making and maintaining just laws is intelligent public opinion.

HORSE.—Immediately after the reading of the journal the speaker proceeded to call the committee for reports. The only report submitted was from the committee on accounts, relative to committee clerks.

This report was adopted and the House proceeded to the consideration of the Senate bill for the purchase or construction of a refrigerating ship for the disinfection of vessels and cargoes.

Chalmers, rising to a question of privilege, asked for an investigation by the House of his conduct at the battle of Fort Donelson.

He made the request because of certain uncomplimentary allusions made to him by Congressmen Butterworth in a recent speech at Cincinnati. Action on the request was deferred for a day or two.

The House then, in the committee of the whole, took up the legislative appropriation bill, the pending question being Bragg's motion to insert a clause creating the law creating the Southern claims commission, and a substitute therefor was offered by Young, of Tennessee, abolishing the Southern claims commission, and transferring all claims now pending to the War Department.

Young's motion was adopted and the bill was referred to the committee on accounts.

Callahan, rising to a question of privilege, asked for an investigation by the House of his conduct at the battle of Bull Run.

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