

The Charlotte Observer. PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT MONDAY.

CHAS. H. JONES, Editor and Proprietor.

CONGRESS YESTERDAY.

ANOTHER DAY ON THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE BILL.

SENATOR VANCE RE-NOMINATED. By telegraphic advice from Raleigh last night, as published elsewhere, it is learned that Senator Zebulon B. Vance was re-nominated yesterday, by the Democratic caucus of the members of the Legislature by acclamation. In this age of office seeking and office hunting, this testimonial to the worth and merits of a distinguished fellow citizen ought to be peculiarly gratifying to Senator Vance and his friends, and THE OBSERVER, published at Senator Vance's home, joins in the general exultation, and extends its congratulations. But few men in this age have ever more fully commanded the confidence of his fellow citizens in a public career reaching back almost to his boyhood, having served his people in the Legislature, Congress, thrice elected Governor, twice in war and once in peace, and now about to be elected Senator for the second time, or rather the third, for he was once elected and not permitted to take his seat. In all of these positions he has served his people faithfully and well, and showed that their confidence was not misplaced. He made a good Governor, both in war and in peace, being equal to any and all emergencies, and as a Senator he has not only held his own, but added to his laurels, and done honor to the State which he represented; and while we have differed from him on some public questions, we have always conceded his honesty of purpose, his unselfish devotion to his people and his State, and his unquestioned patriotism, which, not less than his universally recognized ability, have given him the high place he holds in the esteem of his fellow citizens.

THE PITTSBURG FAILURE. Nothing Definitely Known Yet as to Actual Condition. PITTSBURG, Jan. 16.—It is expected that next Tuesday Oliver Brothers & Phillips will make a formal statement. In the meantime there will be much speculation as to the result of their affairs, and many wild rumors may become public, but they cannot be based on any definite knowledge. The firm says it will make its statement to its creditors first and to the public afterwards, and no information can be had until Tuesday afternoon when the figures will be submitted.

THE MERCHANTS' TAX.

Some Measures by an Asheville Merchant which it should be Abolished.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Jan. 14, 1885. To the Editor of THE OBSERVER. Sir.—The able article on the merchant's purchase tax in your issue of the 8th inst. was read with much pleasure by the merchants here. In addition to the strong arguments you make against this obnoxious tax, there are others which, we think, are no less cogent. 1st. It is very burdensome in its character. The merchant pays ad valorem tax on all the stock that he has, not at an estimated value as on real estate, which, as we all know, is commonly assessed below its actual worth, but at what the goods cost him, and consequently at full value. He frequently pays on more than he is worth, as buying on credit, he may owe for a large portion of the stock which he pays tax on, and to make him pay an additional tax of 1 1/2 per cent on all that he purchases is, in fact, taxing the same goods twice, and is palpably unfair. 2d. It is a source of contention between merchants themselves. It is well known that some lines of goods from the very nature of them, pay a smaller profit than others, but to compensate for this they are turned over more rapidly. As an example: A man investing \$10,000 in the wholesale grocery business, which pays a profit of 7 per cent, has to turn over his stock at least five times a year, or \$45,000; while a man with the same capital invested in clothing, can make that profit by turning it over twice, and a retail druggist, by turning it over once, works just as hard as the man with the same capital and making the same profit, one paying \$60,000, the other \$20,000 and the last only \$10,000 purchase tax. 3d. It is completely unjust, as it causes one portion of our citizens to pay a larger per cent of the expenses of the State government than is their fair proportion. For instance, in the year 1883 the State received \$1,100,000 from the tax on 25 cents per \$100. So that a man owning \$10,000 worth of real estate, paid \$25 State tax. Whereas, a merchant with a stock worth \$10,000, paid \$125 State tax, and if he had sold and replenished his stock four times in the preceding year, an additional purchase tax of 1 1/2 per cent, or \$40,000, aggregated against him, and he paid by the other man on the same amount of property. 4th. Whatever may be said against the State purchase tax, as a rule for the State, for the benefit of the counties and corporations, it is right to levy alike tax, which generally they are not slow to avail themselves of. (Be it, however, said to the great glory of the enlightened commission-ers for they have cut it down to 1 1/2 per cent.) The merchants are willing and able to bear their fair share of State burdens, but in view of the flourishing condition of the State, as set forth in the report of the Governor, and in view of the fact that, with a fair and equal assessment of property throughout the State, the whole expenses of the government and of the interest on the public debt can be met by a small ad valorem tax falling on all alike, they think the time has come when they should be relieved of the inequitable, unfair, purchase tax. A bill to abolish the same has been introduced in the Legislature, and as we believe that a general knowledge of its unjust provisions and odious nature, will insure its repeal, we trust that the good sense of the people, of enlightenment, and encourage other fair minded journals and fair minded men to do the same.

REASONS WHY HE COMES DOWN FROM THE BENCH.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Chief Justice Chas. D. Drake, of the Court of Claims, whose resignation was accepted, is nearly seventy-four years of age, and will retire from the bench with the full salary of \$5,000.

A RETIRING JUDGE. The House, at 5 o'clock, took a recess until 8 o'clock, the evening session to be for the consideration of pension bills. The committee remained in session for several hours considering war claim bills, but no final action was reached. The Indian appropriation bill was reported by Ellis, of Louisiana, and placed upon the calendar. Wood, of Indiana, presented a petition signed by 1,800 citizens of his district in favor of the Mexican pension bill. Referred. The House, at 5 o'clock, took a recess until 8 o'clock, the evening session to be for the consideration of pension bills.

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PIANOS Just Received. A FRESH SUPPLY OF HANDSOME. CHICKERING, MATHUSHEK, MARSHALL AND WENDALL, AND OTHERS. Mason & Hamlin. THE CHARLOTTE MUSIC HOUSE SELLS THE BEST.

CARPETS & MOQUET RUGS. Much cheaper than those purchased early in the season. We have some real good bargains. ELIAS & COHEN.

BURGESS NICHOLS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF FURNITURE, BEDDING, & C.

RIGLER'S Cuticura. Mrs. Smith's Case, and what the Rev. Dr. McKimstry has to say about it.

TOYS! TOYS! TOYS! D. M. RIGLER'S. The largest assortment of Toys ever brought to this city, and at prices to suit the hard times, can now be seen at RIGLER'S!

MOTHER'S Friend. NO MORE TERROR! NO MORE PAIN! NO MORE DANGER! MOTHER OR CHILD. The Dread of. -Motherhood- Transformed to Hope and Joy.

CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY GOODS. DISPLAYED. And Invite an Examination. Our Stock is Complete IN ALL BRANCHES.

WE HAVE IN STOCK. The finest that we can buy. Green and Black for the retail trade. W. H. JORDAN & CO., 117 N. 3rd St., Charlotte, N. C.

A GREAT EARTHQUAKE. HUNTERSVILLE, N. C. And Charleston burst wide open, and the Guiana will now all over the country with guano agents as thick as June bugs, but.

OLD MAN BARKER TO RHEUMATICS. Still holds the fort, and will have on hand in due time a full line of Guano and Acids of the best brands, and will sell as cheap as the cheapest.

MRS. JOE PERSON'S REMEDY. We have just received a fine line of English Tooth Brushes. Stock every test made upon it is the Mrs. Joe Person's Remedy.

ONE OF THE MEDICINES THAT HAS. Stock every test made upon it is the Mrs. Joe Person's Remedy.

LAND FOR SALE. I offer for sale that valuable tract of land lying just below the eastern limits of the city of Charlotte, and known as "The Grove".

STATE UNIVERSITY R. R. GOING NORTH. Leave University, 7:30 a.m. Arrive Chapel Hill, 11:30 a.m.

GOING SOUTH. Leave Chapel Hill, 7:30 a.m. Arrive University, 11:30 a.m.

Bixby's Shoe Polish. For Ladies' and Children's Shoes. The best in the market. 10c PER BOTTLE. STORE FOR RENT.

GOING NORTH. Leave Chapel Hill, 7:30 a.m. Arrive University, 11:30 a.m.

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