

The Wire-Pullers at Work.

Dividing out the Offices among the Politicians.

It is said that the author of the letters from Raleigh to the N. Y. Times is a Republican. Whether he is a Republican or not he seems to know a good deal about North Carolina politics, and as his letters have already been copied into leading Democratic papers of the State, we shall also let our readers see them and judge of their truthfulness as they choose. The following is the latest:

RALEIGH, N. C., May 4.

The contest for United States Senator to succeed Mr Merrimon, now going on in this State, also involves the question as to who shall be nominated for Governor in 1880. The fight for Senator is confined to Gov. Vance and Senator Merrimon. The Democratic party is now divided into Vance and Merrimon men.

The former is the choice of the extreme Radical element of the party, composed chiefly of men who were for secession and war in 1861. Mr Merrimon is the choice of the Conservative wing of the party, composed principally of men who were hated and despised as Unionists during the rebellion.

Senator Ransom spoke as follows in favor of amending the Repeal Bill so as to postpone its effects until January, 1879: "That amendment provides that this act shall not take effect until the first of January next, in substance. I feel very great anxiety upon the result of the vote of the Senate on this amendment. I had prepared this morning a similar amendment, but was anticipated by the Senator from Ohio. I am glad he has offered it."

Every Senator must have some doubt in his mind as to the propriety of the repeal of a law which has been in operation since 1867, eleven years, which has been of general effect upon the people of this country, and which has been of such great demand that it has stood now for eleven years. I say, sir, that upon a general change of legislation of that sort there ought to be some hesitancy in the minds of Senators, some deliberation. But apart from that there is a peculiar reason affecting the representatives from North Carolina upon this question which compels me to appeal to the Senate, and I hope the Senate will pardon me a moment while I endeavor to explain to them why it is the Senators from North Carolina feel so much interest in this amendment.

Before the war the people of North Carolina had no homestead or property exemption. The laws of the State had exempted a few articles of personal property from execution. It is known to the whole world that the result of the war destroyed everything like property in the Southern States, and upon no State did the calamities of that war fall more heavily than they did upon North Carolina. In 1868, by a Constitutional Convention a homestead exemption clause for the first time was placed in our Constitution. That clause allowed every head of a family in the State to retain five hundred dollars' worth of personal property and a thousand dollars' worth of real estate. The Constitution was adopted by a large majority of the popular vote. In that clause of the Constitution there was universal concurrence. Soon after it was adopted the question was carried before the Courts of the State; and the Supreme Court, the highest Court of appeals in North Carolina, decided that that clause of the Constitution was good against old as well as against new debts; that it was an exemption against all indebtedness. The Supreme Court of North Carolina repeated that decision of theirs in not less than four instances, and thousands of our people, the best people in the country, availed themselves of this beneficence of the Constitution, the homestead exemption. So approved was it by all classes and all men in the State that there has not been a candidate for office in North Carolina since August, 1868, who has not committed himself to the homestead exemption. It has been a permanent plank in the platforms of both political parties. No man to-day in North Carolina could receive the vote of the people for Judge or any other office in the State, of whom it was believed that he was even doubtful upon that question.

There has always been doubt in the minds of the legal gentlemen of the State as to the correctness of the decision in point of law, most of them inclining to the opinion that has just been rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States. After our people have been relying upon that homestead exemption for ten years, week before last, in a decision which I shall not criticize, for I must say it stands upon the foundation of all the precedents, the Supreme Court of the United States reversed the decisions of the State of North Carolina for the last ten years and has declared, perhaps properly, that the homestead exemption was not good as against old debts. What is the result? The hundreds, the thousands, the tens of thousands of good men in North Carolina, good women, and good children, who had these homes set apart to them by the law will be suddenly turned from their homes without a shelter. You know, sir, the world knows, that an execution at law has no mercy; it has no consideration; it marches to its duty over everything; and I know of no power in the State or out of the State (except the action of this Senate to-day in giving these good men until the 1st of January to save their homesteads by availing themselves of the bankrupt law) which can save our people from ruin.

My distinguished colleague and myself and our colleagues in the House have received application after application from all parts of the State to try to do something for the people. The papers are full of it; the mails are full of it. The whole State is crying out for relief. The State cannot give the people relief in this matter. The national bankrupt law does give them relief, essential, absolute, unmistakable relief. Am I wrong in asking the Senate that this act of great beneficence, however erroneous it may have been in some respects, which has already protected thousands and thousands of the people of the South, may be extended until the 1st of January, when these good, honest men in North Carolina can save their homes for themselves in their old age and

Our Senators and the Bankrupt Law.

It does our hearts good—it will gladden the hearts of all true North Carolinians—to see how great an influence our North Carolina Senators have won at Washington. It is an extraordinary change of opinion in the United States Senate that has been manifested upon the occasion of taking up the bill repealing the bankrupt act as returned from the House with an amendment. The repealing bill passed the Senate a few weeks ago with only seven negative votes. We think there were forty-nine votes in the affirmative. It went to the House, and was passed with equal unanimity.

Pending its final passage, came the Supreme Court Homestead decision, and when the bill went back to the Senate with a merely technical amendment, Judge Merrimon at once moved its reference to the Judiciary Committee that it might be so amended as to afford relief to our people likely to be ground between the upper and the nether mill-stones. The object had in view was attained. The Senatorial vote of 49 to 7 in favor of immediate repeal was reversed; an amendment postponing the date at which the bill should take effect to January, 1879, was adopted 25 to 22, and the bill referred to the Judiciary Committee by a vote of 37 to 16. Thanks to our able and influential representatives!—Raleigh Observer.

The Vienna correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says the main points now under negotiation are the limits of Bulgaria and the proposed modifications in Asia Minor. England objects to the extension of Bulgaria to the Aegean sea, and France warmly supports her. Russia has proposed to make important concessions to Austria, but Count Andrassy replied that he must defer any decision until the meeting of the congress.

The famine in north east Russia is increasing. It is stated that a National Convention will be called in London to protest against war should the government take further measures likely, in the opinion of the Liberals, to lead to war.

The statements of Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the House of Commons, are regarded as re-assuring. It is also thought that the visit of Count Schouvaloff, Russian Ambassador at London, to St. Petersburg, cannot be otherwise than in the cause of peace, as he can explain the temper and views of the English government and people more effectively than could be done in correspondence. A change in public opinion of Russia in a peaceful direction is said to be very marked, and to be a recognition of the serious consequences that would inevitably result from a new war. The Czar is personally directing the negotiations with the assistance of Baron Jomani. The Czar's predictions are entirely in favor of peace.

The present endeavors are stated to be directed to securing such an understanding between England and Russia as will permit the assembling of the congress without the certainty of failure. To this end direct communications are passing between the two governments with a view to ascertaining what modifications in Europe and Asia would render the San Stefano treaty acceptable. Without such an understanding there will be no congress.

Lutheran Synod.

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH, Guilford county, N. C., May 1, '78. The Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina convened here to-day in its seventy-fifth Convention. The Synodical discourse was pronounced by the President, Rev. L. A. Bikle, D. D., from I. Cor. 14th chap. and 20th verse.

At the conclusion of these services, Synod was opened in the form prescribed in the "Book of Worship." The Clerical roll was then called, and the Lay Delegates handed in the certificates of their appointments. About twenty ordained Ministers and about the same number of lay delegates responded to their names. Synod being organized the retiring President read his annual report. The report was received for reference to the proper committee.

An election was entered into for officers for the ensuing year, resulting as follows: Rev. G. D. Bernheim, D. D., President. Rev. L. A. Bikle, D. D., Recording Secretary. Rev. J. B. Davis, D. D., Corresponding Secretary. Rev. S. Rothrock, Treasurer.

The opening Sermon was one of unusual ability. Second Day—May 2.—The President called the Synod to order at 9 o'clock, and requested the Rev. C. H. Bernheim to lead in prayer.

Rev. W. C. Shaeffer, of Richmond, Va., presented the cause of the English Lutheran Church in Richmond. His remarks were felicitous, earnest and able. A handsome contribution was received by Rev. Mr. Shaeffer from the Synod. The hour for preaching having arrived, the Rev. W. C. Shaeffer preached on the subject of the great commission, "Go ye into all the world, &c." It was easy to tell that he was a minister of city polish. This sermon gave great satisfaction to the brethren.

The hour for refreshments now came. The tables were filled with an abundance of the very best of edibles. The members and friends of the Church at this place are noted for their hospitalities. In the afternoon the Parochial Reports were read. They showed the condition of the Church in North Carolina to be growing.

Fourteen persons were convicted, fined and imprisoned, at Statesville Court, for handling blockade whiskey, of whom the following were sent to Morganton jail, Andy Angle, Jno. Kayser, William Aiken, Asbury Roper and Pinkney Aboe. The two latter for two months, and the former for six months each. William Fox and Jno. Cain were imprisoned at Newton. Fox for six months and Cain for thirty days.—Morganton Blade.

The N. C. Election Law.

We copy from the Raleigh Observer the following synopsis of the Election Law so far as it applies to the next August election:

At the election there will be voted for: A Chief Justice; two Associate Justices of the Supreme Court; three Judges of the Superior Court; a Solicitor in each Judicial District. These will be on the same ballot.

Members of the General Assembly; on one ballot. A Surveyor, Coroner, Sheriff, Register, Clerk, and in such counties as have one, a Treasurer. These will be on one ballot.

We believe that the synopsis is entirely accurate, and it will be well for those interested to preserve it for use. They will see that some very important changes have been made in the plan of conducting our election. Notably, the duties of the Board of Commissioners have been divided between the "Board of Justices" and the "Board of Canvassers." There has also been instituted a "Board of State Canvassers," who are to ascertain the result of the election with regard to all officers except the members of the Legislature and County Officers.

The Justices of the Peace of the several counties shall be constituted the Board of Justices of the Peace for the purpose of this election. The Board of Justices may alter the polling places.

The Commissioners are to make requisition on the Secretary of State for suitable registration books.

The Board of Justices on or before the first Monday of the month preceding each election (first Monday in July) shall appoint registrars for each precinct. Registrars shall be furnished with registration books and it shall be their duty to revise the existing books of registration, and for thirty days keep open their books for new registration.

If the Board of Justices for any county so direct there may be an entirely new registration, but this requires a notice of thirty days in each Township.

Registering and Voting.—No one is to register or vote except in that Township where he is an actual and bona fide resident on the day of election. Certificates of registration are not allowed. The following persons are not to register or vote: Minors, idiots and lunatics; persons who, after conviction, or confession in open Court, have been adjudged guilty of felony or other infamous crime, committed after January 1, 1877, unless restored to rights of citizenship by law.

Subject to the following exceptions: All males, born in the United States, or naturalized, who have resided in the State twelve months next preceding the election, and ninety days in the county, are qualified to register and vote in the precincts where they reside. The residence of a married man is where his family resides; that of a single man is where he resides.

No one is to register in any precinct to which he has removed for the mere purpose of voting therein; nor unless his residence is actual and bona fide.

It shall be the duty of the Registrar, or the Judge of election, when so requested by any bystander, to swear any person offering to register or to vote, as to his residence.

Every person offering to register shall state under oath his qualifications. And upon request, the Registrar shall require the applicant to prove his identity, his age or residence by the oath of one elector.

If any applicant for registration has previously registered elsewhere in the same county, he shall not be registered unless he produces a certificate that his name has been erased from the books of his former Township.

No registration shall be allowed on election day, unless the voter has become entitled to register on that day.

The Board of Justices on or before the 1st Monday of the month next preceding the month in which each election is held (1st Monday in July) shall appoint four Judges or Inspectors of election (two of whom shall be of a different political party from the Registrars,) at each polling-place.

It shall be the duty of the Registrars and Judges of Election to attend at the polling-place of their precinct on the Saturday before election (27th July) from 9 A. M., till 5 P. M., and hear and determine challenges.

The Judges and Registrars shall attend at the polling-place on the day of election (Thursday 1st August) and conduct the election. They shall enter the name of every person who votes in the poll book; certify the same and deposit them with the Register of Deeds.

On election day any person may, and the Judges shall challenge the vote of any person suspected of not being qualified. Any one so challenged shall be sworn and examined as to his qualifications; and other witnesses may be examined on oath, and the Judges may reject the vote if they are satisfied that such person is not a legal voter.

The polls shall be open from 7 A. M., till sunset. Voters shall hand in their ballots to the Judges who shall deposit them in the boxes.

Immediately after the election the Judges shall deposit the registration books with the Register of Deeds.

Justices of the Supreme Court, Judges of Superior Court, and Solicitors shall be voted for on one ballot.

Members of the General Assembly on one ballot. County Officers on one ballot. Ballots shall be on white paper and without device. The County Commissioners shall provide the ballot boxes for each class of officers to be voted for.

Election.—When the election is over, the Registrar and Judges of election, in the presence of such persons as may attend, shall open the boxes, count the ballots, reading aloud the names on the tickets. If there be two or more tickets rolled up together, if any ticket has more names on it than the voter has a right to vote for, or has a device on it, they shall be void.

The Right of a State to Repudiate.

The Richmond Dispatch, in an article on the right of a State to Repudiate, quotes the following extract from the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the case of Murray vs. the city of Charleston:

"The truth is States and cities, when they borrow money and contract to repay it with interest, are not acting as sovereignties. They come down to the level of ordinary individuals. Their contracts have the same meaning as that of similar contracts between private persons. Hence, instead of there being in the undertaking of a State or city to pay a reservation of a sovereign right to withhold payment, the contract should be regarded as an assurance that such a right will not be exercised. A promise to pay with a reserved right to deny or change the effect of the promise is an absurdity."

This is a direct denial by the Court of the right of a State to repudiate its pecuniary obligations, and as it is the decision of the Court of last resort in this country, it settles forever the question of repudiation.

To Creditors of BANK OF FAYETTEVILLE.

All persons holding claims against the above Bank are hereby notified to file their evidences of debt with the undersigned, on or before the 1st day of September, 1878, as on that day the fund will be divided, and proceedings commenced for a final closing of the trust account.

May 3, 1878. E. J. LILLY, Surviving Trustee.

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Fresh Saratoga Water on draught direct from the Springs. WILSON & BURWELL.

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Three Thousand Dollars wanted for three years on Bond secured by Mortgage on land worth double the money. Liberal interest paid. Address K. Lock Box 80, Charlotte, N. C.

Grain Cradles.

Another lot of the celebrated Grain Cradles made by Joseph Starns, just received at J. McLAUGHLIN & CO'S.

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We have a complete stock of Grain Cradles; Grain, Grass, Bush and Briar Scythes, which we will sell as low as any house in the State.

Fresh Meats and Provisions.

For choice Beef and Mutton, Patapoco Baking Powders, pure Roasted Coffee not Groudo, send your orders to B. N. SMITH. Also a supply of Dixie Pumps, best and cheapest pump in use.

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Will always find bottom prices and a full assortment of such goods as they want at the Drug House of DR. T. C. SMITH.

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Read what some of the oldest and largest Carriage Manufacturers of the country say concerning Moses Bigelow & Co's Coach Varnishes: NEW BEDFORD, Mass., Sept. 25, 1876. MESSRS. MOSES BIGELOW & CO.—GENTS: In reply to your favor of the 14th, it affords me pleasure to state that it is over 30 years since I first commenced to use your Varnishes, and during the entire time, my business intercourse with your house has been of the most pleasant nature, and your goods have given entire satisfaction. The two grades of Varnish which I am now using, viz.—Elastic Carriage and Extra Rubbing—I consider superior to anything I have ever tried, and as long as the quality remains at its present high standard, you can rely on my orders. Please send me, by steamer, one barrel each, Elastic Carriage and Extra Rubbing Varnish. Yours respectfully, GEORGE L. BROWNELL.

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