

THE GLEANER

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T. B. ELDRIDGE, Editors. J. D. KERNOLLE

LIBERTY.

One of the anti-prohibition arguments is that prohibition will deprive them of their rights, that it will take away their liberties and freedoms for which their forefathers of this Revolution fought.

These are some of the principles on which the prohibition law is founded. They are the principles that underlie the whole civil and criminal code.

We have referred to the matter in this way because the evils of alcohol are admitted even by its apologists, and what is so notoriously detrimental to the public welfare should not be permitted to exist under the recognition of law.

That the liquor traffic is an evil and a great evil at that, is susceptible of proof, and it is not our intention to argue that question in this article.

The president of the anti-prohibition convention said that many secular and religious papers in this State will seem with lies, until the election. He said that the preachers and the ladies must be fought.

The Republican Executive Committee have declared against Prohibition.

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The story of a horrible crime, to be found in another column, was almost equalled by another that took place at Greensboro on last Saturday night.

About two hundred citizens of Rockingham County rode into Greensboro some time before midnight, and overpowering the jail guard, they broke bolts and bars until they came to the cell in which the negro Taylor was confined.

As much as we abhor crime of any kind, and especially the horrible crime of which the negro Taylor was guilty, and though like most other people, we think that he well deserved hanging, yet we have no sympathy with men who take the law into their hands, and hustle a guilty wretch into eternity, denying him the right of every citizen—to have a jury pass upon his guilt, and hurrying him into the presence of his Maker with all the blackness of his terrible sin, without opportunity to prepare for the great judgment.

Lynch law is horrible, and is all the more detestable because of the numbers who engage in the execution of its sentence. The laws of the land are capable of meeting out speedy justice.

Washington Letter.

[From our Regular Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, D. C., June 7, 1881.

The reports from Albany indicate that all parties are alike at sea. The Democrats are disputing whether or not to hold a caucus.

The stalwarts say that all the stories that have been published about General Grant and the Senatorial contest are premature. The General has not been asked to take part in the fight, and unless it is his own wish to help, his aid will not be invoked.

General Jere Rusk, of Wisconsin, has written a letter to the President declining to accept the position of charge de affairs to Paraguay and Uruguay to which he was nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

The statement current in the papers that while Auditor McGrew was asked to resign Deputy Auditor Lilley was summarily removed, is wholly incorrect.

As a matter of fact he was asked to resign with the same courtesy extended to Mr. McGrew. Both Mr. Lilley and Mr. McGrew have a large circle of friends who believe them entirely innocent of any complicity with the Star route ring.

Numerous applications are received by the President daily for appointments as Cadets at large in the naval academy at Annapolis. The law provides for no further appointments until the number of such cadets at the academy is reduced to ten.

The Star-route frauds are in charge of an expert investigator—one born to such work—and from the whisperings that come through the cracks in the official doors it is thought that some startling facts are being brought to light.

Y. M. C. A.

The fifth annual convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations will be held at Statesville during the present week, commencing with Thursday evening.

The Liquor Traffic and Schools.

[Correspondence of the News and Observer.]

The fact that the statement has been often made that the school system would be seriously, if not ruinously affected if the State realized no revenue from taxes on intoxicants has caused me to investigate somewhat the matter.

For the year 1880 there was collected for county, State and school purposes the sum of \$1,751,401. Of this sum the school tax was \$342,290.68, the county tax \$967,423.98, the State tax \$431,687.92, and for the Penitentiary \$94,997.00.

It will be observed that the State and school tax combined does not amount to as much as the county tax. That is to say, the State furnishing the officers, the judiciary, the Legislature, the schools, supporting the Penitentiary and the insane, the deaf, dumb and the blind, together with the erection of large commodious buildings on less than one-half of what the counties operate upon.

Why this striking difference? Ought not the county tax to be much less than the State? It would be but for the terrible amount of crime committed, caused by intemperance, the expense or most of which falls on the counties.

Let us visit the court for one session and see the number of cases tried, the immediate cause of which is traceable directly to the grog shop.

In one county of the State the writer knows one case prosecuted at the expense of the county. The defendant, while in a drunken state, shot and killed his fellow-man, was convicted, and is now in the Penitentiary. The cost that the county paid, to say nothing of seven years of expense to the State in the Penitentiary, was more than all the tax derived by that county from liquor since the war, a period of seventeen years.

In Wake county, the one where the boast is made of the amount paid by those who deal in liquor, the city of Raleigh pays \$716.30 more tax to support the graded school than is realized by the county, State and school fund from tax on liquors.

These facts are taken from the Auditors report for the year 1880, and constitute the "enormous" tax system of yesterday by one of the speakers.

The only question is, is \$42,233.36 a consideration compared with the crime, injury and sin caused by strong drink. Does it not cost more than ten times this amount to feed the convict and criminals, keep the peace, prosecute the cases, support the paupers, which are entailed by this one course.

A Horrible Crime.

[From the Greensboro Patriot.]

On Friday night last, near the town of Reidsville, between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock, two negroes, John Taylor and George Gunn, in the employ of Col. James Irwin, as farm hands, during the absence of their employer and his daughter, went to the house of Col. Irwin and finding Mrs. Irwin alone with her little son, entered the house.

On Sunday about noon Taylor and Gunn were arrested and taken before a justice at Reidsville, and during the trial confessed their guilt. The crowd which had assembled, became indignant and at one time lynching was freely talked of.

The parties were committed to jail at Wentworth. No effort was made to lynch them on the way to jail, but on Saturday evening, it is reported, a number of gentlemen organized a lynching party. It appears that no attempt was made and Taylor and Gunn remained in jail until Sunday night.

horrible deed, and moved off in the direction of Danville, Va. Gunn was left in the jail at Wentworth. During the night a party of men went to Wentworth, and on reaching the jail demanded the keys from the jailor, but were refused. The next thing was to force the jail doors; which was done, but when it was ascertained that Taylor was gone, the party left and went in pursuit of the fleeing sheriff and his prisoner.

Taylor is 22 years of age, weighs about 140 pounds, seems to be in excellent health, and although he is considerably excited, talks freely about the affair. He says, however, that Gunn is the guilty man, that he accompanied him to a point near the residence of Col. Irwin and then stopped. He heard the cries of Mrs. Irwin but was afraid to go to the house.

Mrs. Irwin is suffering considerably from the attack upon her. The good people of Reidsville seemed determined to mete out quick justice upon the guilty wretches. Rockingham Superior Court is now in session and it may be that these devils in human form can be tried this week.

Northern Invaders.

[News and Observer.]

The South is being constantly invaded by Northern folks. A lot of 'em went to Columbus, Georgia, and invaded that place, building the most complete factory in the South and showing what energy, enterprise, skill and capital can accomplish in Dixie, in the way of the milling business.

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