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THE LEGISLATURE.

It now looks like the Legislature will not get through its business before some time in March.

An Act has passed the Legislature relieving B. F. Wilder, ex-Treasurer of Franklin County, of the responsibility for the money deposited in the Bank of Louisville.

A large number of private bills have passed during the past week. A bill to form a new county out of a portion of Richmond county, to be called "Scotland," has passed.

In the death of Rev. Bennett Smedley, President of St. Mary's School at Raleigh, the State loses one of its best and most venerable citizens.

A "UNION PRINTER" wrote a very sensible and timely article for the Raleigh Post on the subject of the State Printing. For some years this editor has observed that the "lowest bidder" business has proved disastrous in many ways.

SPEAKING of the public schools Rev. J. D. Huffman says:

"I think that the hope of public schools rests with the churches. Herbert Spencer says truly that the Sunday School is the parent of the public school. We must multiply our Sunday Schools and make them more efficient."

The following which we take from the Statesville Landmark, is very sound talk:

It is a very difficult thing for a political party to maintain power and popularity together. From our standpoint the present General Assembly has made very few mistakes; in the main it has legislated in wisdom; and yet the Democratic party of the State is much weaker by reason of this legislative session than it was at the last election. And this is not by reason, either of its dealings with local questions but with small and local ones, nor yet its fault because of its action on even these, for upon many of them it has not acted. But dispensary agitators, stock law agitators, proposed new counties, proposed amendment of town and city charters, and a whole train of measures like these have ripped up any number of communities and caused much strife and party division. It is hoped that nothing serious will come of it all, but it is a safe general proposition that it is as difficult for a victorious party to stay in as to get in.

TELL IT.

The Raleigh Post lays justice down in heavy chunks in the following:

"We cannot refrain from mentioning some incidents of the present cold snap.

When the whole community was stirred on Monday to provide ways and means to relieve the destitute of this city, one of the first acts was to appoint a committee to ask the aid of the railroad; and when thus approached, both the Southern and Seaboard quickly responded by offering to haul free of charge, fuel to the city.

"When it was reported to Col. Andrews Monday evening that the insane asylum was out of coal he immediately ordered a car-load belonging to the Southern to be delivered to the asylum authorities, which was done, three engines and forty men being required to carry over and unload it.

"And yet these are the great and necessary agencies of enterprise and development, and this is the man whom a certain class of politicians who have yet to render the State some service—some of whom have been large beneficiaries of the State's patronage, as well as patience—seek to oppress and plunder, and prefer to continually slander and reduce.

"No tale of disaster can be told to any manager of a railroad in North Carolina without meeting with prompt and liberal response; no opportunity can be presented by which they can contribute to the development of the State or any section 'within the sphere of influence' which fails of prompt action. Yet these are special objects of the personal and partisan malice of the few demagogues whom the last election left on the surface. Time vindicates all things."

There is much truth in what the Post says, and the people—that is, the thinking ones are getting tired of hearing so much "rot" and demagogism, on the part of certain politicians who have made a rule, whenever they want to run for some office or carry a certain point, to jump on railroads and other enterprises, whether there is excuse for their action or not. As the Post says the railroads have done more to build up the various enterprises of the State than all other agencies combined, and there is no good reason in the world for this continual baldpate about the railroads "are going to own the State." As a prominent citizen of Louisville said one day this week, "The railroads as a rule, will always do what's right, if allowed to do so."

TWO DEMOCRATIC LEADERS.

Washington Post.

Perhaps it would be better to describe them as one leader and one back-number—we refer to William J. Bryan and Grover Cleveland—for the former is alert, instinct with life and vigor, strenuous, enthusiastic, virile, and the other recks with the dullness and the gangrene of Mugwumpery. Cleveland left his party weaker, more discordant than he found it. Bryan took up the dying embers of its spirit and fanned them into raging flame. He gave his party inspiration, fervor, hope. He animated and revived it. Despite the desertions and the treacheries wrought by vanity and avarice in 1896, he developed some 700,000 more votes than had ever been cast for any Democratic candidate before, including Mr. Cleveland, and he gave to the country the spectacle of an ardent, united, and homogeneous party organization. While Mr. Cleveland, thrice the nominee of a Democratic National Convention and indebted to the party for all his eminence and prosperity—while Mr. Cleveland sat apart, a sullen conspirator against his quondam benefactors, encouraging infidelity and lending party wickedness, Bryan flamed in the forefront of the battle, a striking and invigorating figure, the incarnation of youth, and strength, and ardor. He relit the fires of Democratic zeal. He gave the party life, put blood into its veins, and set its pulse throbbing. He held thousands in the grasp of his imperious eloquence, and sent them from him tuned to loyalty and heroism. He took the dead carcass of the Democracy from the ground upon which his predecessor had contemptuously flung it, and filled it with the fire and the joy of youth.

Say what one may as to the soundness of the doctrine Mr. Bryan preached there can be no two opinions as to his qualities of leadership. Mr. Cleveland hid himself in the temple of his party, solemn, owl-like, heavy as a pagan idol, but Mr. Bryan took the vanguard of his army and led it, a palpitating and inspired force, into the red vortex of the fight. The one was an oracle, hid away in caves, veiled in mystery, manifesting himself in rumblings and strange noises. The other, an impetuous apostle, with bright sword and flashing armor, cleft the way for those that followed him. No doubt there are doting and infatuated idolaters who still await another advent of the Mugwump dispensation, another revelation of the Mugwump fetish. But the Democracy on the fighting line have done with ecstasy and superstition. He who leads them next year must be a thing of flesh and blood—a warrior himself.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW ELECTION LAW. Provides for a State Board of Election of Five. The basis of the new election law is contained in Chapter 16 of the Code, as amended by the Acts of 1885 and 1889.

THE POWER TO HOLD ALL ELECTIONS IS VESTED IN A STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, TO BE COMPOSED OF FIVE PERSONS TO BE ELECTED BY THIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND BIENNIALY THEREAFTER. This board is to organize this year and elect one of their number chairman and another secretary. This board will appoint a county board of elections composed of three persons.

THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS APPOINTS THE REGISTRARS AND POLLHOLDERS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTIES. The county canvassing boards are re-established. The State canvassing board is composed of the State election board and the Governor and Secretary of State.

THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT REGULATING REGISTRATION ARE FRAMED WITH THE VIEW OF KEEPING OUT THE REPEATERS AND NEGROES WHO COME IN FROM TENNESSEE AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE ELECTION LAW OF THE CODE IS ONE OF THE BEST DRAWN CHAPTERS IN THAT BOOK. Its provisions are clear. The additions made to the law are such as are required by conditions which have grown up since 1883, when the Code was adopted.

FRIEND OR FOE WHICH.

Preaching morality to a dying sinner, showing the danger of fooling with edged tools after a person has been severely cut, or pointing out the good effects of economy to those who have wasted their money and the rainy day finds them with out ordinary means of sustenance, is practically worthless endeavor, so far as benefit may be to the sufferers.

But the present severe wintry weather points a moral, which while it may be wasted in the telling, yet should be told. It was only a few months ago that the colored people of eastern North Carolina were in open array against the white people.

Not a colored man, but acknowledged that the white people provided for his race, in giving him a means of livelihood, in schooling his children and in giving him full protection as a citizen.

But the secret acknowledgement of all these benefits to himself and race were forgotten, and the colored race as a whole, were out in open manner, threatening not so much its own privileges, but seeking to destroy the supremacy of the race which gave the colored race its every benefit and privilege.

The winter came with its unusual terrors of snow and ice, and the colored race fell helpless before it. No preparation for a day had been made. No food, no fuel and but poor shelter at the best.

Where were the bold colored leaders who gave advice during last fall to their people to assert themselves? Why did they not tell their people what to do to help themselves in their extremity, or at least provide their improvident brethren with food, clothing and fuel?

To whom did the helpless and suffering colored people turn, but to that race which they had declared was their enemy, and how graciously and liberally has that race, the Anglo Saxon, responded!

In this city, the colored people improvident as usual, found themselves without food or fuel or the money which could have given them what the cold weather made so imperatively necessary for them that they might live.

On every side, societies sent out to these perishing colored people the necessities for their sustenance, and the taxpayers through their City Trustees offered to assist every person needing the necessities which the weather demanded.

The moral of all this ought not to fail to impress the colored people. It ought to make them realize that the race which they fought against was not an enemy, but was the friend of the colored race, and today as on all occasions it is the benefactor which has stood before the colored people and death, and offers the means to preserve their lives.

NEW ELECTION LAW.

Provides for a State Board of Election of Five.

The basis of the new election law is contained in Chapter 16 of the Code, as amended by the Acts of 1885 and 1889.

The power to hold all elections is vested in a State Board of Elections, to be composed of five persons to be elected by this General Assembly and biennially thereafter. This board is to organize this year and elect one of their number chairman and another secretary. This board will appoint a county board of elections composed of three persons.

The county board of elections appoints the registrars and pollholders for their respective counties. The county canvassing boards are re-established. The State canvassing board is composed of the State election board and the Governor and Secretary of State.

The provisions of this act regulating registration are framed with the view of keeping out the repeaters and negroes who come in from Tennessee and South Carolina.

The election law of the Code is one of the best drawn chapters in that book. Its provisions are clear. The additions made to the law are such as are required by conditions which have grown up since 1883, when the Code was adopted.

The State and National elections are divorced and the former will be held on the first Thursday in August.

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Will the colored people, when fair weather comes, remember these cold days and the white people's noble generosity?

Let it be hoped they will, and that the future will show, by their behavior that they appreciate what has been done for them, at this and all other times.

PROBLE would have fewer troubles if they spent less time in talking about them. It's a poor kind of repentance that doesn't insure against a repetition of the offense.

UNTIL ANOTHER CAMPAIGN.

The most looked after person during a political year, is the newspaper editor.

His office is a resort for the politician and for those who want the latest political news. At barbecues and all kinds of public speaking he is anxiously wanted, and quite often at political dinners he is asked to attend, not so much as a matter of friendship and courtesy as for the sake of keeping on the good side of the editor, and for fear he may not continue his gratuitous political work, and might intimate that a dollar or two for a column of political puff would be necessary.

But how different after the campaign is over and the candidates have secured their offices! Let the newspaper editor, however modestly he may ask for any favor, see with what astonishment his request will be received, and by the very men whom he has assisted into office.

Perfect bewilderment will be depicted in the office holder's face, and usually he will ask "upon what grounds do you base your request?"

Along this line the Charlotte News very pertinently says: "In the last campaign the newspapers did more than any other agency to redeem North Carolina. They fought long and hard, worked early and late and gave everything in their power for the success of the ticket. They do this willingly as a matter of principle and without the hope of reward. They are thanked profusely by the candidates during the campaign, but when it is over they are soon forgotten. What newspaper man (and several of ability were candidates) has been appointed to a responsible position by the Legislature?"

And it is not too much to assert that a newspaper man who did faithful work during the campaign, would find it the hardest kind of effort to get a position at the hands of the Legislature, in fact his task would be harder than for the average outsider with a little political "pull."

But wait until next year, and the newspaper man will be a great favorite again, and his company will be in request by the very persons who today give him the cold shoulder.

The esteemed Charlotte News ought to know that it is all the world of a difference between before and after the election, for the newspaper man—in North Carolina, especially.—Newbern Journal.

Yes, and some of the members of the present Legislature, do not even favor giving the editor the same rights before the law that other people have. After all the labors of the newspaper men for their election and for good government there are some of the members who slap the editors in the face by refusing to pass a just libel law, which they were requested to pass by the Press Association of the State. And we learn that just one man in the present Legislature who has been criticized by a certain newspaper is opposing the legislation asked for by the Newspapers of the State. The Press of the State while modest in its demands, will be heard from again, and it may not be pleasing to those members of the present Legislature who refuse to act fair with the editors of the State.

WE DON'T NEED PRIMARY ELECTIONS. Newton Enterprise.

We notice that several exchanges are still pressing the Legislature to incorporate in the new election law a requirement for primary elections to nominate all party candidates for Governor and United States Senator down to township officers. They do things this way in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and perhaps other Southern States. From the published accounts of these elections, we have never seen anything to recommend them to North Carolina. Two or more sets of candidates take the stump and conduct a campaign on personal or factional lines, and such campaigns from their very nature always become more bitter and disreputable than party campaigns. Instead of discussing questions of government, the candidates attack each other's character, impeach each other's Democracy. When the contest is over, those belonging to the losing side are left to make a choice of voting for men whom they have proclaimed as unfit and unworthy, or leave the party. The effect of this kind of campaign, we are sure, would cause serious divisions, if not a disastrous disruption, in the Democratic party in North Carolina. Those who claim that such iron-clad primary elections are necessary to hold the party together, have certainly a queer way of reasoning. We believe in the quiet primary elections that some of the counties in the State have for years been having, where men go to their polling places and express their preferences as to candidates if they feel like it, but reserve the main battle till they take the field against candidates of an opposite party, and on party issues. We hope the Legislature will not listen to the bad advice some of the papers are so freely giving about requiring party primary elections. They are not needed in North Carolina. Whenever factions and proscriptive run rampant in the Democratic party, we lose. Whenever these are kept in the background, as in the last election, we win.

As a rule the papers which are clamoring for this new scheme are the ones which went wild over fusing with Butler last year. Their present scheme is just as unwise as their fusion scheme was.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve. The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Ayer's Drug Co.

There are many accidents to live stock which cause delay and loss to the farmer in his work. In a large number of instances the delay would be but trifling if a remedy was promptly applied. Dr. J. H. McLean's Volcanic Oil Liniment has for many years been regarded as the farmer's friend. Its healing influence on the flesh of domestic animals is immediate and permanent. Price 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1 a bottle.

ADDITION.

We call your attention to some new lines we have added to our stock of Hardware.

Black wrought Pipe, 1/2 to 2 inches, Galvanized Pipe 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches, Pipe Fittings all kinds from 1/2 to 2 inches. Check Valves, 1/2 to 2 inches, Globe Valves 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches.

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Come to see us when you want anything. We handle the following by the car load and are able to give you close prices on Meal, Meat, Flour, Salt, Corn, Seed Oats, Winter, Spring and rust proof, Bran and Ship Stuff, Shingles, Laths, Lime, Cotton Seed Meal, Hay, Nails and Sewer Pipe, Coal and Coke.

Yours truly,

HICKS & ALLEN.

P. S.—Mr. Steuber says now is the time to bring him all your Cow Hides, Mink Skins, &c.

STOP!

LOOK!

LISTEN!!

At what one of our patrons say.

There is nothing to equal the Peerless Steam Cooker for cooking cakes.

MRS. THOMAS—Since I sent you the first testimonial of the Cooker I have given it a fair trial on light bread and cakes, it cooks both beautifully and especially nice is the fruit cake cooked in it. I would not be without it for one hundred dollars if I could not get another.

Very Respectfully, Mrs. J. S. BARROW.

Any one wishing to see one of the Cookers can do so by calling at my residence or at the TIMES office.

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