

# Carolina Watchman.

SALISBURY, FRIDAY MAY 3.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION.

## A Glorious Success.

A. S. MERRIMON NOMINATED FOR GOVERNOR ON THE FIRST BALLOT.  
HON. JOHN KERR PRESIDING.

GREAT ENTHUSIASM.

GREENSBORO, N. C.,  
May 1st, 1872.

The State Convention which convened here to-day, is a grand success in the number of its delegates, the number of the counties represented, the character of delegates, the spirit of the occasion, and so far as anything yet transacted is concerned, in the results of its deliberations. There are 83 counties represented, embracing among the delegates sent up, gentlemen from all the various walks of society in the State—farmers, mechanics, artisans, lawyers and doctors. It is the finest assemblage of men we have ever seen in North Carolina. The utmost harmony has prevailed. There was not one on hand with an "axe to grind," or if there was he was ashamed of it. Every man who came here seemed actuated by the grand—the leading idea of relieving the State from the curse of radicalism. No one knew before hand who would be nominated for any office. No one had a personal favorite he was not ready to sacrifice for the good of the cause. And of all the various persons heretofore spoken of by the press for the several offices to be filled, we have not known any of them to electioneer for the place. The delegations have shown no embarrassment, and no over-weening anxiety for individuals. But all gloriously infused with the grand idea of carrying the State, there seemed no room for any thought not in full accord with it.

The readers of the *Watchman* may be thankful and take courage! Their Convention surpasses all expectation. It is a lively illustration of the sentiments which have filled the hearts of the people for months past—will give form and force to those sentiments, and is destined to awaken a glowing, irresistible spirit of patriotism from the mountains to the sea-board. A ballot was taken for a candidate for Governor about 5 o'clock this evening, with the following result:

Hon. D. M. Barringer	13
Hon. J. M. Leach	20
Hon. A. S. Merrimon	70

Judge Merrimon having received a majority of all the votes cast was, on motion, unanimously declared to be the choice of this Convention.

The Convention then adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

We invite attention to the notice found elsewhere in our columns, of the American Life Insurance Co., of Philadelphia, whose claims upon the public confidence and support are to be found in its character and history. This Company ranks among the oldest in this country, and has maintained an onward progress through nearly a quarter of a century. The men who organized this company, and the men who now have the management of it, were and are, as we have reason to believe among the best and most trustworthy citizens of Philadelphia. Being originally established from the most humane motives, and in strict conformity to all the principles involved in Life Insurance, necessary to future success and security; possessing capital, integrity and business ability, the American has never been affected by any financial crisis in the country, which so often prove disastrous to other great interests, but has steadily increased in strength, influence and usefulness.

The General Agent of this company, Rev. L. F. WAT, at Statesville, is well qualified by his polite and gentlemanly bearing to promote the success of the work in his hands, and fully represents a company bearing solid merits to commend it to public favor.

Our good humored friend of the *Fayetteville Eagle* is assured that we do not envy its ability "to soar far above watchmen, sentinels and towers, and take a higher and broader view of things than others. It is an *Eagle's* business and life to soar—his pride and glory. We heartily rejoice in every success of our *Fayetteville soarer* to promote the ends for which we are mutually laboring. If there be a difference in the amount or the value of the services rendered, it may be charged to account of natural disparity as between a watchman and an eagle, which leaves no just cause for asperity. Soar on dear *Eagle*, and fear no puny shaft shall reach you whilst amidst the clouds. The danger is in swooping to catch the prey. That last snatch you made at us was a mistake. You thought you had caught a good fat hare, but we know better, and can laugh at your mistake. Nevertheless, peace is the word, so wing you to the peaceful eyrie (our file) and see what you have caught, and enjoy it undisturbed.

The Odd Fellows of North State Lodge in this place, celebrated the 53d anniversary of the introduction of the Order in the U. States, on the 26th ultimo, by a procession to the Methodist church, odes, and an address by the Noble Grand, Thos. F. KLETTZ. The ceremonies were very neatly conducted throughout, and our young Townsman, Mr. Klettz, on the short notice allowed him, acquitted himself handsomely in an address of some 30 minutes length.

The second No. of the *Intelligencer*, Statesville, N. C., is on our table. It is better than the first, and displays so many marks of real life, and so many of public acceptance, that it affords us real pleasure. Iredell "is all right"—not only able to take care of herself but to lend a helping hand to her neighbors. We long to hear her good people thunder in the next election. They were Whigs in old times, because Whiggery was honest and just, and law-abiding. How can they be radicals now, because the radicals are dishonest, unjust and lawless?

COMMUNICATED.

**IMPORTANT DECISIONS.**  
The following decisions were made in the Supreme Court of the United States on the 23d of April, ult.

White vs. Hart et al., error to the Supreme Court of Georgia.  
This was an action on a note given for the price of a slave. The defense pleaded that, by the new Constitution of the State of Georgia the Court was prohibited from taking any jurisdiction of a case involving the question of the validity of such contract. The judgment of the Supreme Court of Georgia was for the defendant, and announced the following propositions: "1st. That when the present Constitution of Georgia was adopted in 1868, Georgia was not a State in the Union; that she had surrendered her connection as such, and was a conquered territory, wholly at the mercy of the conqueror, and that the inhibition of the State by the Constitution of the United States to pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts had no application to her."  
2d. That her Constitution does not effect the contract, but only denies jurisdiction to her courts to enforce it.  
3d. That her Constitution was adopted under the dictation and coercion of Congress, and is the act of Congress, rather than of the State. And that though a State cannot pass a law impairing the validity of contracts, Congress can, and that for this reason also the inhibition in the Federal Constitution has no effect in the case."

The Supreme Court of the United States reverses this decision, and in substance says:

"The subject presented by the first proposition has been considered incidentally several times by this Court, and its former decisions in respect to it need only be re-affirmed. The national constitution created not a confederacy of States, but a government of individuals. "It is assumed that the Union which it created, and the States which were incorporated into the Union, would be indestructible, and as far as human means could accomplish such a work it intended to make them so. The government of the nation and of the State, are each alike independent and absolute in their respective spheres of action, but the former is as much a part of the government of the people of each State and as such entitled to their allegiance and obedience as their own local State governments. The Constitution, and laws of the United States made in pursuance thereof, being in all cases where they apply, the supreme law of the land, the doctrine of secession is the doctrine of treason, and practical secession is practical treason, seeking to give itself triumph by revolutionary violence."

"The late rebellion was without any element of right or sanction of law, and the duration and magnitude of the war did not change its character. The States in rebellion were never out of the Union, and never absolved from the duties, liabilities and restrictions always incumbent upon them."  
"On the second point, it is said that without the remedy the contract may not be said to exist. The idea of validity and remedy are inseparable, and are both parts of the obligation which is guaranteed by the constitution against invasion, hence the denial of the remedy by the State of Georgia was not valid because it annihilated the contract. The third of the propositions is said to be clearly unsound."

"Congress, it is said, authorized the State to frame a new constitution, and the elected by a vote of her people to proceed within the scope of the authority conferred. The result was submitted to Congress as a voluntary and valid act of secession, and was so received and recognized in the subsequent action by that body. The State is set up to assail it upon such an assumption. Upon the same grounds she might deny the validity of her ratification of the Constitutional Amendments. The action of Congress upon the subject cannot be *enquired into*. The case is clearly one in which the judicial is bound to follow the action of the political department of the government, and is concluded by it. It is added that if Congress had expressly dictated and expressly approved the proviso in question, such dictation and approval would have been without effect. Congress has no power to supersede the constitution of the United States."

Mr. Justice Swayne delivered the opinion of the court, as also in the case of Osborne vs. Nicholson et al. In the latter case there was a warrant that the slave was sound, and that he was a slave for life.

"The Court says that such a warrant does not extend to the exercise of the sovereign power of the State by which the slave was emancipated, and that the thirteenth amendment to the constitution does not affect the question."

"The contract being valid when it was made, was enforceable in all the courts, and that subsequent legislation, either by statutes or constitutional provision, could not render it invalid."

Chief Justice Chase, alone dissented, and will file an opinion hereafter giving his reasons for doing so.

The great importance of these decisions will be seen at a glance by every intelligent mind. They will be seen in direct conflict with the opinion of our own Supreme Court in Hill vs. Keeler, affirming the validity of the homestead provision of the State constitution as against prior creditors. They will be seen, too, to forever dispel the delusion,

still huggd to their bosoms by many of our people, that through a decision of the Supreme Court they might be able to rid themselves of the reconstructed governments in the Southern States. They declare, in the most emphatic terms, that that question "cannot be enquired into" by the courts—that it is "concluded" by the action of the political department of the government, and that the courts will recognize and follow such action. This, it is presumed, will cause the last of the Bourbons to accept of the situation in good faith, and labor to make the best of it for the country; especially when it is remembered that all the Democratic Judges concerned in the decisions, and that there was but one dissenter.

From the Sentinel.

**IMPORTANT DOCUMENT.**  
Messrs. Editors:—We are approaching one of the most important elections ever held in our State, in which all the State officers are to be chosen, except those connected with the judiciary, who hold over under a decision of the Supreme Court made in their own favor, which keeps them in office two years longer than the people intended when they were elected.

The election of a U. S. senator, to fill the place of one who has held that office only to misrepresent and abuse the people of his native State, also depends upon this contest; as the legislature chosen this summer must elect a successor to one of the present incumbents.

There will also soon be upon us a presidential election in which the life of the whole nation is at stake. Such being the case, it is not well enough to arraign the two political parties of the State before the people upon the records which they have made; for each has now had its term in the legislative department, at least; and let the people decide which has worked for their best interest? This I propose briefly to do, so far as the finances of the State are concerned.

By chapter 46, laws of special session 1868, ratified on the 28th day of August, 1868, the salaries of the different State officers were fixed at the radical standard of high prices, rapine and plunder.

The democratic conservative legislature of 1870-71, by chapter 81, laws of 1870-71, ratified on the 15th day of February, 1871, changed those salaries so far as they were able and reduced them to their standard of retrenchment and reform.

Now let us see the difference as shown by the above mentioned acts and the Auditor's reports for the years 1869-70 and 1870-71.

IN THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.	
1869-70.	UNDER ACT OF 1870-71.
Governor's Salary, \$5,000.00	Gov's salary, \$5,000.00
Private Secretary, 1,000.00	Private Secretary, 750.00
Messenger, 500.00	Messenger, 500.00
Clerk, 1,200.00	Clerk, 1,200.00
Extra clerical services, as shown by Auditor's Report, 150.00	
	\$7,500.00

Thus saving this department annually, \$2,100.00.

By an act passed at the last session of the legislature, the governor's salary was reduced to \$4,000.00 to take effect on the 1st day of January, 1873, which would make the annual saving after that date \$8,100.00 or nearly one half.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.	
1869-70.	UNDER ACT OF 1870-71.
Secretary's Salary, \$2,400.00	Secretary's Salary, \$1,000.00
1 Clerk, 1,000.00	1 Clerk, \$1,000.00
1 " " 900.00	1 " " 900.00
Extra clerical services, as shown by Auditor's Report, 456.25	
	\$5,656.25

Thus lopping off unnecessary officers and saving \$3,656.25.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE.	
1869-70.	UNDER ACT OF 1870-71.
Auditor's Salary, \$2,400.00	Auditor's Salary, \$1,250.00
1 Clerk salary, 1,000.00	1 Clerk Sal., 900.00
1 " " 900.00	1 " " 900.00
Extra Clerks, (see Aud. Report), 117.50	
	\$5,037.50

Saved annually in this office \$2,987.50.

TREASURY.	
1869-70.	UNDER ACT OF 1870-71.
Treasurer's Salary, \$3,000.00	Treasurer's Salary, \$3,000.00
1 Chief Clerk, 1,500.00	1 Chief Clerk, 1,500.00
Teller's Salary, 1,080.00	Teller's Salary, 1,080.00
1 Book-keeper, 750.00	1 Book-keeper, 750.00
Extra Clerks, as shown by Auditor's Report 1869-70 pp. 83 and 104, 202.78	
	\$6,727.78

Saved annually in this department \$1,477.78.

By reference to page 79 of the Auditor's report for the year 1869-70 it will be seen that large payments were made to Souter & Co., of New York for this department, which should be counted with its expenses, as follows, viz: One year's salary as financial agents for the State, \$1,000; expenses for advertising, &c., \$329.42; making a total of \$1,329.42.

Nothing of the sort can be found in the Auditor's report for the year 1870-71, the conservative legislature authorized no such lavish expenditure of the people's money. The amount should, then, be added to the expenses of the radical rule in this department, making the saving under present laws, \$2,897.20.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.	
1869-70.	UNDER ACT OF 1870-71.
Sup't's Salary, \$2,400.00	Sup't's salary, \$300.00
Clerk, 900.00	No Clerk.
Travelling expenses (see Auditor's Report 1869-70), 410.15	
	\$3,710.15

Saved in this department, \$3,410.15.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.	
1869-70.	UNDER ACT OF 1870-71.
Superintendent's Salary, \$2,400.00	Superintendent's Salary, \$1,500.00
1 Clerk, Salary, 1,000.00	No Clerk.
Extra Clerks (see Auditor's Report 1869-70), 315.00	No travelling expenses, No agent.
Travelling expenses, 148.00	
J. W. Hood, agent, (paid from Educational fund), 1,778.60	
	\$5,641.60

Saved in this Department \$4,141.60.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.	
1869-70.	1870-71.
Atto. Gen's. Salary, \$1,500.00	Atto. Gen's. Salary, \$1,500.00
Additional counsel, 3,450.00	No additional counsel allowed now.
	\$1,500.00

Saved in this department, \$3,450.00.

CODE COMMISSION.	
1869-70.	1870-71.
Salary, \$7,200.00	They are allowed no salary now.
	\$7,200.00

Saved \$7,200.00.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.	
1869-70.	UNDER ACT OF 1870-71.
Adj't Gen's. Salary, 1,200.00	Salary, \$300.00
Travelling expenses, 50.00	Travelling expenses, 50.00
Hire of homes and buggies, 22.50	No horses and buggies.
	\$300.00

Saved in this office, \$972.50.

CAPITOL SQUARE.	
1869-70.	UNDER CHAPTER 80.
Paid Sol. Bragg and others for work, \$2,215.75	1870-71.
Paid for trees, 12.00	Law of 1870-71, the expenses of Capitol square are not to exceed \$600.00 per year.
Paid for grass seed, repairing, &c., 231.00	
Mature, 376.00	
	\$600.00

Saved, \$3,253.00.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.	
1869-70.	UNDER CHAP. 70 LAWS OF 1870-71.
Librarian's Salary, 700.00	Librarian's Salary, \$500.00
	\$500.00

Saved, \$200.00.

WOOD.	
1869-70.	1870-71.
Amount paid for wood and coal and cutting and hauling wood, \$3,935.66	Amount paid for wood and coal and cutting and hauling wood, \$1,825.75
	\$1,825.75

Saved, \$2,109.91.

MILITIA.	
1869-70.	1870-71.
Cost of Kirk and "other military campaigns during the year, \$74,742.70	Cost of Militia, 000
	\$000

Saved, \$74,742.70.

The impeachment trial of W. W. Holden cost \$13,098.08, and as that was the result of the campaign of 1869-70, it might well be charged to the militia account of that year. The expense, however, having been incurred by the legislature of 1870-71 in relieving the people from a tyrannical officer, we will charge it to them, so that the account will stand

1869-70. 1870-71.  
Cost of militia, \$74,742.70. Cost of militia, \$13,098.08.

A saving of \$61,644.62.

**Spies and Detectives.**  
During the years 1869-70, there was paid under an act of the radical legislature authorizing the governor to employ spies and detectives, the sum of \$7,195.68 as appears by the auditor's report for that year.

The adjutant general of the state seems to have been in charge of this force of detectives, (see page 73 of auditor's report 1869-70), and received from this fund for such services, besides his salary and travelling expenses shown above, the sum \$1,679.50. (see pages 108, 123, 131, 136 and 141 of auditor's report.) By chapter 15, laws of 1870-71, this act was repealed and the expenditure of money for such purposes stopped, so that the account stands

Spies and Detectives.	
1869-70.	1870-71.
Spies and Detectives, \$7,195.68	Spies and Detectives, 000
A saving of \$7,195.68	

**Keeper of Capitol and Weights and Measures.**  
1869-70. 1870-71.  
Amount shown by Auditor's Report, \$949.92. Amount shown by Auditor's Report, \$723.73.

Saved in this Department \$226.19.

PUBLIC PRINTING.	
1869-70.	1870-71.
Printed Public Printer, \$34,508.45	Printed Public Printer, \$22,292.01
	\$22,292.01

Saved in printing, \$12,216.42.

as we do not find them charged in the Auditor's Report after legislature in 1870. We may then state the account.

Legislative Department.	
1869-70.	1870-71.
Contingencies, \$57,884.82	Contingencies, \$36,274.78
A saving of \$21,610.04.	

The difference is more marked when we recollect the work done by each. The enrolling of 1869-70 amounted to 324 printed pages, while that of 1870-71 to 572 pages. That of 1869-70 cost, on an average \$7.73 per printed page, while that of 1870-71 averaged only \$1.70 per page, or a difference of \$6.05 in the enrolling of each page of the laws.

The members, during the session of 1869-70, received \$871.32 each, while those of 1870-71 received only \$632.55—difference of \$238.77 for each member. The radical legislature, during their whole term, were in session 304 days, at a cost of \$430,958.60, or an average of \$2,304 per member, while the conservative legislature sat during their term 190 days, at a cost of not more than \$192,950.17, or an average of \$1,013 per member—a difference of \$1,273 per member.

In this connection it is well enough for us to recall the fact that not a single charge of fraud or corruption has been brought against the conservative legislature, while the whole country resounds with such charges against their radical predecessors; charges which have not only been made, but also, in many instances, proven. I have not space to go over them here, but would refer inquiring minds to the report of the Fraud Commission lately published, as well as the Bragg Commission published in 1870.

There are many other items in which there was a great saving, such as the reduction of fees of clerks, sheriffs and other officers, which we have not space to notice here, but which the people feel and see.

And now to sum up, we find  
Saved in the Executive Department, \$3,100.00  
Saved in office of Secretary of State, 3,656.25  
Saved in Auditor's office, 2,887.50  
Saved in Treasurer's Department, 2,807.18  
Saved in office of Superintendent of Pub. Works, 3,410.15  
Saved in office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 4,141.60  
Saved in Code Commission, 7,200.00  
Saved in Adjutant General's office, 972.50  
Saved in Capitol Square, 3,253.00  
Saved in State Library, 200.00  
Saved in wood, 2,109.91  
Saved in militia, 61,644.62  
Saved in spies and detectives, 7,195.68  
Saved in keeper of Capitol and weights and measures, 226.19  
Saved in public printing, 12,216.42  
Saved in contingencies (less the amount charged to wood), 19,500.13  
Saved in legislature, 43,482.53

Making a grand total of \$181,148.16. If the conservative legislature has reduced the expenses in the items stated above \$181,148.16 from what they were under radical rule in the year 1869-70, then I ask in all candor, have they not proven themselves the friends of the people, and have they not carried out the retrenchment and reform which they promised in 1870.

Upon the above showing made from the acts of the two legislatures and from the reports of the auditor for the years 1869-70 and 1870-71, we will submit the case to the people, as the jury, feeling well assured that their verdict on the 14th Thursday of August next, will be in favor of the party of retrenchment, reform and economy in the public expenses.

**The North Carolina Senatorship.**—In the Senate Monday, Mr. Cameron moved to lay the North Carolina election case on the table. Lost.

Mr. Pool then addressed the Senate in favor of giving the seat to Mr. Abbott. The question at issue was a question of law, and in deciding it the law, and not the persons concerned, should be considered. The desire of the people of North Carolina was that the law should be executed as the senate might find it to be, and from them no complaint would be heard, no matter which way the case might be decided. There seemed to be some misapprehension as the action of the late State convention in North Carolina. That body had not memorialized nor attempted to instruct the senate on this subject; it had merely adopted a resolution expressing its views—a resolution intended for the people of North Carolina, and not for the Senate of the United States.

Mr. Edmunds, in discussing the incidental question, said he had no doubt that the legislature of North Carolina, in attempting to elect Vance, had attempted to insult the people of the United States and he would be glad to resent that insult if he could do so according to law, but he did not see how it could be done.

Mr. Stockton argued briefly against the claim of Abbott.

**Women wanting to go to Japan.**—It is stated that the representative of Japan in the United States desires to send fifteen American ladies to his country to teach the English language and ordinary branches of education. Nearly four hundred applications, mainly from ladies employed in the departments, have already been received. The pay is \$1,500 per annum in gold, for three years, and expenses to Japan and return.

**Direct Trade.**—A new line of sailing vessels from this port to Liverpool direct has been established by our enterprising friends, Messrs. Yerk & Mebane, of this city. The first-class vessel, the brigantine, M. R. Leach, is now on the "berth" for a cargo of naval stores and cotton, and will sail by the 15th of May. We hail this addition to our means of direct shipment as the harbinger of increased commercial communication with the Old World, and feel assured of the success of the enterprise.—*Wilmington Journal*.

**Navigating the Yadkin.**—The navigation of this bold stream is again talked of, and some three or four gentlemen have been prospecting of late to ascertain whether it may be done profitably. They left this point a few days ago on dirt, and after going some fifty miles up the river, returned in a boat. We understand they were favorably impressed with the idea of opening the Yadkin, the advantages to be derived from it, and the ease with which it may be accomplished.

**NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**  
**A CARD.**

THE undersigned respectfully informs the Patrons of his deceased Father, that he will superintend the APOTHECARY STORE lately kept by him and he hopes by strict attention to merit the patronage so liberally bestowed on him. A full stock of pure and reliable Drugs and Chemicals will be kept on hand as was always his custom to keep. Physicians Prescriptions dispensed at all hours of the day or night, with accuracy, fidelity and dispatch.

T. SILL  
Practical Apothecary.  
May 2, 1872. 4533

**State of North Carolina, IREDELL COUNTY.**

Superior Court, Spring Term, 1872.  
Marshall T. Bell as Assignee of William Griffin, Bankrupt, against George C. McHenry and Daniel H. Welch, defendants.  
IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court on affidavit filed, that the defendant George C. McHenry is not a resident of the State of North Carolina.  
It is therefore ordered and adjudged that publication be made in the *Carolina Watchman* a newspaper published in the Town of Salisbury, North Carolina, for six weeks