

## Carolina Watchman

### LOCAL.

JANUARY 21.

The proposed Dog Law is quite popular in this section: We mean the law proposed for the protection of sheep from dogs. Several farmers have asked us to urge the passage of such a law by the present Legislature.

North Carolina has tried optional Usury, what good has it worked? Where is that tidal wave of capital that was to flow in? How many have been benefited, and how many have been ruined? Count up the list of the poor borrowers who have been ruined, sold out of house and home, because they borrowed money at usurious rates, and you will find that nearly every other man has been damaged, while only one in a hundred has been benefited, by the accused system of optional usury; and that is only half way to what is proposed by the money ring. What will the Legislature do?

Hon. F. E. Shober is a candidate for Clerk to the House of Representatives in the next Congress.

#### State Journal

We do hope Mr. Shober may succeed in obtaining the position. We know of no one whom it would suit better, or who would be likely to fill it with more general acceptability. Then North Carolina is entitled to consideration as the first to lead off in the great Democratic Victory of last year. The selection of Mr. Shober to the clerkship of the next House of Representatives would be but a just recognition of North Carolina's service and influence in the triumphs of 1874.

The indignation meeting, held in New York city, to give expression to the Louisiana outrage, was a big thing; but what do such meetings amount to if they fail to embolden Congress to perform the duty which devolves upon it? Congress has done nothing yet. Why has not Grant been impeached? While these meetings show that the masses of the people are opposed to a military despotism, the criminal indifference of Congress is the strongest evidence that the Radical leaders are in sympathy with Grant and Sheridan and really countenance their crimes against civil liberty, constitutional law, and the rights of the States and people. The failure of Congress to impeach Grant for these outrages can not be mistaken. It shows a settled purpose on the part of Grant and the Radical leaders to disregard the people and to overturn the present form of Government if possible. Such is Radicalism stripped of all disguise. Let no one be mistaken.

One of the best evidences that now is the time to have a Convention, and that it will result in great good to the people of the State, is the fact that the entire Radical press of the State is bitterly opposed to it. It was disposed to twit the Conservatives for not favoring the measure so long as there was doubt about it being called, but as soon as public sentiment turns in favor of Convention, the whole pack of Radical editors raise a howl against it. Even the State Supreme Court, it is given out, will now decide, or has already decided that the worthless amendments to the Constitution adopted in 1873 are Constitutional. This decision is evidently strained, and, really, amounts to nothing, if made as stated: It will be regarded as simply an effort of a partisan Court to stave off a Convention; and then the Amendments are of no value whatever any how.

The ideas and policy of the Radical party are so wicked and dangerous in their tendency that it is the bounden duty of every good citizen to oppose them in every way and under all circumstances. Since the Rads have declared against Convention it is conclusive evidence that it is necessary and right.

The Tilton-Beecher scandal is dragging its slow length along through the New York Courts. Mrs. Tilton and Mrs. Beecher both attended the court regularly, and some time other women accompany them and remain throughout the day listening to the filthy detail of evidence. It is marvelous how any woman can fail to see the impropriety of attending such a court. The evidence is brought out with biting effect against Beecher. The half of what has already been published is sufficient to satisfy every one, except those who will not be convinced, that Beecher, the great Yankee sensational preacher, the representative man of Northern ideas and Northernisms, is not only an adulterer, but a liar and a villain. We are sorry to think that it is possible for any one, occupying the place that Beecher has occupied, can sink so low in the scale of infamy. Notwithstanding all the world will believe Beecher quietly after reading the evidence against him, Plymouth Church will, if it be possible so to do, purchase his acquittal by the court.

We think we have seen this much foreseen in the selection of the jury. It is impossible for any intelligent jury to fail to convict, in this case, if it be not influenced by improper motives. It is against justice and truth: Two hemispheres will await with anxiety to see which shall win.

The Charlotte Observer regrets that the Watchman should oppose an appropriation by the Legislature for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Centennial celebration of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence.

Now, as the Landmark and some other paper have reminded us that this is a land of sorrows; that the evidences of distress are in every household, and that there is a prospect of nearly every body's dying, who are now living, before another hundred years roll round, we are decidedly impressed with the impression that it will matter very little with those who are to hold the second Centennial whether there is an appropriation made by the present Legislature for the purpose desired or not. It would perhaps be a good thing for the present generation to set an example of economy to the children of the next since times are so distressingly hard.

But we don't propose to control the Legislature in this matter. We only speak our own opinions through the Watchman. We do not ask any one to adopt them; and besides we are liberal and generous, always open to conviction, and ready to confess our errors and retrace our steps when we are convinced that we are in the wrong. But we can't see the matter through those lamps.

There are several members in the present Legislature, who promised to use their influence to secure the passage of a Usury law, we now refer to the matter to remind them of their promise.

There is scarcely a more important matter before the Legislature. A law fixing the rate of interest at a reasonable figure would be hailed with general gratification, and prove a great blessing to the State. It would stop plastering the County records with mortgages, increase the value of real estate, and inaugurate an era of improvement, enterprise, industry and prosperity. A few disgruntled and ambitious, not to say selfish, capitalist, would draw in their money, but there would still be plenty left, more accessible and put to better use.

Ab! We are told that money should be free, that it is a commodity of trade and should not be trammelled. So is whiskey, but those who vend it are somewhat subject to certain laws, think you? There are many other things that might be mentioned, as luxuries and commodities of trade, and yet they are subjected to the restraints of law. We cannot see the propriety in putting money down as a commodity of trade, and if we were to admit that it is, we can see no justice in allowing the money lender less freedom from legal restraint than the whiskey vendor. Laws are made for the purpose of punishing and preventing evils. Who will say that excessive Usury is not an evil? There are many things that work very well in theory, but when they are reduced to practice, they won't do.

#### THE USURY QUESTION.

The Statesville Landmark, in an article on Usury question, says:

"Any legislation whatever on this question is class legislation. A stringent usury law operates either to the detriment or to the advantage of certain classes, and vice versa. Free, unshackled money—all restrictions removed—effects all alike, and is the nearest approach to wise and salutary legislation."

Let us then admit that any legislation on Usury is class legislation, is it not always wise to legislate so as to do the greatest good to the greatest number? We were never a stickler for class legislation, but suppose this class legislation, is very different from local or private legislation, and is in this case fully justifiable.

We fully agree with our contemporary in the assertion that "a stringent usury law will operate either to the detriment or to the advantage of certain classes, and vice versa;" and this is just the reason we desire to see a judicious Usury law passed and enforced. If there is no Usury law the money class will be favored, while all who are not bankers and brokers will be oppressed. A usury law will protect the laboring class, the real estate owners, and others from oppressive usury. Is it not better to favor the latter class rather than the former?

The remainder of the above extract is altogether irreconcilable with the portion just noticed. The repeal of all Usury law is tantamount to a law in favor of the moneyed class; "free, unshackled money—all restrictions removed—effects all alike, and is not the nearest approach to wise and salutary legislation."

In times like the present to remove all restrictions on money would be about as wise as the orders of a general permitting unrestrained travel through his lines just on the eve of a battle. People embarrassed as ours are more liable to go into extremes and are more easily imposed upon by those who may have it in their power to take advantage of them, than they would be under more favorable or prosperous circumstances.

But we are not satisfied that free money is the best for all classes, for the people generally, even in prosperous times. It boots nothing that usury laws have all been repealed in England. The preference thus given to money there is perfectly consistent with the institution and form of government of that Island. They have an aristocracy there, a money arist-

ocracy, a small class, a few men who live on usury, on the interest which they are permitted to exact almost without limit from the laboring millions. The money men of England are prosperous and independent, but the great masses of the people are mere hewers of wood and drawers of water—mere slaves, to the money class who are in fact the government. And so it will be here, should the time ever come when the money lords shall be permitted to exact whatever interest they may choose. The Federal government has already set the example and established a precedent in favor of a moneyed aristocracy, and it becomes the duty of the States to rebuke the Federal government and put an effectual check upon the proposed outrage by passing such laws as will keep interest at reasonable rates,

The Statesville Landmark publishes it says for the purpose of disapproval, the following extract from Hon. W. M. Robbin's late speech: The extract reads:

"Much as I regret and condemn those acts of the President and the Lieutenant General, I have special reasons for avoiding all abominous terms of speaking of those distinguished men. Let me take bold, manly views, and do justice to every man. General Sheridan is a gallant soldier."

The Landmark then proceeded to comment after this style:

"The Major was prudent enough to avoid opprobrium, and we truly regret that he was so very unfortunate as to bestow unmeeded adulation upon that coarse, vulgar tyrant and butcher, Sheridan. Certainly his bosom must have been overcharged with the milk of human kindness, and equally certain, he was not looking at the brute through the spectacles furnished by the people in the 6th Congressional District."

We are surprised at the above comment, coming from the intelligent source it does. Maj. Robbin's simply told the truth when he said Sheridan is a gallant soldier, and every veteran of Lee's army will sustain him in the assertion he has made. Sheridan can be a gallant soldier and a tyrant, and he has fairly won both appellations. When we consider the peculiar audience the Major was addressing, we are gratified at the manner in which he disposed of Sheridan. His words were well chosen, and they will be universally endorsed by thinking men everywhere. If he had indulged in bitter abuse of Grant and Sheridan at such a time and at such a place he would not only have disgraced himself, but his speech would have done great harm. His assertions were dignified, truthful, and yet sufficiently severe. We endorse every word, and honor him and the people of the 6th District will honor him, for having made so able and fit a speech in their behalf.

#### FEDERAL AND STATE RIGHTS.

In a message to the Legislature, on the Louisiana question, the Governor of New Jersey, treats the whole subject of Federal and State rights in the following concise and able manner:

That such action was a clear violation of the Constitution needs no argument. A mere statement of a few fundamental principles which lie at the foundation of our system of government, and which are plain as to have become axioms, is all that is necessary. The first great truth bearing upon the question is that the United States Government is the creation of the States; that it has no power except that which was bestowed upon it by the States, and that all powers not delegated are reserved to the States and the people thereof. The delegated powers given to the General Government are expressed in the Constitution. Another important fact is that the sovereignty of a State is complete and real in its proper sphere, and from this follows that is the duty of the several States, as well as of the United States, to assert and maintain, in a constitutional manner, their several rights. The student of the Constitution will also observe that its framers, fearing the encroachment of the Central Government on the rights of the States, were jealous of its military power, and hence threw around its exercise such guards and restrictions as made it subordinate to the civil power. Before the army of the United States can lawfully be used in any of the States when there is no invasion there must be insurrection or domestic violence, and also application for troops from the proper civil authority of the State. The right of such application is in the Legislature. If the Legislature is not in session, the Governor cannot apply, unless he first call upon the Legislature to convene. If upon being summoned the Legislature cannot convene, then, and not until then, has a Governor the right to call Federal soldiers into his State.

The Legislature could have been convened. In fact, on that day it was in session; and the extraordinary spectacle was presented of the United States army dispersing by force the very body without whose application not a single soldier had the right to be there. There was no insurrection or domestic violence; there was no riot; it was not a mob that was dispersed and driven out by the bayonet, but it was the Legislative Assembly of a sovereign State. There was no ordinary invasion of constitutional rights, but a stab at local self government in a vital part. It was a direct violation of the Constitution in its most important feature, imperilling the rights of the States and the liberties of the citizen.

The London "Times" on the Peace of Europe.

LONDON, January 18.—The Times, in an editorial, says: "In the gloom surrounding us, there is one thing perceptible, and that is all the men that are arming Germany, are arming en masse, and the surrounding nations, including the best part of the world, cannot be otherwise. The momentary appearance of peace has fled away. Germany recognizes the stern necessity. What she won by arms she can only hold by arms, and while arms are in her hands. The Times confesses that Germany cannot raise a third army, and her hopes are in her navy.

Greensboro has excellent graded free schools for children of both races.

The Fayetteville Eagle is to be removed to Charlotte and to become a daily.

The Field Crop Premium List of the N. C. Agricultural Society has been published.

Bethford Academy was burned on the night of the 6th. Ashes left in the building carelessly.

Col. Talcott, the well known superintendent of R. & D. R. R. has gone to Mexico.

The Presbyterian Church of Milton has called the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, of Hillsboro, to its pastoral charge.

P. A. Wilson, Esq., has been appointed Assistant Internal Revenue Collector for the 5th district via N. S. Cook resigned.

The Milton Chronicle says fears are entertained that wheat will suffer from the hard weather through which we are now passing.

Bishop Marvin will preach the sermon and Dr. Munsey will deliver the address at Trinity College commencement on June the 10th.

It is stated that the Fall River mills use annually about 135,000 bales of cotton, or one thirtieth of the entire crop, which they convert into 332,000,000 yards of cloth. They employ over 15,000 operatives, and pay them \$500,000 per month.

Things seem to be going all right now in South Carolina. Chamberlain is making an acceptable Governor, while the people have quieted down and appear to be working contentedly and happy for their material reconstruction.

On the question of Convention the Monroe Enquirer has this to say: "We have taken the trouble to find out something of the feeling of the people of this county on the Convention question. We believe every single person we have conversed with—and the number includes some of our most prominent citizens—express themselves as favoring the movement.—Put Union county down as for Convention."

If a man tells you that he does not want to advertise; that he is doing as much business as he wants to, cease soliciting him. Those men sometimes come to do less business than they want to do, and your bill for advertising may turn out bad. It is only those who "press up" business while it is really good, who gain that impetus which sends them over the hard places. It is the large advertisers who know how to "bridge over" panics, wars, hard-times, etc. Their experience in advertising has shown them how they may get rid of a heavy stock in time and thus get their money for it.—Reporter.

The Reidsville Enterprise says: Applications will be made to the present Legislature of North Carolina, for a charter of a railway from some point on the Raleigh & Gaston railroad, at or near Henderson or Ridgeway, or from some intermediate point, to the Western or North-western boundary of the State, said railway to pass Oxford, Roxboro, Yanceyville, and Reidsville, Wentworth and thence by the most practicable route to its terminus as hereinbefore indicated.

#### A Maryland Rebuke.

(Baltimore Gazette, 12.)

Yesterday's election for Mayor, at Cumberland, Md., resulted in the election of John Humboldt, Esq., the Democratic candidate, Hopewell Hobbs, Esq., Republican, being defeated by one hundred and fifty majority. The late incumbent, W. R. McClellan, was a Republican, and Cumberland had given a majority for that party for several years, and at the late Congressional election gave a majority against Mr. Walsh. People are becoming tired of Republican misrule.

#### THE STATE DEBT CONFERENCE.

(Raleigh News of Saturday.)

The conference on the State debt continued throughout yesterday, the proceedings of which are as yet not made public. Gov. Brodhead sent to the conference on yesterday a number of letters received by himself in regard to the State debt question, which were read by the Clerk. Several of the letters were from bondholders in England, and others from parties in several of our Northern cities. The general sentiment of foreign bondholders seems to be embodied in the following extract from the letter of Geo. H. Marsh, of Portsmouth, N. H.:

"I will cheerfully comply with any term of time you government may deem best suited to the means of the citizens."

The English letters express a desire that the past due interest on State bonds may be funded into new bonds and any compromise the people see fit to propose.

#### PETITION OF COLORED CITIZENS FOR A STATE GOVERNMENT OF THEIR OWN.

Barber Lewis of Tennessee presented in the House to-day a petition with 300 signatures from the colored people in various sections of the South, representing that the signers are desirous of having some portions of the South or South-West territory set apart for their exclusive use, and praying Congress to form it into States and Territories, with similar protection as is now given by law to the Cherokee, Choctaw, and Seminole Indians.

The petitioners state that they are desirous of having a fair chance in the great race of life, and are satisfied that neither themselves or children can ever have it so long as they are in the midst of the dominant race of people, their superior in point of education, and having many other advantages.

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We are pleased to learn from the *Spirit of the Age* that every liquor dealer in Raleigh, except one, has been indicted for selling liquor to minors. It is a notorious fact that little or no attention is paid to the law forbidding the sale of intoxicants to persons under 21 years of age; and all good citizens will rejoice if these greedy debauchers of youth shall be summarily punished.

Greensboro has excellent graded free schools for children of both races.

#### RELIABLE TESTIMONY.

It cannot be reasonably supposed that when a person testifies to the efficacy of a remedy whose benefits he has experienced, without solicitation, that he does so for the purpose of misleading the public, or from any other motive than that of gratitude. It is still more unreasonable to suppose that eminent physicians would corroborate the evidence thus given unless they were persuaded of its truth. The proprietors of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters are constantly in the receipt of voluntary testimony acknowledging the curative and preventive potency of his benignant tonic and corrective, emanating not only from those who have felt its influence, but also from well known members of the medical profession both here and abroad, who have witnessed its effects, and prescribed it in their private practice.

In the face of such evidence as this, to which the widest publicity has repeatedly been given, it would be absurd to question the medicinal virtues of the Bitters. Skepticism upon this point was long ago disarmed, and they are to-day as much respected and far more widely known than many of the official remedies which figure conspicuously in the pharmacopoeia.

They are universally recognized to be the supreme remedy for intermittent and remittent fevers, dyspepsia, liver complaint, general debility, disorders of the bowels and nervousness, as well as a means fortifying the system against malarious influences and those which operate injuriously upon the sensitive organs.

It is now offered to every one interested in beautifying and protecting the graves of their deceased relatives.

They are made in four sizes, with a variety of styles, ranging in price from \$60 to \$600, according to size and style. Can be painted any color desired, sanded or galvanized to suit the taste of purchasers. A galvanized plate, containing whatever inscription parties desire, is furnished with each mound free of charge.

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## THIS HANDSOME DECORATION

is offered at such prices as to place it within reach of all. We invite the citizens and public generally to call and examine for themselves.

Specimen can be seen at J. A. Ramsey's office.