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NEW YORK'S GOVERNOR.

CEREMONIES IN ALBANY ATTENDING A CHANGE OF RULERS.

Mr. Robinson Promising to Continue Mr. Tilden's Policy of Reform—Sentiments Concerning the Presidency Applauded.

ALBANY, Jan. 11.—At noon to-day, in the shabby old building called the Capitol of the State, Ludius Robinson was formally installed as Governor for the next three years. Long before the hour for the ceremonies the entrance to the Capitol were thronged with persons anxious to gain admittance, and the doors were kept closed, and policemen at the main entrance admitted to the floor ladies only and the gentlemen attending them. A half hour before noon the throng became so great that extra police officers were summoned to keep it from forcing an entrance. At fifteen minutes to twelve no seat was vacant. The galleries were packed, and there were hundreds outside clamoring for admission.

A few minutes before the entrance of President-elect Tilden and the new Governor, a distinguished appearing little gentleman attended by Col. Van Buren, walked to the main aisle in search of a seat. With address and long, wavy iron-gray hair as well as his benevolent and genial face, attracted much attention. Among the ladies were heard on all sides as to who he was. But the people were not kept long in the dark. He was recognized as Martin Fairbank Tappan. The name passed around the Chamber, and immediately a dozen gentlemen and twice as many ladies were on their feet urging the chair post to occupy their places. He took a chair by the side of the wife of Secretary of State Bigelow, and seemed to be very much interested in the ceremonies.

At 12 o'clock, President-elect Tilden, escorted by Gov. Robinson, entered the Assembly Chamber, followed by Lieut. Gov. Dorsheimer, Secretary of State Bigelow, the Governor's staff, in full uniform, members of the Court of Appeals, and Senators. Entering the clerk's desk, Mr. Tilden immediately proceeded to address the Governor-elect. He spoke in a very low tone, and the utmost interest was manifested by the audience. His reference to the reforms that had been accomplished under his administration was received with applause. But the most marked demonstration was made when Gov. Robinson, in replying, said that Gov. Tilden's work had received the approval not only of the people of this State, but of the whole nation, and they had called him, by an emphatic popular majority, to the highest position within their gift.

The cheering and clapping of hands continued for several minutes and presented Mr. Robinson from proceeding. This again when in answer to Mr. Tilden's question that he probably had been desired to disqualify Gov. Robinson promised that by hook or by crook it ever be encouraged to return, the audience broke forth in long and continued applause. Mr. Tilden said:

MR. ROBINSON: The people of the State have given a splendid endorsement of your confidence in choosing you for their chief magistrate upon a vote so unexampled. It is testimony to your ability, without assuming to add to its value. It is to me a great satisfaction to surrender the chief official trust of this Commonwealth to one whose valuable cooperation I have experienced, and whose career furnishes the assurance of his purpose to prosecute the work which I have consecrated two years of my private life. To recall the Government of this State to the pure condition in which a generation ago, you and I knew it; to remove the fungus growth which in evil times has enveloped this institution and legislature; to lighten the intolerable burdens upon the people; to improve institutions and laws; to systematically call into the civil service, whether by appointment or election, men of higher character and life, of better training and greater moral character, thus utilizing a class inferior in political capacity for public usefulness; to the noble objects; they had been pursued through stormy conflicts with selfish interests and unscrupulous support was an unflattering task in the people, if the prospect of real reform could be made visible. Our inspiration was a belief that nothing worth saving could be lost if only our work did not fail. [Applause.] The result of all could not have been safely challenged as work that has been already accomplished. Wasteful and corrupt systems destroyed. State taxation reduced one-half, the means for official publication enacted, the management of the public works and persons reorganized, and conditions preliminary to other reforms instituted. These are valuable results; that there are others even more important. The standard of official conduct has been raised, and with it the motives, and influences, which surround official life as without atmosphere. The public suspicion of legislative venality is disappearing, and the habits are disordered. The chief executive and administrative trusts of the State have been assigned to gentlemen who are eminent not only for personal probity, but for capacity, and high ideals of official duty. A genuine reform in any service has this been realized, official conduct not be the product of any mere sentiment, or any mere legislation without the effective cooperation of the men conducting the actual administration. I have traced these results, approved by the people at the last election, as the State, because they encourage the aspirations of the community for a better Government, and tend to inspire a noble ambition in all rising men to compete for honors and prizes by appealing to the best moral forces of human society. As an example of these results are infinitely important. I congratulate you, and all who support you, with such favorable auspices, you enter upon an administration which, I believe, will be fruitful

of public benefit and of honor to yourself. [Applause.]

The Governor-elect responded as follows:

GOVERNOR TILDEN: I thank you for the kind and encouraging words which you have addressed to me. In receiving you during the great trial which has rested upon you during the last two years, I fully appreciate the admiration of this great State. I feel that I have been called upon by an emphatic popular majority to the highest place in the nation. [Long-continued applause.] You have arrested gross abuses and wasteful expenditures; have enforced economy, and reduced largely the burden of taxation. More than this, you have restored a higher honor to the administration of Government, and made driven from this Capitol those who made it a house of merchandise, and enriched themselves by buying and selling legislation. I trust that no act of mine will give you any cause for regret. [Applause.]

Fellow citizens, I am here to take in public before you the oath required by the Constitution. We cannot forget that this is the first ceremony of the kind in the history of our existence, nor can we be unmindful of the progress which our State has made in population, wealth, and civilization during the hundred years that have passed. No one will deny that the amazing progress has been due, under Providence, to the free institutions, and constitutional government founded by the wisdom of the fathers of the republic. Standing at the threshold of a new century, it seems to me a fitting time and appropriate to present circumstances to recall some of the leading principles which underlie our institutions, and are vital to their continuance. As understood by the fathers themselves, they were thus announced by Mr. Jefferson in his first inaugural address: "The support of the State Government in all their rights as the most competent administrators of our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwark against an insidious tendency; the preservation of the general Government in its whole constitutional vigor as the guardian of our peace at home and safety abroad; the promotion of the interests of the people as a mild and safe corrective of abuses, which are lopped by the sword of revolution when peaceable remedies are unprovided; allowing acquiescence in the decisions of the majority; the economy of the civil over the military authority; economy in the public expense, that labor may be lightly burdened; the honest payment of our debts, and the sacred preservation of the public faith." [Applause.]

To the honor of our State be it said, it has adhered steadily to these principles, never seeking any undue advantage by reason of its superior wealth and power. While it has faithfully upheld the just rights of the States, it has promptly responded to every call to maintain the constitutional power of the Federal Government. It has kept ever onward in the true and safe road lying midway between the heresy of secession on the one hand, and the equally fatal heresy of centralization on the other. [Applause.]

Let us, then, fellow citizens, as we advance into the new century, renew our vows of loyalty to these great principles, and our hopes that the centuries to come may be even more prosperous, peaceful, and happy than that which has passed. [Applause.]

The oath of office, including the iron-clad addition, under the new Constitution, was then administered to Gov. Robinson and Lieut. Gov. Dorsheimer. They signed the Constitution and the ceremonies were over.

For hours after the Executive Chamber was thronged with persons who paid their respects to the new Governor and the next President. Mr. Tilden started for New York on the 5 o'clock train.

SNOW IN THE WEST.

A Train Five Days Running 117 Miles—The Snow Thirty-Six Inches Deep on a Level—A Trip From Henry's to Salisbury.

Maj. W. W. Rollins, the President of the Western North Carolina Railroad, arrived in this city yesterday afternoon, and gave a graphic account of his trip, between Henry's, the head of his road, and Salisbury, the train left Henry's Monday morning last about 7 o'clock. Snow was falling at the time, with the thermometer registering 18 degrees below zero. Soon after starting, the track grew very heavy, but the train managed to reach Old Fort. The snow was falling at a terrific rate, and with each turn of the wheels progress became more and more difficult. Four miles below Old Fort, the engine gave out of water, and the train came to a dead stop. The locomotive was cut loose, and with engineer Marsh, route agent Ramsay and four negroes, started alone to the tank which was three miles distant. About half way it ran into a snow drift which stopped it entirely, and after repeated efforts to get through, and as many failures, the engineer essayed to put back to the train and discovered to his utter consternation that he could neither go forward nor backward.

Bound fast by the snow, the engineer and his party remained there on the track the whole of that long and cold night, with no covering except their ordinary clothing, no shelter—except what was afforded by the cab, and no fire except what they could keep in the furnace of the engine by burning such fence rails and other wood as they could dig up out of the snow. Provisions were sent them from the train, and the next morning water was carried in buckets for a distance of a quarter of a mile, through snow 36 inches in depth on a level, reaching to the waists of the men, until enough was had to raise steam in the engine. Then by repeatedly running back, then under full headway striking the snow bank with the plow on the pilot, the locomotive finally made its way through this drift, to find the road filled with others almost as immovable.

Meantime, a large force of convicts had been sent for, and these pushed the train back to Marion, where the passengers were provided with all necessary comforts. The large engine proceeded down the road, at slow rate, the snow being shoveled out before it in many places, until, about the third day it reached Icard, where it found the up train from Salisbury. A special engine, the heaviest on the road, had been sent out from Salis-

bury, with the snow plow loaded down with castings, and the 3 engines, distributed along the road, cleared the track in five days, and the train which left Henry's Monday morning, reached Salisbury, a distance of 117 miles, Friday night at 12 o'clock.

The story as told by Maj. Rollins, with all the incidents well interwoven, would make a highly readable novel. He states that in many places the snow was drifted to the depth of 15 and 20 feet. The cuts of the railroads on top of the snow were filled with all kinds of birds, which had frozen to death and dropped down the bank. While waiting on the road, a whole covey of partridges was seen, frozen to death, and some of the crowd reached them and broke off the heads of some, their necks snapping like corn-stalks. At Catawba River a yearling was seen some little distance out in the stream, its hind legs having sunk through the ice, leaving its head and fore legs upright. It was frozen to death. The poor brute had no doubt gone out on the ice to try to get some water.

The rivers and creeks all along the line of the road having first frozen over and then been covered entirely by the snow, people and animals go over them as over the level earth. There is no sign anywhere of a running stream. With the apprehension of the people that they and their stock will freeze or starve to death before the snow melts, is intermingled the dreadful fear that when the thaw does come it will deluge the whole face of the earth, carrying with it destruction and death.

Maj. Rollins says the people of the mountains never knew or imagined such a terrific snow storm, and the Western Railroad never underwent such an ordeal. The train hands worked nobly to facilitate the progress of the trains, and some of them cannot now walk a step, so badly are their feet frozen. In addition to the snow, the weather is bitterly cold, and much suffering is undoubtedly being undergone by the western people.—Ital. News.

OUR NEXT JUDGE.

The Legislature has passed an act fixing the rotation of Judges, which says, the Judges of the Supreme Courts shall ride the circuits successively, commencing at the first district, according to an order and arrangement therein after described, which is in effect, that the Judge of the Twelfth judicial District shall ride the Spring term of 1877 of the First District, and successively thereafter the various districts in the order of their number in rotation. The Judge of the First District takes the Second, Judge of the Second the Third, &c.

By this arrangement we are to have Judge J. M. Cloud, of the Eighth District, at the approaching February term of the court; after this, Judge Kerr, of the Seventh, and then Judge Watts (Greasy Sam) and Judge Schenck goes first in the Tenth, Judge Farcher's District beginning in Alexander county on the 3rd Monday in February.—Charlotte Observer.

GOV. VANCE CONTRADICTING JUDGE MACKAY.

The New York Sun of the 23, says: "A dispatch was received yesterday at the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee, in this city, from Gen. W. R. Cox, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee of North Carolina, contradicting in the most positive manner the statement made by Judge Mackay in his interview with a Herald correspondent at Columbus, published on Saturday last. Gov. Vance, at whose request the telegram is sent, states positively that he has never had a doubt of Mr. Tilden's election, nor of his inauguration. He expresses surprise at the statement which Judge Mackay is alleged to have made, as no conversation has ever taken place between them that could in the remotest degree convey to him such opinions as he alleges in his interview."

A DOG'S ONLY DRUNK.

Here is an anecdote with a sharp moral that comes to us all the way from Australia: Sixty years ago, when I was a teacher in Kilmun parish, says John Fraser, I was using whiskey bitters for my stomach's sake. One day I dipped a piece of cake into and gave it to the dog. He grudgingly ate it, ending up his lips to avoid the taste. Evidently he became tipsy—he howled most piteously, and unaccountably looked up in my face as if for help. He began to stagger and fall like a drunken man. The appearance of his face and eyes was extraordinary. He lay on the floor until the effects of the drunk trick. The dog never forgot the trick. Whenever afterward I went to the dresser for the bottle he hastened to the outside of the house. One day the door being shut, he sprang at one both through a pane of glass, to get outside. So much for the wisdom of the dog—infinity surpassing that of foolish drinking men.

INDIANA.

Independents Act With Democrats—Complexion of the Legislature.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 4.—In organizing the Senate, a majority of the Independents voted with the Democrats, giving them a majority. The House organized with Republicans officers 54 to 44.

LOUISIANA.

Action of the Business Men of New Orleans—Nichols the Rightful Governor, Will Receive Their Earnest Support.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 4.—A card published and signed by about 400 firms and business men reciting that the liberties and welfare of Louisiana depend upon the establishment and maintenance of lawfully elected government of which Nichols is the executive head, and promising to pay 5 per centum of taxes for the ensuing year in advance, to the support of the same, and advising all citizens throughout the State to do the same.

The New York Tribune thinks it sounds very queerly to hear a Governor advising the Canvassing Board of a State to obey the order of the Supreme Court of the State, as did the Governor of Florida. And it does have a queer sound; but then, Governor Stearns, like other carpet-bag Governors, is a queer Governor. That's what's the matter.

POLITICAL.

Gov. Tilden.

George Alfred Townsend thus goes on about our next president: Mr. Tilden's manner is that of a fine old man, just between the leisure of a well-earned retirement from business life and the broad responsibilities of an opening public career. No man was ever better qualified by fortune, to succeed to the control of the country than he. He is rich and without a dependent family of relatives. I never appreciated more thoroughly the advantage of old bachelorhood than when looking at Gov. Tilden, with his fine, straight secretary, Pelton, who was the son of Mr. Tilden's sister, and Pelton's bride, Mrs. Pelton, who will probably do the honors of the white house. The new papers have been filled for months with stories of Gov. Tilden seeking a wife to be mistress of the executive mansion, where he, already domesticated, was an interesting a lady as he could find—a handsome, easy, amiable blonde, thoroughly accomplished to receive general society, and as well qualified to put people at ease as Harriet Lane or Nellie Custis. We have no president, except John Quincy Adams, whose concurrence with literature, music, history, art and public affairs has been like Tilden's. I had expected to see his library full of dry documents, such as are found in the sanctuaries of political editors, but his books were those of a rich amateur bibliologist, some of them slowly put together, as autographs and engraving accumulated, and these were methodically kept until they could be bound. Mr. Tilden's fortune has not been affected a particle by the campaign. He had no voluntary sponsor, like Jay Gould, to come forward with a purse, and was too prudent and discreet to waste his own means. Although he lives as elegantly as any gentleman in America, his appetites are simple, and he requires no lackey near him. His parlors are neatly a block in depth. When he wanted anything he got up and walked for it without calling, and he seemed to know where every book and plate and autograph belonged, among thousands.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The following is a *verbatim et punctatim* copy of a letter picked up on a public street in Raleigh last July, where it was no doubt accidentally dropped by the notorious J. Hester—he being on a visit to Raleigh and Greensboro in July that. It is an enigma we cannot solve, and we publish it hoping that Gov. Holden, Boyd, Ball, Smith and others who seem to have shelled out liberally to "Tom" for some secret if not rasically act, will give the public light:

NASHVILLE, TENN., Oct. 7, 1875.
 Mr. J. Hester.
 My dear Sir,
 You must send to the balance of the money, he is in bad health. I had rec'd all the letters from your Gov. Holden of N. C., to him and he states is not worth any money at present he is keeping a Post office. We cannot help that he was to get as I understand it five thousand—he has been paid only one thousand four hundred, that was raised from the Governor one thousand the other from Keogh, Ball, Albright, yourself J. Boyd, A. tourge. I must have the other money. I know all the whole story the other man's name was Stephens—the county was Caswell. You must send the money just as you did before this matter must be attended to immediately—Tom says he is well.

Mr. Hester sent to that pistol and the three hundred dollars, Tom says remember him to the old R. B. President on the N. C. R. R. Smith he gave me the last money I got in N. C. Where is old Steinh, he went back on us and would not go to Tom was low down when you sent him that money from the South, don't do anything by express. J. F.

[Endorsed on the back:]
 Keogh paid \$100
 Boyd 100
 Ball 40
 Smith 500
 Holden 300
 Albright 100

[And then this—Hester being in G. in July last.]
 GREENSBORO, N. C., July 1876.
 S. \$200
 K. 200
 B. 200
 A. 200
 H. 200
 B. 200

Now, what does all this mean? It evidently relates to something of a rasically character, which "Tom" led in, and for which he was to receive five thousand dollars. What was that something? Where is 'old Steinh' who 'went back on us and would not go?' We learn he was a Northern man who settled in Guilford but has since gone to Paris unknown. Let him be found and interrogated. 'Old Steinh' can't a tale unfold if he will.

'Don't do anything by express!' Why not? Because a clue to the rasality might be furnished. 'I know all the whole story—the man's name was Stephens—the county was Caswell.' Ah! and does it relate to Stephens' assassination? But J. Boyd was a Ku Klux when Stephens was killed, and we cannot think the man recorded above contributed to have Stephens killed. 'Tom,' however, may have been hired by a Washington city party to do the deed for political effect, and may be blackmailing the Republican party of North Carolina under threat of letting the cat out of the bag; and Boyd having joined the party with an eye to a seat in Congress, may come forward with \$200 to stop 'Tom's' mouth. We would like very much to know who this 'Tom' is, and for what he was to receive five thousand dollars.—Milton Chronicle.

A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.

George W. Wynne the well known livery stable man met with a most shocking accident last Wednesday. Seated on the box of his new four horse omnibus, he was driving out of the stable, and within a few feet of the door, he had his head turned giving some orders, when Jackson called to him. "Look out George!" and then he saw, hardly in time to dodge his head, certain death before him. As he bent his head, he caught him by the back of the neck and pressed him down till the boot of the omnibus gave way and the very walls about the door cracked from the pressure. When taken from the omnibus one of his eyes was popped nearly out of its socket and the blood ran from his ears. It is almost a miracle how he lived through it, and yet we are glad in the belief of his ultimate recovery. It is feared some of his ribs were broken. Mr. Wynne is highly thought of in this community.—Raleigh Sentinel.

HOW TO MAKE A PICKLE.

Take your youngest male child when about three years old. Let him have everything he wants; let him make as much noise as he will; let him eat and drink as much and whatever he has a fancy to; give strict instructions to his papa, his big brothers, visitors and servants that he is never to be punished in any way for anything he may do, and never even contradicted in anything he may say. By the time he arrives at the sweet age of seven, your youngest male child will be a very nice pickle.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

It may be interesting just now to read a few extracts from the Declaration of Independence, adopted July 4th, 1776:

"He has kept among us in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our Legislature."
 "He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power."
 "He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly for opposing with many firmness his insupportable and tyrannical usurpations."
 "The Republican platform upon which Abraham Lincoln was first elected contained the following plank:
 Resolved, That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States and especially of the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of powers on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend; and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the greatest of crimes."

DEATH OF CORNELIUS VANDERBILT.

Cornelius Vanderbilt died yesterday in New York. In his line of life he was a great man. In so far as we can judge he would have been great in any calling.

Mr. Vanderbilt was born on Staten Island, N. Y., May 27, 1794. When sixteen years old he bought a boat with which he plied between the Island and New York. At eighteen, he owned two boats, and was captain of a third. At nineteen, he married, removed to New York, and bought boats, sloops and schooners. At twenty-three, he was free from debt, and worth \$9,000. In 1817, he assisted in building the first steamboat ever run between New York and New Brunswick, and became her captain at a salary of \$1,000. In 1818, he commanded a larger and better boat on the same line, his wife at the same time making much money by keeping a hotel in New Brunswick. In 1824, he had full control of the line, and made it pay \$40,000 a year. In 1829, he left the line, and for sixteen years made steamboats from New York to Albany, Boston, Philadelphia, &c., his business. His habit was to put on new and superior boats in opposition to an old line and run them until he was bought off, or until he drove off his competitors and made a monopoly. In 1849, he began to go down to the sea in ships, and obtained control of the American Atlantic and Pacific Ship Canal Company, and run lines of steamers to San Francisco, &c., &c. In 1864 he abandoned the water. During his career he had built 11 steamships, owned 21, and including steamboats his steam fleet numbered 66. He was known as "The Commodore." His accumulations at this date amounted to \$40,000,000.

After 1865, his main interest was in railroads, and he was a railroad king, as he had been a Commodore at sea. He became largely interested as early as 1844 in the New York and New Haven Railroad, and in 1845 in the Harlem Railroad, the whole of which he owned by 1864. He bought large interest in Erie, and acquired controlling interests in Lake Shore and New York Central; and since 1873 all these roads have been under his control. The length of the road so controlled is 2,128 miles, and the aggregate capital \$149,000,000, half of which was his own and his son's.

The Commodore has been eager in pursuit of wealth, not so much for the sake of wealth as for the "success." Within a few years he has seen him evening after evening (as his habit for years had been) at the whist tables of the Manhattan Club as determined bent on winning the pilfer \$5 stakes as he had ever been on any of the more serious objects of life. In whatever he undertook he was "bound to win," and the judgement of those who knew him is that he would have been as great a statesman had he chosen, as he was a steamboat and railroad man. He was a liberal man always, and many are the stories told in New York of his kindness to struggling men who fell under his observation. Of public benefactions the most noted are his contributions to the Vanderbilt University, the Central University of the Methodist church, South, into whose communion he married some years ago. In 1873, he gave \$500,000 to the institution and has since increased the amount, we believe, to near \$1,500,000. One of the conditions upon which the gift was made was that Bishop McVey of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, should become president of the board of trust. This post was accepted by Bishop McVey, upon whom has fallen the chief responsibility of organizing the institution. L. O. Garland, LL. D., was chosen chancellor, and the Rev. T. O. Summers, D. D., dean of the theological faculty, and ex officio vice chancellor. A plot of 75 acres was purchased, the corner stone of the university was laid April 23, 1874, and on Oct. 4, 1875, the institution was opened for students. It has a theological department with four professors, a law department with three, a medical department with eleven, and a department of philosophy, science and literature with eleven. The total number of students in 1875-'76 was 300. It has a library of 6,000 volumes, scientific apparatus that cost more than \$50,000, and extensive geological and mineralogical cabinets. The dormitory system is not used; students board in private families. Tuition is free to all in the theological department, and in the literary and scientific department to all preparing for the ministry.

A year ago the death of Cornelius Vanderbilt would probably have made a panic in New York. His long illness has "discouraged" that, as his companions of "the street" would say. But he will be missed even in the busy city, possibly until the snows of another winter drift over his grave.

DEATH OF JUDGE ANDERSON MITCHELL.

This venerable jurist breathed his last in Statesville on Sunday morning, the 24th inst. He was one of the oldest members of his profession in the State, having passed beyond three score years and ten.

Judge Mitchell was a native of Caswell county, N. C., but spent most of his professional life in Western North Carolina. He has repeatedly held positions of honor and trust in the State, which he always filled faithfully and with ability. He was a member of both branches of the Legislature before the war, and was also a member of Congress from one of the western districts. In 1865 he was appointed Judge of the Eight Judicial District by Gov. Holden, under the Provisional Government. Later, he was elected to the position by the Legislature, and was, we believe, at the time the only Democratic judge in the State. In 1868 he was re-elected Judge by the people, having been a candidate on both tickets. He discharged the duties of this office till the summer of 1875, when old age and failing health compelled him to give it up.

Throughout his whole life, whether as a politician, a lawyer, a judge, or a private citizen, he was always noted for the purity and integrity of his character. He was regarded as one of the best judges of law in the western part of the State. As a Judge, he was fair, impartial, and at all times courteous, especially to the younger members of the bar, many of whom will recall with gratitude his numerous kindnesses. After a long life of usefulness, he died perhaps without a single enemy.

He was never married.—Charlotte Observer.

HOW TO CURE A BAD MEMORY.

Your memory is bad, perhaps; but I can tell you two secrets that will cure the worst memory. One I mentioned above; to read a subject when it strongly interests you. The other is to not only read, but think. When you have read a paragraph, or a page stop, close the book, and try to remember the ideas on that page, and not only recall them vaguely in your mind, but put them into words, and speak them out. Faithfully follow these two rules, and you have the golden keys of knowledge. Besides inattentive reading, there are other things injurious to memory. One is the habit of skimming over newspapers, items of news, smart remarks, bits of information, political reflections, fashion notes, all in a confused jumble, never to be thought of again, thus diluting the brain with a habit of careless reading hard to break. Another is the reading of trashy novels. Nothing is so fatal to reading with profit as the habit of running through story after story, and forgetting them as soon as read. I know a gray haired woman, a life-long lover of books, who sadly declares that her mind has been ruined by such reading.

A help to memory is repetition.—Nothing is so certain to keep your French fresh and ready for use as to have always on hand an interesting story in that language to take up for ten minutes every day. In that case you will not forget your French with the majority of your school mates.—Oliver Thorne, in St. Nicholas.

THE EVILS OF GOSSIP.

I have known a country society which withered away all to nothing under the dry rot of gossip only. Friendships as granite dissolved to jelly, and then ran away to water, only to be raised to a level that promised a future as enduring as heaven and as stable as truth, evaporated into a morning mist that turned to a day's long tears only because of this: a father and son were set foot to foot with the fiery breath of an anger that would never cool again between them; and a husband and his young wife, each straining at the heated leash which in the beginning had been the golden bondage of a God-blessed love, sat mournfully by the grave where all their love and joy lay buried, and all because of this. I have seen faith transformed to mean doubt, joy give place to grim despair, and charity take on itself the feature of black malevolence, all because of the spell words of scandal, and magic utterances of gossip. Great crimes work great wrong, and the deeper tragedies of human life spring from the larger.

OLD AUNT ABBY HOUSE AGAIN.

One of the most amusing incidents connected with the inauguration, occurred at the depot upon the arrival of Gov. Vance and his special escort. Old Aunt Abby House was there waiting and seized the Governor as soon as he alighted from the train. She was not satisfied with giving him a moderate amount of hugging and blessing, but it was with the greatest difficulty that she could be kept from riding in the Governor's lap during the procession.—Charlotte Observer.

MR. H. C. MORROW, MEMBER OF THE HOUSE'S NEXT RIDER.

Mr. H. C. Morrow, member of the House's Next Ridermen, who had his arm broken by falling on the ice in Raleigh during the inauguration, is resting easily, but will be unable to return home for some days to come.—Charlotte Observer.

"MY BUSINESS IS TO TALK."

"My business is to talk," said a stump-speaker. "I deal in words, and sentences." "Yes," said a voice in the crowd, "and as long as I have known you, your place of business has never been closed."

A LADY WHO WAS SUFFERING UNDER A SLIGHT DISPOSITION TO TELL HER HUSBAND THAT IT WAS WITH THE GREATEST DIFFICULTY SHE COULD BREATHE, AND THE WORST OF ALL, SHE WAS EXHAUSTED.

"I would not try, my dear," soothingly responded the husband.

"I WORN THE SENATE."

"I worn the Senate," said Senator Carpenter (Rep.) in 1874, "that if it should happen that a Presidential election should turn on the vote of Louisiana, situated as that State is, and an attempt were made to use that corrupt return, it would be followed by civil war, for no people would submit to the insolence of such an outrage."