

Dr. Thomas M. Wood, Secretary, &c., is out in a circular calling on medical men in the several counties to organize county Medical Societies, auxiliary to the State Association...

The question of State and Federal jurisdiction, before the Supreme Court at Raleigh, has at last been decided, and the court sustains the decision of Judge Cox...

We had the pleasure Monday of seeing the Raleigh Observer's Best man. He is a whole among fishes, a Goliah among men. We took his measure (by the eye) and made him six feet nine inches...

Stockholders Meeting N. C. Railroad.—See proceedings in another column. New Directors had a meeting in the afternoon of the same day to elect a President...

There was a good deal of complaint on the streets here in respect to the part Gov. Vance was reported as taking in the election of officers in opposition to the preferences of private stockholders...

Col. John A. Gilmer, of Greensboro' was the State's proxy at this meeting.

NEWS BY WEDNESDAY MORNING'S MAIL.

An old Ohio friend of the President has called and told him his "Southern policy" will ruin the Republican party, and particularly will his orders against federal officers taking part in political meetings weaken the party and ensure defeat in the next elections...

The Department of Agriculture reports two per cent improvement in the cotton crop since June. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue thinks there will be no change in the officers of the Department in N. C. for the next two months...

The Banks of St. Louis have been tumbling for several days, and the breakage still goes out, though public confidence in them is slowly returning. Some banks in Mass., also shaky and doors closed...

Politics.—There is little of political interest now occupying the public mind. Indeed that great mass of the public, the tillers of the soil, were never more oblivious of politics than they have been for the last few months...

4 North Carolina Book.—John Nichols, Esq., Book and Job Printer at Raleigh, has just issued a book of 623 pages entitled "Selections from the speeches and writings of THOMAS L. CLINGMAN, of North Carolina, with additions and explanatory notes."

as it deservedly is, will not, in our opinion, do justice to the real merits of this book. True, we have not yet read it, except to glance at a page here and there...

Those wishing to buy a copy of Mr. Clingman's book can get it of the publisher, Mr. Nichols, for 2.50, post paid.

We learn from a circular issued by the Secretary, Mr. J. Berrien Lindsay, at Nashville, that there will be a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Nashville from August 29 to September 5...

This meeting is of special interest to the educators and public-spirited citizens of the South, and it is hoped that all practical men, who appreciate the value of our agricultural, manufacturing, and mining industries, will unite in making it a grand success.

The Local Committee, who have in charge the arrangements for the occasion, are highly gratified at the cordial co-operation of the citizens of Nashville.

GRAND LODGE GOOD TEMPLERS.

The Grand Lodge of Good Templars for North Carolina meets at Hickory, on the W. N. C. Railroad, on Tuesday, 14th day of August, 1877. Arrangements have been made with all the railroads and transportation lines for reduced fare...

A full attendance is earnestly desired, as the session is one of vital importance to the future of the order. The fare from Raleigh to Hickory and return is \$11.45.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE N. C. RAILROAD. SALISBURY, N. C., July 12.—The stockholders of this company convened to-day in the Court House of this place.

On motion of Col. W. R. Myers, of Charlotte, the meeting was temporarily organized by requesting Mr. A. H. Boyden to take the chair, and Messrs. J. A. McCannely and J. J. Bruner to serve as secretaries.

The committee on proxies reported as follows: The number represented in person 13, representing 812 shares, and the number represented by proxies 419, representing 7,969 shares—a total of 8,781, being a majority of the individual stock, as required by the by-laws.

The chairman, thereupon, announced the meeting ready for permanent organization, when

On motion of Col. W. R. Myers, the present organization of the meeting was declared permanent.

On motion the President, Mr. T. M. Holt read his annual report, and then the Finance committee's report was read.

On motion of Wm. Murdock, these reports were referred to a committee for inspection.

The chair appointed J. L. Morehead, W. J. Yates, Wm. Murdock and H. W. Fries.

L. W. Barringer, Esq., submitted a resolution asking for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the solvency of the bonds and securities given by the R. & D. R. Company, for the fulfillment of the covenants of the lease of the N. C. R. R. Upon this quite an interesting discussion ensued, in the course of which the meeting was addressed by Messrs. T. M. Holt, Barringer, D. F. Caldwell, Col. J. A. Gilmer, Wm. Smith, R. Y. McAden, W. R. Myers and J. L. Morehead, resulting in the adoption of the following substitute offered by Mr. R. Y. McAden, to wit:

Resolved, That the board of directors be requested to examine carefully into the collateralized deposits to the Richmond & Danville Railroad Company to protect the lease, and to report to the stockholders in a circular within thirty days: 1st, What those collateralized consist of. 2nd, Giving full description of same. 3rd, Reporting the market value of same. 4th, Whether or not the collateral is sufficient according to the terms of the lease. Should the collateral be insufficient the directors are requested and required to at once notify the lessee to make good the collateral according to the terms of the lease. That the directors inquire as to the bond given according to the terms of the lease to keep up the road, &c., and report fully in the circular to the obligors on the bond, and as to its solvency.

The committee to whom reports of the president and treasurer were referred, submitted the following, which was adopted:

The committee to whom were referred the reports of the officers of the company and finance committee, respectfully report: That the time allowed the committee renders it impossible for them to do more than glance over the printed information furnished, and so far as they can

judge, they have no reason to doubt their correctness, and suggest that they be approved.

In regard to the suggestions of the president as to certain modifications of the usual being charged to the amount of profit and loss, we recommend that the finance committee be empowered at their discretion to carry into effect the recommendations of the president. Your committee heartily approve the recommendation of the finance committee.

Mr. J. L. Morehead addressed the meeting, and read the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the secretary and treasurer annually to prepare and deliver to the directors, five days before the regular annual meeting of the company, in addition to the usual itemized statement, a full and complete itemized statement of the receipts and expenditures of the company, and also an itemized schedule of the assets of the company, which statement shall be produced by the directors during the meeting of the stockholders, for the use of the stockholders for reference and inspection.

On motion of Mr. D. A. Davis, the meeting now proceeded to ballot for four directors.

The chair appointed J. H. Wellborn and J. A. Hendrick tellers.

The chairman announced the following result of the balloting:

H. W. Fries, 8,788; M. L. Holmes, 8,657; T. M. Holt, 8,646; R. B. Haywood, 8,406; A few scattering votes were cast.

The following resolutions by R. Y. McAden, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the stockholders of the N. C. R. R. Company, with pleasure learn, from the reports of the officers of the good condition of the said road and machinery, the condition of the same appearing sufficient for any reasonable speed.

Resolved, That the stockholders respectfully recommend to the postoffice department this line for the fast mail service, it being the shortest and most direct line between New York and New Orleans, and in all other respects the equal, if not the superior, to any other line.

Resolved, That the secretary of this company be requested to send a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the postoffice department at Washington.

On motion of Mr. J. L. Morehead, the following gentlemen were appointed a finance committee on the part of the stockholders of this company: Peter Adams, John L. Brown and Frank C. Robbins.

W. R. Myers, Esq., offered the following:

Resolved, That the managers of the R. & D. and N. C. R. R. Companies are entitled to the thanks of this convention for the accommodations afforded to the stockholders in attendance on this convention, in the way of transportation, &c.

On motion of D. A. Davis, the committee on proxies for next year were: R. B. Ruffin, Jas. Welch, Jr., and John A. Kirkland.

On motion of W. J. Yates the thanks of the meeting were tendered to the president and secretaries for the efficient and satisfactory manner in which they had discharged their duties.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

A. H. BOYDEN, President.

J. A. McCANNELY, } Secretaries.  
J. J. BRUNER, }

After the adjournment of the stockholders' meeting the new board of directors met and adjourned to meet in Raleigh on Wednesday next, without electing officers or transacting any other business.

WASHINGTON.

EVARTS AND DEVENS OFF ON A FROLIC.

North Carolina to the Front Again.—P. B. Hawksins might be persuaded to take a Colporteurship.

OTHER NOTES AND GOSSIP.

WASHINGTON, July 16.—Secretary Evarts and Attorney-General Devens left this morning for an excursion planned for them by D. B. Randolph Keira, to the Pennsylvania coal mines. Both lunch with Colonel John W. Forney who will favor them with his company. They will be entertained by Keira at Edgemont, where there will be a reception and brass band. Returning, they will lunch with Senator Don Cameron, and reach Washington on Thursday. In the meantime, those anxious about justice and diplomacy, have a rest.

The second infantry, en route to reinforce General Howard, arrived safely at St. Louis and left there last night.

John Nichols, of Raleigh, N. C., is here, and is strongly recommended as collector of the fourth N. C. district. Both he and the present incumbent are Republicans. Col. Young claims under the civil service regulations; Mr. Nichols' friends push him under the President's rule that eight years tenure does not give the holder a title to continuance. Gen. P. B. Hawksins will accept the place on the condition that Col. Young resigns. This is an extraordinary contest, as no one of the aspirants charges the others with rascality.

John A. Bausch has been appointed appraiser of merchandise at New York.

Lieutenant W. S. Simmons has been promoted captain of the revenue marine service, vice Pease, resigned.

The following from the Star will elicit some authorized statement:

"A delegation of Alabamians composed of Messrs Reid, Pelham, Harris and Knox called at the White House this morning. They have been in the city a good while. They claim to be representatives of the true Republican party in the State, and on that issue seek to obtain offices in preference to carpet baggers."

One hundred thousand young shad are en route for the Chattahoochee river in Georgia. Fifty thousand will skirmin from Columbus, supported by the same number from West Point.

Gen. B. F. Butler bought \$150,000 new four per cents for the National Soldiers and Sailors Home, of which he is president. Home subscriptions to these bonds at par, which closed to-day, aggregate forty-five millions.

Acting Secretary McCormick has issued a call for ten millions bonds dated July 1, 1865. The interest ceases 16th October.

1, 1865. The interest ceases 16th October.

J. H. Pierce, marshal of the Northern District of Mississippi, has resigned to take effect 31st July. The resignation was accepted.

Loka, marshal for the Southern district will resign to oblige the President but not now.

McCrery has returned.

THE RUSSO-TURKISH WAR.

BERLIN, July 16.—A correspondent of the National Zeitung from Tiflis, July 4th, says: "The Abchassians, Circassians and Leschians are in full rebellion, and have killed many thousand Russians. Only the middle part of the mountains, with an important road from Vladi Kankar to Tiflis is still faithful and to be relied upon."

LONDON, July 16.—The Daily News' correspondent with the Russian telegraph from Zaim, July 12th: "Eighteen thousand bombs have been fired at Kars. The expense is 1,500,000 roubles, three Russian officers and 160 soldiers killed in the batteries. The siege guns go to Alexandropolis. The army is slowly retreating. There is slight advance by Mukhtar Pasha. His camp moves east to-day, in the direction of Alexandropolis. Reinforcements are expected."

BUCHAREST, July 16.—The Russians yesterday occupied the heights commanding Nicopolis. The Turks to-day abandoned and the Russians occupied Nicopolis.

ST. PETERSBURG, 16.—An official dispatch says that the Russian garrison at Bayazid consisted on June 18th, of four staff officers, twenty-six officers, 1,357 men and 97 these two officers and 114 Pasha. His camp moves east to-day, in the direction of Alexandropolis. Reinforcements are expected."

LONDON, July 16.—A Reuter dispatch from Constantinople dated to-day, says: "All available troops are being dispatched to Adrianople. One hundred Bulgarians have been brought here. They will be tried by a military tribunal for high treason. The first detachment of Suleiman Pasha's army is expected at Nos on Thursday."

THE CONDITION OF THE COTTON CROP—ENCOURAGING PROSPECTS.

WASHINGTON, July 16.—The July returns of the condition of cotton as received in the Department of Agriculture, cover the area of three hundred and seventy one counties, producing six-tenths of the cotton of the United States. Seventy-three counties of Georgia are represented. The average condition of the whole area is ninety-three and four tenths per cent.—four per cent. less than the July average of last year. It is less by seven per cent. than the average for 1876, but better than the condition for 1874 or 1873. Only Louisiana gives a higher average, than in July of last year. The State averages are as follow: North Carolina, 83; South Carolina, 87; Georgia, 90; Florida, 95; Alabama, 94; Mississippi, 83; Louisiana, 102; Texas, 94; Arkansas, 94; Tennessee, 96. The crop is from one to two weeks late. In the more Northern belt, the nights have been too cold, and in many sections an excess of rain has retarded the cultivation and rendered the fields grassy and the plant unhealthy. Rains have been general and long continued in Texas, but fine weather is producing rapid improvement. An overflow of the Arkansas river has drowned out sixty thousand acres of cotton. The low lands in Tennessee have been destructively inundated, while the losses have been mainly from rains. There are localities east of the Mississippi that have suffered from drought. Insects have as yet done little damage. The cut worm is reported troublesome in Florida. Lice are abundant wherever the plant has become unhealthy from cold nights and excessive moisture. Grass worms are doing some damage, mainly in Texas, and the cotton caterpillar is reported in Hardin, Atascosa, Brazoria, Uvalde, Jasper and Victoria in Texas. Cotton blooms in the Gulf States were reported at several points on the 19th and 20th of June. Labor is gradually becoming more efficient. A great improvement in morale and efficiency is reported in Louisiana.

INTERNAL REVENUE SYSTEM.

ITS ABOLITION NOT IMPRACTICABLE—ANOTHER ABBE LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN ROBBINS.

STATESVILLE, N. C., July 11, 1877.

To the Editor of the News: SIR: I have read with much interest the letter of my colleague, Col. Waddell, in which he agrees with me as to the desirability of abolishing the Internal Revenue system but points out some of the obstacles in the way to this reform, handling the subject with his usual ability and accuracy of information. It is perfectly true that there are difficulties to be overcome in the accomplishment of this object, and much more is required than a mere blind resolve to repeal the law regardless of consequences. The public credit must be preserved, and the necessary expenses of the government are to be met. Adequate provision for both of these purposes must of course be embraced in any statesmanlike proposition to abolish the Internal Revenue system.

When Napoleon's engineers reported to him that to cross the Alps would be an undertaking incredibly toilsome and difficult, he replied, "I did not send you to learn that—I knew that before. But can it be done?" And when they answered that it was just possible it might be, he said, "Then go at it." To abolish the Internal Revenue system may not be easy; it may require profound wisdom in our law-makers and real administrative ability in the executive; but in my opinion it is not impossible and should be undertaken.

Let us look at a few figures. The amount of money raised from Internal Revenue during the fiscal year just ended on June 30th ult., was a fraction over \$118,000,000. The annual expenses of the system itself are over \$6,000,000. To do without it, then, we should have to adopt some plan by which the \$112,000,000, net, realized in this way might be made up by either an increase of income from other sources or a decrease in the current disbursements of the government, or by both of these processes.

The tariff produced last year about \$130,000,000, so I see stated unofficially,

the official report not having yet reached me. The estimates of the Secretary were for \$127,000,000. For the last five years there has been a continual falling off in the receipts from this source. The general depression in business may partly account for this; but it is mainly due to the unsound principles upon which our present tariff is framed. No one who has studied the subject will deny that in the existing law a high duty is imposed on many important articles not for the sole and only legitimate purpose of producing revenue to the Treasury but more for the purpose of checking the importation of such articles, so as to give the American manufacturer exclusive control of the market here. In these cases the Treasury derives little benefit from the duty; but we who consume the commodity pay a high price for it because there is less competition at a smaller supply. Put a lower duty on such articles, import more of them, get a larger revenue from your aggregate importation, and sell them lower to the consumer, because the supply of them in the country is larger. This is the true and the equal principle. Does any one say this will crush out our manufacturers? I reply, surely they ought by this time to be able to stand alone against fair competition after we have paid them bonuses for fifty years until the manufacturing States are rolling in wealth drawn from the others. Let us try, therefore, be now remodelled so as to bring in the most revenue possible without favor to or oppression of any class. I am confident if this were done, a larger income would accrue to the Treasury through this channel, and the general burden upon the people not be increased.

Leaving aside all speculation theories, one fact stands out. In 1872, only five years ago, the tariff brought us an income of (\$216,370,286.77) over two hundred and sixteen million dollars. Why may it not be made to do so again? But suppose we shelve it so it will return us but \$200,000,000 annually, or \$70,000,000 more than the last year. This would leave us about \$42,000,000 still short of the \$112,000,000 taken away by abolishing the Internal Revenue. How is this deficit to be made up? I answer by ceasing to pay off the principal of the Public Debt so rapidly, by reducing the military establishment, and by a careful retrenchment of expenses in the civil service.

There was paid last year about \$35,000,000 of the principle of the public debt. I have not the exact official figures before me. This generation ought not to attempt to bear the burden of making large payments on the principal of that debt. It is enough for us to fund it at lower rates of interest, as is being done, and to keep the interest paid. When all enterprises languish among us for want of capital, and money in most parts of the country bears an exorbitant rate of interest, what sort of financing is that which drags taxes out of an impoverished people to pay the foreign creditor a debt which he will be glad to fund at four per cent. and wait for us to pay when we please—the longer the better for him, if we make the debt secure and pay him the interest? Fifty years hence, with a hundred millions of population, and a country all settled and teeming with wealth, we can pay, without feeling it, this debt whose rapid payment would crush us now. By adopting this plan we may save (say) thirty million a year now being unaccountably and unwisely paid on the public debt.

The military establishment now costs us \$38,000,000 annually, in round numbers. Such an expense is needless. The army might be reduced one-half, and then be sufficient for garrisoning the forts and guarding the frontier against a dying handful of savages or an occasional petty raid of cattle-stealing crochets. Think how peace has come once more between the sections and how law has supplanted the bayonet in the States. I think it not unreasonable to say that \$15,000,000 a year might be saved from the present cost of the military establishment without detriment to any interest.

Here then we have \$30,000,000 a year by reduced payments on the principal of our debt; \$15,000,000 saved in the annual expense of the army; and \$70,000,000 in decrease of receipts from the duty on imports, which, as shown above, is still several millions less than the tariff realized five years ago without any grievous complaints from the country. You will see that the aggregate of these three is more than enough to make good the deficit that would be caused by abandoning the centralizing, corrupting, and oppressive system of Internal Revenue.

Nothing has been said in detail about the immense amount that may be saved by a thorough retrenchment of expenditures in almost every department of the public service, and I have not time for this now. I have merely jotted down the foregoing points in a great deal of haste to show that the idea of abolishing the Internal Revenue system is not at all impracticable if our statesmen would set about it in good earnest, as I hope they will when the Conservative-Democratic party mounts the quarter-deck.

WM. M. ROBBINS.

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