

W. M. H. BERNARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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THE CIRCULATION OF THE MORNING STAR IS LARGER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN NORTH CAROLINA.

PARTIES IN CONGRESS—THE LAST RADICAL VILLAINY.

The supplemental enforcement act, adding new and greater iniquities to the indecent and violent legislation sometimes adopted by Congress to regulate suffrage in the States, has passed in a modified form.

It is evident from the results of the parliamentary wrangles in both Senate and House last week, that in future contests in Congress, Radicalism will be at immense disadvantage.

The Democratic ranks in both branches of Congress have been powerfully reinforced within a few months past, and the enemy has received no compensating acquisitions of talent.

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The Bodenville Courier-Journal says that "if anybody had met Christy Columbus in the middle of the Atlantic, and told him that he was in the act of discovering a country that would ultimately fall into the hands of such an adventurer as the present, he would have gone back home and stayed there."

BUSINESS.

In New York the feeling is one of general encouragement regarding business prospects for the current year.

The probabilities of peace with the consequent introduction of a new era in European politics, an unsettling of the balance of power, and the creation of a new set of international rivalries and jealousies, has a somewhat depressing effect upon some branches of business.

From the interesting statements and views of the monthly circular issued from the Banking House of Messrs. Henry Clews & Co., of New York, we gather the belief that while there is nothing in the general condition of the country, to excite extravagant hopes of commercial activity during the year, there is also nothing to warrant depressing forebodings.

Now that the machinery of the Federal courts is fast drifting into the same infamous uses to which the English judiciary was put by James II., Mr. Woodward, of Pennsylvania, does well to introduce a bill in the House requiring the several United States courts henceforth to procure their juries by drawing names from a hollow wheel resting on axis pins, so as to admit of easy revolutions of the wheel, in order that the slips of paper containing the names of jurors may be more effectually mixed.

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Social gossip in London asserts that the Duke of Edinburgh, (Prince Alfred), the only son of the Queen, is to marry a plebeian but rich daughter of a London banker.

California is expecting a visit in April from President Grant and Secretary Fish.

Palmetto Leaves.

The Presbyterian Church at Camden has a new bell.

The ladies of Washington have presented the Schutzen Corps of Charleston with a beautiful flag.

A jeweler by the name of Griffin, employed in the store of Mr. R. W. Timely, of Union, robbed him of \$2,700 worth of watches a few nights since, and decamped.

The engineer of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, who was shot on the train Tuesday last, has lost his sight in both eyes, and is in a critical condition.

A murder occurred at Spartanburg on Friday last, during a difficulty about a culvert, in which a Mr. Conner lost his life at the hand of one Gosnell, by a pistol shot.

The Columbia Union says: Quite an excitement existed at Lexington Wednesday, occasioned by two men, named Shealy, firing into the Boozler school house, as they were passing it on horseback, one ball lodging in the house, and the other, passing through the window, grazing the head of a girl as she sat in her seat.

A serious shooting affair occurred yesterday afternoon, about half-past 5 o'clock, in front of the store of Mr. E. Pollard, on Main street, between two young men named L. Von Bieman and H. Grey, in which the latter received a pistol bullet in the lungs, which will likely prove mortal.

Hon. L. B. Dibble recently addressed a large audience in the State Capitol of Michigan on the subject of narrow-gauge railways.

The common American gauge is four feet eight inches and a half, and the least cost of construction of any road of such width is \$25,000 per mile.

Recap of the Test Oath.

The following is the text of the act repealing the "test-oath," which is now the law of the land:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever any person, who is not rendered ineligible to office by the provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution, shall be elected or appointed to any office of honor or trust under the government of the United States, and shall not be able, on account of his participation in the late rebellion, to take the oath prescribed in the act of Congress approved the 2d of July, 1862, said person shall, in lieu of said oath, before entering upon the duties of said office, take and subscribe the oath prescribed in an act of Congress entitled 'An act prescribing an oath of office to be taken by persons from whom legal disabilities shall have been removed,' approved 11th of July, 1868."

The following is the act of July 11, 1868, to which the new bill refers:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever any person who has participated in the late rebellion, and from whom all legal disabilities arising therefrom have been removed by act of Congress by a vote of two-thirds of each House, has been or shall be elected or appointed to any office or place of trust in or under the Government of the United States, he shall, before entering upon the duties thereof, instead of the oath prescribed by the act of July 2, 1862, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

The fourteenth amendment excluded from office all Confederates who held office under the United States before the war.

It will be observed that the act of July 11, 1868, was intended to qualify those who were disqualified by the fourteenth amendment, and whose disabilities should be removed by Congress, but not those who were excluded from office by the "iron-clad" oath.

Cotton, it is said, will keep for a long time without change. Thus, at Columbus, Georgia, no difference was noticeable in the appearance of the staple in bales of cotton that had been in the warehouses there since 1866; and at Augusta, Georgia, a bale was sold recently which had been in warehouse for eleven years, and which, though presenting an only appearance, brought as high a price as new cotton of similar grades.

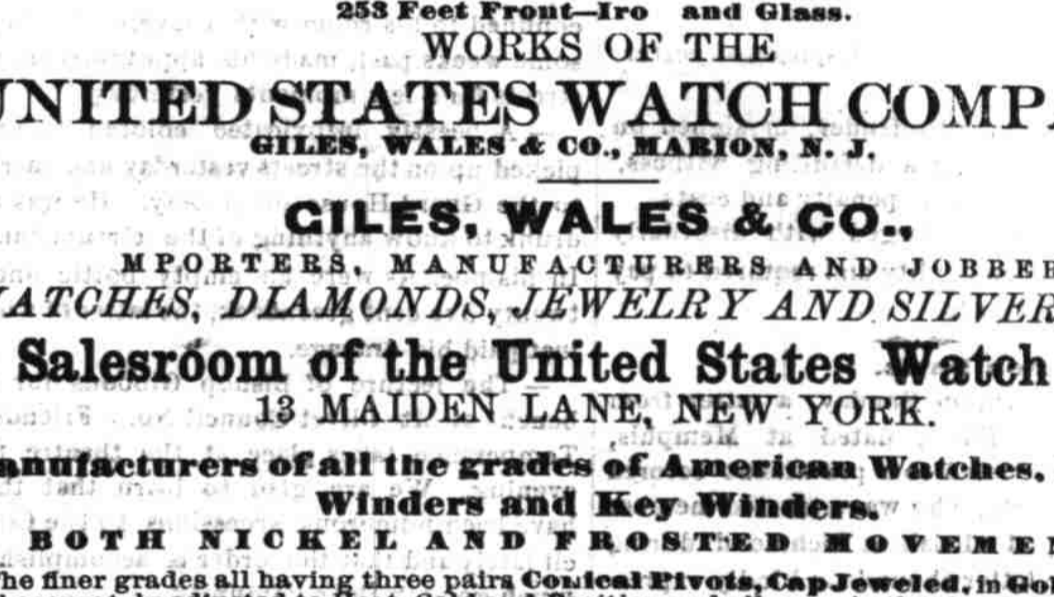
When Horace Greeley traveled in Europe, he was impressed with the value of drainage, and immediately got an antiseptical agricultural proverb to the effect that if a man didn't drain his farm his farm would drain him.

The New York Herald says: "There are now seventy-two Postmistresses in the United States who receive salaries of \$1,000 and upward, besides women in minor post-offices. The Postmistress of Louisville, Kentucky, receives \$4,000; at Richmond, Virginia, \$4,000; at Springfield, Ohio, \$3,000. The offices filled by women are reported at Washington as the best managed under the Government."



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SOMETHING NEW. On Hand and For Sale, Wholesale or Retail: 50 BBLs FLOUR, Assorted and Selected. 50 BBLs SALT, Assorted. 20 BBLs PLANTING POTATOES, Assorted. 10 BBLs CRACKERS, Assorted.