

Year	\$1.50
6 Months	.80
3 Months	.45
1 Month	.15

Tilden's nomination, and the latter was thought to favor the nomination of the former. We quote from the Savannah News:

"In reference to the matter of Gen. Hampton's letter to Mr. Tilden, Col. Haskell says he knows that Gen. Hampton did write and receive a very agreeable reply from Mr. Tilden, containing an ample explanation of Mr. Tilden's delay in answering Gen. Hampton. Gen. Butler personally brought an answer from Mr. Tilden, with a repetition of apology for his brief delay."

gross irregularly taking part in the Democratic meetings and marching in the Democratic processions. In reference to the matter of intimidation he said that he could personally testify that there had been a great deal of intimidation by Republicans against those of their own race who had shown indications of Democratic proclivities. He also brought to the attention of the President the statement of the colored legislator, Hamilton, that three thousand illegal Republican votes had been polled in Beaufort county, at which the President seemed to be somewhat surprised. He said that the Returning Board of South Carolina would have thrown out other counties beside Edgefield and Laurens had it been necessary in order to enable them to secure a majority for Chamberlain, and that there would have been just as much justification in throwing out other counties as the two named. In Abbeville and Hartwell counties, for instance, there was also a large Democratic colored vote which was no more intimated than the colored vote of Edgefield and Laurens."

THE REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

On yesterday we had the great pleasure of bearing to our readers glad tidings of great joy. The Joint Committee of fourteen, appointed by the Senate and House, after patient discussion and consultation, after applying "the utmost practicable study and deliberation to the subject," agreed upon a bill, the provisions of which appear to contain "the best attainable disposition of the difficult problems and disputed theories arising out of the late election." As such we accept it, preferring a peaceful and a violent solution of serious and threatening complications.

eight and seven. We trust all of them will be animated and controlled by a high sense of justice, honor and right.

If the Senate should select Conkling and Edmunds, we may hope that they will be guided by the Constitution and the law. We hope Morton will not be selected, for he has already prejudged the whole subject, and refused to sign the bill as reported. Indeed, it is reported that he has manifested opposition to anything and everything discussed by the Joint Committee that promised good, and a happy solution of the vexed questions. Our own able Senator Ransom is of the Senate committee, and signed the bill. He is singularly earnest, thoroughly posted and cautious, and we are quite disposed to believe that the report is the best that could be devised under the circumstances, inasmuch as he signed it without reservation.

NEW HAMPSHIRE SPEAKS.

The New Hampshire Democrats have fired up their engine at last. They held a State Convention on the 17th, in which they very properly and vigorously denounced Grant's usurpation, and, waxing warm, they called upon the people to inaugurate Tilden at all hazards. They say, whilst counselling moderation, it is the paramount duty of all to defend the Constitution to the last resort. We believe the New Hampshire Democrats in 1861 promised to shoulder muskets in behalf of the South, but they fell into ranks on the other side when the war drum beat its fearful reveille. Franklin Pierce wrote Jefferson Davis that all New Hampshire would become one vast military camp if the North attempted to coerce the South. It did become a military camp, but all the soldiers wore the "blue," and none wore the "gray."

We learn from Mr. L. M. Powell, Register of Deeds of Columbus county, who was on a brief visit to the city yesterday, that there was considerable excitement in and about Fair Bluff, in that county, on Friday, caused by the fact that two colored individuals from South Carolina were expected to engage in a duel in that neighborhood, which is on or near the line between the two States. It seems that a colored Democrat and a firm and unflinching supporter of Gov. Hampton, by the name of Nevels, living at or near Mullins' Depot, in Marion county, had been challenged to fight by a man named Moody, a Republican and a strict adherent to the cause of Chamberlain, living near the same place. It was understood that the parties were to fight with bows and arrows and a lively and interesting struggle was expected. Intelligence of the expected fight had got mooted about and quite a crowd had collected to witness it, among whom were many Democrats, both white and colored, who wanted to see fair play. Nevels and his party were on hand at the appointed spot in good time, where they waited in vain for Moody, the challenging party, who, however, failed to put in his appearance, and thus the crowd were disappointed in witnessing what must have proved, to say the least of it, a very creditable affair, which might have resulted in the death of at least one of the parties, with the possibility of causing an exhibition of bad blood on the part of the spectators. The difficulty grew out of some political misunderstanding. Nevels is represented to be a tall, robust individual, weighing about two hundred pounds, of quite a respectable appearance, and evidently abundantly able to take care of himself, which might have had its influence in deterring Moody from presenting himself to engage in the deadly conflict.

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CAMERON AND CHRISTIANITY.

These two Senators were on the committee sent to South Carolina to examine into the election matters. Before they left Columbia Gen. M. C. Butler addressed them a letter to allow him "to introduce testimony to improve" the "statements" made before them by certain colored witnesses from Edgefield. Gen. Butler in his letter characterized some of their statements as so "remarkable and so monstrous" that he felt constrained to apply to be allowed to introduce counter testimony. He said to them:

VANDERBILT GOSPEL.

The public mind is about surfeited with the May-Bennett fiasco, and the Vanderbilt will, and the old Commodore himself. In saying this, however, we except the New York papers and their city readers, for they appear to never weary of any topic, however nauseous and stale and unprofitable. Witness how long the press of Gotham hang over the Plymouth cesspool, and kept fishing in the foul waters for more human putrescence and nastiness. But people get tired elsewhere of even scandal and filth.

Our apology for copying anything further that concerns Vanderbilt is, there is reference to Dr. Deems, a Southern clergyman who long resided in North Carolina, who has hosts of friends among the best Methodist people of the State, and who is really one of the most gifted clergymen in the United States, and we say this after having heard many of the leading divines from Albany to the Gulf of Mexico. Dr. Deems has been rather ridiculed for saying that the old Commodore died in the hope of a blessed hereafter. Whilst the old gentleman was living, we heard another distinguished divine who had visited him state that he thought, he was a changed man and had a firm faith in the merits of the Son of God. Who shall then say, if this was true, that even the old sinner was not saved?

But as to the gossip. There is much dissatisfaction among the heirs. William H. gets most of the vast property, valued at from forty to eighty millions. A New York letter says:

"The Commodore leaves eight daughters, all married, and two of them widows, and two sons, also married. Each of the daughters is perfectly comfortable as to money, but six of them get \$500,000 each by the will, one \$400,000, and one \$300,000. The bequest to the second son, Cornelius, is only \$200,000, which is a small sum, especially when he is tied up by positive stipulation that he can't touch a dollar of it himself. This, however, is easily understood here, there his misfortune is very well known. He has been for years afflicted with a mild form of epilepsy, which, while not seriously affecting his health, renders him incapable of wisely managing his own affairs. Gossip says that the Rev. Dr. Deems expected more than the \$300,000 which the Commodore left him. But the income from \$200,000 is \$1,400, and there are some preachers in New York who have to work pretty hard all the year round for less than that. I believe Dr. Deems has a salary of \$5,000 or more besides."

Let us all hope for the best. We breathe freer. We now feel quite sure there will be no war and tumults, but all will be settled amicably, and we hope justly and satisfactorily. Let us believe in the statements of the thirteen gentlemen who sign the report:

"The committee regard it as of far greater moment that the will of the people should be legally carried out, than the question of who shall be President for a prescribed time. They therefore endeavored to frame a fair and impartial measure. The legislative and judiciary are represented in the tribunal in equal proportions. The composition of the judicial part of the commission looks to a selection from different parts of the republic, while it is supposed to be free from any prepossession or susceptible bias, and the addition of the necessary constitutional part of the whole, in order to obtain an even number of the commission, is left to an agency the furtherest removed from the prejudice of any existing attainable one. It would be difficult, if not impossible, the committee think, to establish a tribunal that could be less the subject of party criticism, than such a one."

Since writing the above, we hear that the proposed duel actually took place, the information coming to us in such a shape as to leave no doubt of the fact. A reliable Conductor on the Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroad says that the Democratic principal and his party of three seconds returned to South Carolina on his train; the seconds getting off at Mullins' depot and the principal at Marion. The seconds were very uncommunicative, and, in reply to questions, intimated that the affair did not come off on account of the non-appearance of the principal on the other side. In fact the railroad agent at Fair Bluff had been misled in the same manner, which, of course, was the case with our informant in the first instance. Mr. Powell, after the seconds left the train, however, the Conductor went into the car occupied by the principal, and, noticing that he had his right hand in his bosom, as if it had been wounded, he asked if there was anything the matter with it. Nevels (which is understood to be the name of the Democratic principal) replied that he had been shot, upon which he withdrew his hand from his bosom, disclosing a bloody sleeve, and exhibited to the conductor a severe wound in the arm. He was then asked if the reported duel really took place, when Nevels replied that it certainly did; that they met on the ground near Fair Bluff, at 10 o'clock on Friday morning; that they exchanged four shots, he (Nevels) receiving one wound in the pistol arm, and his antagonist three separate wounds, one on each side of the chest (high up) and one in the left arm. He said the agreement was that they were to fight until one or the other party should cry "enough," but that when his competitor received his last shot he dropped and could not stand up further to "face the music." Nevels stated that the "d-d Radical" had challenged him to fight two or three times before, but he had told him that he didn't want to shoot him.

THE STATE DEBT.

The settlement of the debt of the State of North Carolina has been deferred far too long for the good of all concerned. The Legislatures have appeared too willing heretofore to postpone the matter, and to leave it for their successors to grapple as best they could. No evil grows less by delaying its cure. Sooner or later the question of indebtedness must be met in some way. As long as no scheme or plan is resorted to by which all parties—creditors and debtors—may know how the matter stands—whether the State will make an effort to meet its just obligations, or resort to the damaging course of repudiation, the doubt and fears engendered of such unnecessary delay and indecision but enhances the evil, increases the difficulties, damages the character of our people abroad, obstructs immigration and the influx of foreign capital, and retards seriously the prosperity of the State. The debt, as long as it remains in its present unsatisfactory and anomalous condition, is a positive incubus upon the people at large and a sad brake upon the wheels of industry. How can enterprises, requiring investments from abroad of capital and labor, be invited or begun until the State debt has been adjusted in some manner that will be just and equitable—that will to some extent relieve the people and satisfy those who hold the bonds?

To this the committee, through its chairman, Angus Cameron, replied that they had "determined" to take "no further testimony in reference to Edgefield county,"—that if they allowed him to introduce testimony, they must allow others, and that if they are to open to Edgefield they must open to other counties, and to do that "would require several months, and our sub-committee would not be able to report during the present session of Congress."

Gov. Hampton and the other highest officers of the State, together with several of the leading citizens of the State, then addressed them a respectful letter urging them to protract their sessions and make their investigations as complete and exhaustive as the public exigencies require. They say:

As to the matter of the State debt, we suppose that the Senate will choose three Republicans and two Democrats, just as it did in appointing the seven members of the joint committee, although there is nothing relative to it in the bill reported. It would be more in accordance with a genuine spirit of compromise and fairness to make such a selection than to choose all from one party. The House will be probably governed by the spirit or policy that governs the Senate. We should be glad to see both parties represented in both committees, although the result will not be affected one way or the other, as the actual number representing the two parties in Congress in the tripartite tribunal will be the same—five each.

OUR SAY.

As it is a long time before the present Judges of the Supreme Court will "step down and out," we think it rather premature to be nominating candidates for their places. Death may come to some who are named, and then all the fine eulogies will be misplaced. North Carolina has several lawyers who would grace the ermine and wear the robes with honor, dignity and ability. We believe that when the time shall come to elect a new bench that three qualities or qualifications should be considered—the purest character, the highest capacity, and the soundest legal attainments. The first quality mentioned is simply indispensable. The men who are placed upon the bench must be men of sobriety, integrity and virtue. They ought to be really very able men if such can be found. Without profound legal erudition they cannot command the respect of those who practice in their courts. Get the best men, say we—the men in whom are combined the qualifications specified. Such is our view.

THE STATES DEBT AGAIN.

By the settlement which the holders of North Carolina bonds propose, there will be debt created of some ten millions of dollars. We do not know whether the State is able to pay that much additional tax or not, but it is quite certain that some compromise or settlement ought to be vigorously pushed. If the State honestly and justly owes ten millions of dollars to these holders of bonds, then the best efforts of the people should be made to meet the indebtedness. Now is the best time to endeavor to retrieve our lost credit. The prospect ahead is that our political troubles will be settled amicably, and with our new State Government in operation, a new era should dawn upon us.

When we remember that nearly all of the Republican papers insist that the President of the Senate has the sole right to count the votes, we may appreciate the more the necessity of accepting the Report of the Committee of Fourteen. The last Philadelphia Press says:

"We believe with General Dix, the veteran soldier and statesman, in his letter to Congressman Kasson, dated January 18, 1877, in the exclusive power of the President of the Senate to count the electoral vote, and also in his striking suggestion, that while the Constitution forbids a Senator or Representative from acting as an elector, these bodies cannot now clothe themselves with powers to override the action of the Electoral College."

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But Dr. Deems has no right to complain. Besides the \$30,000 and his regular salary, he gets his money, and something over, from Frank Leslie, for editing the *Sunday Magazine*. Reports are already circulated, with what foundation I cannot say, that the Commodore's widow is not quite satisfied with the portion given to her. Yet it is more than her marriage agreement called for. Previous to the marriage she had a contract for \$500,000, and waived all claim on the Commodore's estate, either as wife or widow. The agreement was as specific and business-like as anything of the kind, and she is now directed to be paid over to her, and she receives, besides, real estate and personal property to the value of \$200,000. Her fortune is certainly a comfortable one, and it would seem that she ought to be very well satisfied.

THE JOURNAL.

The publication of the *Journal*, which was suspended about four months since, was resumed yesterday by Mr. C. W. Harris. The paper presents a very good appearance in its various departments, and we repeat the cordial good wishes for Mr. Harris' success which we so recently expressed when he issued the first number of the *Cape Fear*.

It is said that Earl Dudley, of England, who is sixty years old, has been offered \$25,000 to be the son of Napoleon III. will be officially proclaimed Emperor of France during the Earl's lifetime, and that the title will be accepted by the Prince of Wales and by three other persons.

The Tarboro Southern says: Mrs. Dorich, the mother of Hon. W. T. Dorson, of Goldsboro, aged ninety-three years, who has all her life resided in North Carolina, about five miles from Rocky Mount, was removed to Goldsboro on Wednesday, and will spend the remainder of her days with her son.

The mercury is getting so far below "zero," says the *Glasgow Times*, "that it will get down as low as the Louisiana Returning Board, if it doesn't look sharp." There is not much danger of that. Long before the mercury gets that low it will do as the Returning Board itself ought to do—freeze. *Courier-Journal*.

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