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Subscription Price.

The subscription price of the WEEKLY STAR is as follows: Single Copy 1 year, postage paid, \$1.50

BEN HILL'S SPEECH.

We are prepared to echo the general judgment of the Washington correspondents as to the excellence of Senator Ben Hill's speech in reply to Conkling and Edmunds.

There are some fine rhetorical passages—some outbursts of fervid eloquence that must have been quite electrical, as he spoke without notes, and evidently extempore for the most part.

Our general impression of the speech is, that it is equal to any speech in ability that has been delivered in the Senate for twenty-five years.

TROOP AT THE POLLS—HAYES'S AUTHORITIES.

The second veto message of the President is an able state paper than his first one, and because it is made up of Edmunds's studied sophisms and deceptions.

THE WEEKLY STAR.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1879. VOL. 10. NO. 30.

(Edmunds) knows that the bill "did not affect in the slightest degree, or repeal a single provision of a single statute to which he referred previous to 1865—not one; I affirm it, with confidence, not one."

Mr. Hayes relied upon Edmunds, who is the legal adviser of the Radical Senators, for his law and his facts. He, therefore, follows him blindly, using as a padding the numerous "repealed or obsolete statutes" to bolster up his desperate cause.

"The second statute of 1795, to which the President refers as 'hardly less valuable or sacred than a provision of the Constitution,' is marked even in the statute-book as obsolete.

But there is another fact to be mentioned in this connection. The act of 1792 was amended in 1795, but in 1807 it was repealed, when it was provided that before the army or militia could be employed in a State that the section 4 of article 4 of the Constitution should be complied with.

But, further, Mr. Hill shows that the act of 1795, and the other acts paraded by the Vermonter, "were not intended to give the President power to use the army to keep the peace at the polls or to interfere with the elections."

One of the finest, most impressive points presented by Mr. Hill is when he attacks the idea of Conkling and Edmunds and Hayes that our Government "needs a standing army to protect the American people from outrage by the American people as a body."

to the world the singular spectacle of standing more in need of an army than any other country on the globe." He has a great deal to say on this head, but we can only quote additionally the following truthful warning:

"Whenever the American Congress shall in solemn form tell the world that an army is needed to protect American freemen when American freemen go to the polls, they have admitted that the American popular system of government is at an end."

According to the Richmond State's account of the Russell-Kitchin affair, "it was scandalous but very amusing." Judge Russell is represented as saying:

"Russell referred to Kitchin as one entitled to be called a gentleman by courtesy of the House, and reaffirmed his former statement that Kitchin was sent to Congress by Democratic fraud in throwing out hundreds of votes upon the flimsiest pretexts, some of which he mentioned.

"Kitchin got the floor, and walking down to the area before the Speaker's desk, launched at once into a furious denunciation of sealawags, and Russell, in particular. He said Russell belonged to a class whom the Republicans despise in their hearts.

"Kitchin's discomfiture was complete. He hesitated, started to say something, abruptly shut his mouth, and the book down and began to turn over the leaves hurriedly. In the meantime almost everybody was laughing at him, and Russell stood grinning in the opposite aisle.

There is a rumor of a challenge from Kitchin in Washington, but there is probably no truth in it. Martin says there will be no fight.

Most people are influenced by social elevation and pay great adoration to titles. Call a man governor or something else, and it is amusing to see what court will be paid to him however unworthy really. It is not, mind you, to the office that the man in part; it is not the lion's skin that is only revered, but really also the ass that wears it.

read the effort of the former with delight, and, if need be, will swear it is of unsurpassed excellence; the better production of the thoughtful recluse will be unrecognised, save by a considerate few who have learned to estimate men according to actual worth, and not according to titular distinction; and intellectual productions by style and thought—by intrinsic literary excellence, and not by a false standard of political prominence.

If titles impose upon the unthinking they do not deceive the moralists or satirists. For hundreds of years they have been sneered at and cauterized by the wits and philosophers. Lawrence Sterne said titles "only render brass current." Voltaire and Addison, Moliere and John Ford, Rochefoucauld and Southern, and other wits have all enjoyed their flings.

The Richmond State gives notice that Dr. G. W. Bagby ("Mosis Ad-dums") will act as special correspondent of that paper, and will make an extended tour through Northern and Eastern North Carolina, and that he will be "among" our people "taking notes."

Well, let him come, our people have seen big Virginians before, for Washington once travelled through the Old North State. We have plenty of boys and girls who can beat Moses spelling "all holler." But he will be none the less welcome.

A Rare and Curious Fish. We had brought to this office, last night, a very curious specimen of a fish, which was caught on Topsall Sound, by Mr. S. J. Sneeden, yesterday morning.

A New Industry. A new industry and article of export has lately come to the surface in our commercial world, in the hitherto neglected, despised and apparently worthless pine straw, which formerly could not be utilized in any other manner than in making hog beds, covering Irish potato beds, straw-berry beds, &c.

Distinguished Compliment. We are very greatly gratified to learn from our mid-night telegraph reports that the Rev. Jos. R. Wilson, D. D., of our city, was yesterday elected, by an almost unanimous vote, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, South, in its organization at Louisville.

Two men may publish an article each in the newspapers. One is prominent before the public, because he is a tireless seeker of office and emolument. The other has no taste for such an arena, and no inclination to push himself to the front.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

(Reported for the Star.)

The Grand Lodge met at 8 o'clock, last evening, in the beautiful Lodge room of Catherine Lodge, K. of P., which was kindly tendered for the occasion, Grand Master Eringhaus in the chair.

The Grand Lodge was called to order, and a great many Past Grand Lodges received the G. L. degree.

The Grand Lodge adjourned until this morning at 9 o'clock.

The Grand Lodge met at 9 A. M., Grand Master Bagley in the chair.

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following gentlemen were appointed to draft suitable resolutions in regard to the deaths of Gen. J. G. Martin and Hon. W. H. Battle: Rev. Dr. James Burton, Major J. C. McRae and Henry A. London, Esq.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Watson, the two addresses were referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Watson, the Convention proceeded to the election of Treasurer, and Dr. A. J. DeRosset was unanimously re-elected to that office.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Watson, it was resolved that Mr. Richard H. Battle be appointed Trustee of the Diocese, in place of his father, Hon. W. H. Battle, deceased.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Watson, the Convention proceeded to the election of the Education Committee and the following gentlemen were re-elected:

On motion of Rev. Dr. Watson, the Convention proceeded to the election of the Clerical Committee, and the following gentlemen were elected:

On motion of Rev. Dr. Watson, the Convention proceeded to the election of the Finance Committee, and the following gentlemen were elected:

On motion of Rev. Dr. Watson, the Convention proceeded to the election of the Pastoral Committee, and the following gentlemen were elected:

Spirits Turpentine

Judge Dick is to speak at Salisbury in favor of Prohibition.

Judge W. A. Moore, who for the past year has been residing in Europe, arrived in New York on Friday last by the steamer City of Brussels, of the Iman Line.

The Goldsboro Messenger, semi-weekly edition, is reduced to \$3 a year, and is much improved in typography and arrangement. Bonitz knows how to "boom."

Somebody says there were 28,081 sheep killed by dogs in North Carolina last year. If that is all there is no use for a dog law. What are 28,081 sheep for people who are rich?

Mr. Daniel R. Goodloe publishes a card in the Raleigh News in which he assumes all responsibility for the charges brought against Collector W. H. Wheeler, of the Fifth Internal Revenue District, in the News of a previous date.

That very sensible paper, the Kinston Journal, bestows fitting praise on Col. Waddell's excellent Memorial Address at Goldsboro and Newbern. It says: The address should be read to be properly appreciated; its literary merits, as well as its sensible counsel, being able to bear the closest scrutiny.

Rev. John Jones, of the M. E. Church South, and of the North Carolina Annual Conference, died at his home in the State of North Carolina, on Saturday, May 22, 1879, at the age of 72 years. He was a native of the Poplar Circuit. He was a good, true, and useful man, and has gone to his reward on high.

Raleigh News: Mr. C. C. Clawson has invented a top that will spin eight minutes by the watch. The watch is at the First Baptist church, colored, and continues with increased interest. Isaac Pool, colored, was brought in this morning and put in jail. He was committed to the State Prison for a term of 18 months for a burglary, for attempting to break in the store of A. F. Johnson. He was shot at twice, by whom we were unable to learn.

Shelby Aurora: Mr. W. C. Quinn, of Shelby, and Mr. M. Adler, of Baltimore, were traveling in a buggy, near Cherryville, last Saturday, when a dog ran out and attempted to jump into the buggy. Mr. Quinn struck the dog with his whip and Mr. Adler shot at the same time. The ball from Mr. Adler's shot struck the dog's right arm near the elbow and lodged near the wrist, inflicting a very painful, but not dangerous, flesh wound. The dogs have killed about 50 head of sheep for Mr. A. R. Frazier, near Cherryville, and his neighbors, within the last four weeks.

Winston Sentinel: The members of the Baptist church of this place presented their pastor a handsome sum of money to defray his expenses to the Southern Baptist Convention, lately in session in Atlanta, Ga. The exercise of the Oak Ridge Institute will take place on Tuesday, May 27th, 1879. Hon. Robert P. Dick will deliver the literary address. The survey of Dan river was commenced last week at a certain point, and on Saturday the surveyors returned to their headquarters, a distance of about ten miles. The surveyors report a fall in the river of 90 feet between those points.

Goldsboro Mail: A correspondent, writing from Mt. Olive under date of the 13th, says: A citizen of this place with our four boys, and a dog, were out on a hunt, and killed 170 rats this evening with sticks, in a very short time. A colored man living in Rockingham, with a rock in his hand, and a pistol, killed an eagle measuring seven and a half feet from tip to tip of wings. "Why is a bird-dog on the Pilot Mountain like a citizen of a certain one of our western towns?" We gave it up. "Well," said he, and here he laughed until we doubted his sanity, "it is because he is a high pointer."

Tarboro Southern: The President of the North Carolina Senate and Speaker of the House have agreed to sign the School Bill, and to let the matter go until the Courts decide whether they do so now—we want it right. Dr. Jos. J. Lawrence, of St. Louis, Mo., and editor of the Medical Brief, called on us Tuesday, May 20th, and was very pleasant to his present home two or three years ago. Warren Sugg and Peter Taylor, being arraigned for larceny on Monday, instructed their attorneys to object to several red-headed jurors. "Why do you object?" asked counsel. "For God, Mr. B. I want to do to a red-headed lawyer's nigger for stealing." Mrs. Lydia Ward, living near Goldsboro, had her house entirely consumed by fire on Thursday. Loss about \$2,000, with no insurance.

Weldon News: The Baptist church is nearly completed. The infant daughter of Rev. A. R. Raven died in this place, on Saturday, May 17th, at the age of 10 years. Mrs. J. A. Garris, of Margaretville, had the misfortune to lose his house and furniture by fire. At a festival near this place last week, two darkeys got into a row and one of them cut the other's throat from ear to ear. The stockholders of the narrow gauge railroad to be built from Scotland Neck to Palmyra, will elect a President and a Board of trustees on Saturday, May 24th. A short time since, in Bertie county, near Windsor, three or four men called Mr. Whitley out to the road, threw a bag over his head and beat him severely. The cause was a small debt owed by Whitley to one of the party. Scotland Neck item: Ed. Pender, the young man who accidentally shot himself on Tuesday, is perfectly unconscious, and it is thought cannot live many hours. The smoke house of J. J. Garrett, Esq., was broken open on Saturday night and about three hundred pounds of ham were stolen. No clue to the rogues has been found.

Raleigh News: At present there are 23 prisoners in the county jail. All but 4 of this number are males. Almost all are in the jail are in for larceny, and nearly all are in for larceny. The law now requires of all Fire Insurance Companies doing business in this State a deposit of \$10,000 in the State Treasury in United States bonds. The following companies have complied with the law in this respect: Columbus Insurance and Banking Company, of Columbus, Miss.; Niagara Fire, of New York; Liverpool, London and Globe, of England; North British and Mercantile, of England; Queen, of England; Commercial Union Association, of London; Consumers Company, of North America, of Philadelphia. The commencement exercises of the Raleigh Seminary will be held on the 9th and 10th of June. On the evening of the 9th Rev. William H. Howard, D. D., of Richmond, Va., will deliver the annual address, in the Salisbury street Baptist church. A correspondent writing from Chapel Hill informs us that there will be a ball at the University and Entertainment of the University of North Carolina, on the 19th inst. Up to the present writing there are 91 cases on the docket, of which 14 are *ex parte* cases for failure to answer at the last term. 9 against the ex-Commissioners of Halifax county for malfeasance while in office. The following compose the old Board of Commissioners as shown by the bills of indictment: James E. O'Leary, John H. Howard, John W. Johnston, John Hamilton. There are 36 cases for larceny. There are nine prisoners in jail. One, Fred Douglas, died in jail Wednesday night. This is the second since the first of January.