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CHANGE OF SCHEDULE-CHANGE OF POLICY.

Some of the papers, (both Jarvis and Fowle papers in the late campaign), seem to think that Railroad questions will enter largely into the pending campaign, and affect no little the result.

We touch very reluctantly any question into which railroads enter. There are so many systems—so many conflicting interests to be consulted—such complexity that it is quite puzzling to any one not a specialist.

But it sometimes will occur in the life of a local newspaper that it must speak out because of manifest injustice or threatening peril to home interests, although to do so may not advance the interests of the party at large.

As some of our readers have expressed a wish that we would publish at once Gen. Winfield S. Hancock's letter to Gov. Pease, of Texas, we begin its publication to-day.

The Charlotte papers have informed us of a change that has been made in the schedule of the Western North Carolina Railroad.

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solely for the convenience of operators at the expense of the interests of several roads. The road thus favored is no more entitled to the very kind treatment mentioned than any of the roads named, say, it is not as much entitled to this favoritism as some of the roads thus discriminated against.

It will strike probably the unprejudiced mind that such one-sided action—such unjust discrimination—is not to be expected of a Wilmington enterprise.

General Hancock knew he would be hounded down. He determined, therefore, to be removed as soon as possible. So on February 27, 1868, he wrote to the Adjutant General at Washington in such terms that he was relieved in a little more than two weeks. He wrote as follows:

"General—I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of my correspondence with the general-in-chief in reference to my recent action concerning the removal from office of certain aldermen and assistant aldermen of the Council of the city of New Orleans, made by me for contempt of the order of the district commander."

"I hope to be relieved here soon. The country is no longer able to protect me. So that I may expect one humiliation after another, until I am forced to resign. I am prepared for any event. Nothing can intimidate me from doing what I believe to be honest and right."

What noble resolution! What a conspicuous patriotism! What a winning presentation of character. No man of high impulses and ardent admiration and sympathy for goodness and purity and exalted personal worth can read Hancock's record without a thrill of pleasure.

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The true rule by which to test statesmanship is by what a man does as well as by what he says. If you test Hancock and Garfield in this way every informed man will say at once then Hancock is the greater statesman.

November 2, 1880, the vote will show that he is first in the hearts of his countrymen.

TO ALL CONCERNED. The Republican State Convention will meet on the 7th inst. It will no doubt place a strong ticket in the field—one that will have to be met at every point. We know from the past history of the Republican party in North Carolina that it is easily organized in a campaign, and when organized is capable of making a stubborn fight.

Why should Democrats agree to quarrel among themselves at a moment of so much importance, if not of so much peril? Can they agree to let the common enemy triumph through Democratic clashing of opinions and of personal preferences? Everything for principle.

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Progress of the Duplin Canal.

The directors of this company held a meeting on the 30th of June at Bannerman's Bridge, in Pender county. There were present at the meeting Mr. B. G. Worth, President, and Messrs. W. T. Bannerman, W. L. Young and William Calder.

We much prefer to be in harmony with all and each of our State contemporaries, and especially with those of the same political faith, than to be in opposition. The following words are timely and to be commended. We copy them that they may have a wider circulation.

The Raleigh News says: "It may neglect its organization, and thus encourage discord and division; and the aspirations, the ambitions, the selfishness of what are called leading men may obstruct and cloud its measures and ultimately break it down."

Two Families on the Coast of North Carolina in a Condition of Starvation. Intelligence was received at the Signal Office in this city yesterday to the effect that two families on Bogue Point, on the north side of Bogue Inlet, about thirty-five miles south of Fort Macon, are in an actual state of starvation.

Columbus Hatfield and family a Hancock and Jarvis Club. We learn that a large number of the Democratic citizens of Whiteville and the surrounding community assembled at Whiteville Depot Thursday night, and in torchlight procession, amid the firing of guns and loud huzzas for Hancock and Jarvis, marched to the court house, where Capt. J. W. Ellis, V. V. Richardson and others made excellent speeches.

A Water Spout Near New Inlet. We learn that a water spout of very considerable dimensions was witnessed on Thursday afternoon last, about 3 o'clock, between Fort Fisher and Snow's Marsh, near the mouth of the Cape Fear river. The wind at the time was blowing nearly a hurricane. The water spout covered a space, apparently of about fifty yards in circumference, and moved a distance of about one mile and a quarter.

Election of County Commissioners—When to Qualify. The following is a copy of an opinion given by the Attorney General in answer to letters upon the subject of the date of election and qualification of County Commissioners:

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, Raleigh, June 30, 1880. Under the act of 1869-77, ch. 141, sec. 5, the Justices of the Peace for each county are required to elect County Commissioners on the first Monday in August, 1880, and the persons so elected will qualify on the first Monday in December following.

Religions. The Wilmington District Conference of the Methodist E. Church, South, convened at Zion church, Brunswick Circuit, on the 22d of July, and the Presiding Elder, Rev. D. Burkhead, requests the ministers of the District to forward to John N. Bennett, Esq., at Town Creek, Brunswick county, North Carolina, a list of the delegates from their respective charges, and especially how many of their delegates will go by public conveyance and expect to be met at the foot of Market street, in Wilmington, at 8 o'clock A. M. on the 22d of July.

Spirits Turpentine.

In looking over the State exchanges the last two days we think we have met with twenty-five uncredited items taken from the STAR. Total fair.

Alamance. On last Monday, William Goble was arrested on a charge of resisting a census enumeration in the discharge of his duty, and was bound over to answer at the next term of the Federal Court.

Wilson Advance: We have never undertaken to lecture our brethren of the Democratic press for the course which they have seen fit to pursue with respect to the nomination of Gov. Jarvis or any other Democratic candidate.

Louisburg Times: Last Saturday being the day appointed by John Williamson for a meeting, between fifty and a hundred negroes assembled in the Court House, General B. B. Hawkins and James O. Wayne were the only white participants.

Ashtville Citizen: Prof. Wm. Cairn has been for the past three weeks engaged in surveying the route from this point to Pigeon River, with the view of locating positively the line of the Western North Carolina Railroad, and Col. Thad. Coleman has been at the same time going over the line down the French Broad.

Our respected contemporary, the Salisbury Watchman, after quoting what we said about the Cincinnati nomination, says: "And it may also be said that with a longer experience than that mentioned by the STAR, we have no remembrance of any nominations which have so thoroughly impressed the commonalty with their strength and inevitable success."

Oxford Firelight: A meeting of the stockholders of the Oxford and Henderson Railroad and other parties interested was held last Tuesday. It was stated that the Oxford & Henderson Railroad Company would complete the road at once, provided the stockholders would turn over to them the road bed of the Oxford & Henderson Railroad, free from all liabilities, together with the assets now held by the company.

Charlotte Observer: There is much complaint along the line of the Western North Carolina Railroad, against the night schedule. Railroad companies should certainly be the friends of the stock law, with the law in operation in the two counties through which the Atlantic, Tennessee & Ohio Railroad runs. That road yielded during the year only \$16.50 for live stock killed.

Raleigh Observer: From nearly all parts of the State come the news of destruction by storms, lightning and hail. A gentleman who came up from New Bern yesterday said that the hail had played havoc with the crops in the fields around Kinston. The crops of the fine farm of Mr. Parrott were almost totally destroyed.