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STAND BY HONEST CONVICTIONS.

Many of the ablest Democratic papers in the South are wisely opposing the wiping out of the entire revenue tax. Among them are the Washington Post, the Charleston News and Courier and the Louisville Courier-Journal.

It proposes to take the tax off the drunkard's glass of grog and put it upon his shirt and his buttons. It proposes to take the tax off the loafer's pipe of tobacco and put it upon his wife's cup of coffee.

The Courier-Journal, like the STAR, is a sincere and pronounced advocate of fair trade and it cannot see how that much desired end can be secured without a tax on at least drinkables.

When the State Convention passed a resolution favoring the total abolition of the internal taxes—taxes on tobacco, whiskey, &c., this paper emphasized its position at once and repeated it again and again.

The question of reducing or abolishing the internal taxes ought to be settled in some way and speedily, for the discussion is having a very unfavorable effect both upon the revenues therefrom and upon the business interests of the South and Northwest.

We are in dead earnest in trying to serve the Democratic party. We are fighting for victory as well as for principles. We mean to express our best judgment and to express our honest convictions of what is best to be done.

THE WEEKLY STAR

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NO. 7

ion: that, to abolish the internal taxes out and out is not the way to secure tariff reform; that to wipe out \$146,000,000 raised on tobacco, whiskey, &c., is not the way to get the tax lifted or lightened even on woolhats, trace-chains, jack-knives, blankets, woollens, medicines, and the other articles Senator Vance dwelt upon in his speech here.

It is almost grotesque to see how readily and blunderingly some of the Northern Radicals fall upon the South on all occasions. Georgia asked the "greatest government on the planet" to pay it a debt of \$375,000 incurred for the common defence in the War of the Revolution.

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of the tax on both tobacco and whiskey, and the abolition of neither. The Western men do not desire abolition of the matter. The New York Times says of the matter:

"It is impossible to say what are the chances in favor of the consummation of so supreme a piece of folly as the abolition of the tobacco tax, because the minds of the representatives of the people are in a more than ordinary state of development as to what the people expect of them in the matter of tax reduction."

The tobacco trade is suffering seriously from the agitation and delay, and the sense of North Carolina manufacturers is total repeal of all taxes or nothing. We do not believe the tobacco growers will be benefited one dollar by the repeal.

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TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

A Well Known Coquette Shows Her Self Through the Head and Shows Her Brains Out. Florence Morris, a well known white "woman of the town," living in what has been known as the "Fanny Turner" house, on the east side of Market between Chestnut and Mulberry streets, shot herself in the head yesterday morning, about a quarter past eleven o'clock, and died in a few minutes afterwards.

Officer Samuel Howland, of the police force, was the first to arrive at the scene, and found the unfortunate woman on the verge of death, a slight quiver of the lips being the only perceptible sign that the vital spark yet lingered. As soon as she ceased to breathe, Officer Howland took charge of the house, intelligence of the suicide soon got abroad on the streets and a large crowd quickly gathered in the vicinity.

Decided was born and raised in Norfolk, but had lived in this city for quite a number of years. She had two sisters here with her, both of whom are dead; one of them, Geneva Morris, having died from the effects of an overdose of laudanum, together with dissipation and exposure, some four months ago.

The Republicans in the Senate are anxious to break the force of an investigation into the political assessments of the Government and the abuse of power. They are cumbering the resolution of inquiry introduced by Senator Beck with amendments, the sole purpose of which is to defeat the ends arrived at by the original resolution.

The following officers were elected: Colonel—A. H. Worth, of Fayetteville. Lieutenant Colonel—Jas. G. Kenan, Captain of Duplin Rifles. Major—E. F. McRae, Captain of Shoe Heel Rifles.

At the meeting of the organization of the Western Insane Asylum held Friday the 8th Dr. P. L. Murphy, formerly a practitioner in this city, but for three years past an assistant in the Staunton (Va.) Asylum, was elected Superintendent.

Clerk McPherson figures up the Democratic majority in the next House at 59. Enough and to spare. He places them as follows: 191 Democrats, 121 Republicans, six Readjusters, three Independent Democrats and two Independent Republicans.

ON THE CAPE FEAR.

The last train on the Coast Route passes Richmond at 3.15 in the afternoon. Winter was abroad. Snow covered the ground. The young pines were sagging across the bridge paths. The briar thickets looked like a ragged sheet had been spread over them.

As night came on I opened my valise and brought out Dr. Deems's new volume, "The Lessons in the Closet." It contains brief, devout meditations on the Sunday School lessons for the first six months in 1883. It is on the beginnings of Christianity in the Acts. The small book is in flexible covers, easily put in the pocket. It is not critical or expository, but mellow and nourishing.

The city is only seven miles from the ocean. The beach sands encroach on the streets. Rice is one of the crops. Large lumber mills are busy, with the pine rafted down the rivers to the city. All day I heard the cotton compress at work squeezing bales to the size of an average saw-log to save space in shipping.

The clergy of the city and other eminent citizens, among them the Hon. Mr. Davis, of the Confederate Cabinet, did me the honor to call on me during my visit.

The hearing apparatus, could not combat the unusual lowness of temperature. I had to lecture in my overcoat. The audience, at the peril of their lives, sat shivering for an hour. It was a mark of politeness unparalleled. When I got short I was cold to my hips.

The visit was a recreation and joy. The old city and my new friends will ever have a warm place in my heart. There was something in the manners of the people, their houses, their history, that mark them as of bullion—genuine and solid.

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MASONIC GRAND LODGE.

Raleigh News Observer's Report. The Grand Lodge held sessions yesterday morning and afternoon, at which considerable routine business was transacted. Last evening the committee on the accounts of G. T. W. E. Anderson and G. S. D. W. Bain reported, highly commending those worthy officers.

The election of officers for the ensuing Masonic year was held, resulting as follows: Robert Bingham, Grand Master; Chas. H. Robinson, Senior Grand Warden; Wm. T. Kennedy, Junior Grand Warden; W. E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; D. W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

On Returns of Lodges, No. 1.—J. M. Fleming, J. W. Perdue and D. C. White. No. 2.—E. B. Neave, H. E. Hoggard and C. T. Barwick. No. 3.—A. J. Johnson, N. Long and C. D. Rice.

The Grand officers, elected and appointed, were then installed by Past Grand Master George W. Blount.

Resolved, That the Grand Master be requested to appoint a committee of three to prepare and present to the General Assembly a bill which will secure future and proper protection to the children of the State, without any detriment to those to whom they may be apprenticed.

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Spirits Turpentine.

Charlotte had nine interments during November. Two thousand bushels of rice sold in this market yesterday at \$1.50 a bushel.

Washington, correspondent of the Richmond (Va.) Dispatch. North Carolina has a new Governor.

Mr. W. D. Hilliard, of Brunswick, has been elected Assistant Superintendent of the Western Insane Asylum. He is about 30 years of age.

Oxford Free Press. We notice that the vacancy in the Receptory of the Oxford Receptory, the Superior Court, the United States Circuit Court, the Grand Jury and Humphrey Dumpty.

New Berns Journal. On Saturday evening last, about 5 o'clock, a well-dressed lady called on Equite Bushy and informed him that she was sleeping at the hotel.

Oxford Torchlight. Franklinton runs a flourishing graded school upon a capital of \$1,200. Superintendent Jenkins says that he would be glad to have a fund for a similar purpose here about \$500.

Roboro News. Mr. Jas. F. Tillet was elected Superintendent of Public Schools for Person county, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of C. A. Gibbons.

Washington Post. The attention of Mr. Secretary Folger is respectfully invited to this statement: One of the officials of his department, a man who is universally known at home and abroad as a North Carolina, arranged through the department of corruption, under the Hon. Jay A. Hubbell, for a number of special deputy marshals to go with him from Washington to the First North Carolina District, for the purpose of helping in the election of Pool to Congress.

Greensboro Patriot. From passengers on the Charlotte train this morning, we learn that Gen. Leach was assaulted on the streets in Lexington, yesterday, by Mr. Heitman, a lawyer living in that town. Leach and Heitman met on the streets, when angry words passed between them, about the compromise of the case of Garrett vs. R. & R. R., mentioned a few days ago in the Patriot.

Goldboro Messenger. We have received from Col. J. W. Andrews, Superintendent of the Midland N. C. Road, a copy of his report relative to the condition of the rolling stock and road bed of the Atlantic & N. C. Road.

Charlotte Journal. Rev. T. S. Brown, of Wytheville, Va., has been called as supply to St. Marks Lutheran Church in this city, by the council of that church. Yesterday afternoon a boy, 18 years of age, named McKnight and living with his uncle, Mr. McKnight, was badly burnt upon the face by the explosion of about a gill of powder with which he was playing—making spitting devils, &c.

Ohio. Sale of a Railroad—Election Contest. CINCINNATI, Dec. 9.—The Marietta & Cincinnati Railroad was sold under foreclosure to-day to Robt. Garrett, of the R. & O. R. R., for \$4,876,000.

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