The Weekly Star.
PUBLISHED AT
WILMINGTON, N. C.,
AT
$1.00 A YEAR. IN ADVANCE.

ADVERTISING SCHEDULE.

SPACE.	1 Week	2 Weeks	3 Weeks	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
1 Square (ten lines)	$1 00	$1 50	$2 00	$3 00	$3 50	$4 00	$5 00	$8 00
2 Squares	1 50	2 50	3 50	5 00	6 00	7 00	9 00	15 00
3 Squares	2 00	3 00	4 50	6 50	8 00	9 00	12 00	20 00
4 Squares	2 50	4 00	5 50	8 00	10 00	12 00	15 00	25 00
5 Squares	3 00	5 00	6 50	9 50	12 00	15 00	18 00	30 00
6 Squares	3 50	5 50	7 50	11 00	14 00	17 00	21 00	35 00
7 Squares	4 00	6 00	8 50	12 50	16 00	20 00	24 00	40 00
8 Squares	4 50	7 00	9 50	14 00	18 00	22 00	27 00	45 00
9 Squares	5 00	7 50	10 50	15 50	20 00	25 00	30 00	50 00
10 Squares	5 50	8 00	11 50	17 00	22 00	27 00	33 00	55 00
11 Squares	6 00	8 50	12 50	18 50	24 00	29 00	36 00	60 00
12 Squares	6 50	9 00	13 50	20 00	26 00	32 00	39 00	65 00
13 Squares	7 00	9 50	14 50	21 50	28 00	34 00	42 00	70 00
14 Squares	7 50	10 00	15 50	23 00	30 00	37 00	45 00	75 00
15 Squares	8 00	10 50	16 50	24 50	32 00	39 00	48 00	80 00
16 Squares	8 50	11 00	17 50	26 00	34 00	42 00	51 00	85 00
17 Squares	9 00	11 50	18 50	27 50	36 00	44 00	54 00	90 00
18 Squares	9 50	12 00	19 50	29 00	38 00	47 00	57 00	95 00
19 Squares	10 00	12 50	20 50	30 50	40 00	49 00	60 00	100 00
20 Squares	10 50	13 00	21 50	32 00	42 00	52 00	63 00	105 00
21 Squares	11 00	13 50	22 50	33 50	44 00	54 00	66 00	110 00
22 Squares	11 50	14 00	23 50	35 00	46 00	57 00	69 00	115 00
23 Squares	12 00	14 50	24 50	36 50	48 00	59 00	72 00	120 00
24 Squares	12 50	15 00	25 50	38 00	50 00	62 00	75 00	125 00
25 Squares	13 00	15 50	26 50	39 50	52 00	64 00	78 00	130 00
26 Squares	13 50	16 00	27 50	41 00	54 00	67 00	81 00	135 00
27 Squares	14 00	16 50	28 50	42 50	56 00	69 00	84 00	140 00
28 Squares	14 50	17 00	29 50	44 00	58 00	72 00	87 00	145 00
29 Squares	15 00	17 50	30 50	45 50	60 00	74 00	90 00	150 00
30 Squares	15 50	18 00	31 50	47 00	62 00	77 00	93 00	155 00
31 Squares	16 00	18 50	32 50	48 50	64 00	79 00	96 00	160 00
32 Squares	16 50	19 00	33 50	50 00	66 00	82 00	99 00	165 00

Entered at the Post Office at Wilmington, N. C., as Second Class Matter.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

The subscription price of the Weekly Star is as follows:

Single Copy 1 year, postage paid		$1 00
" " 6 months " "		60
" " 3 months " "		30

We are again sending bills to our subscribers. In the aggregate they amount to a very large sum. Many of our subscribers are responding promptly. Others pay no attention to the bills. These latter do not seem to understand that they are under any legal or moral obligation to pay for a newspaper.

HOW CAN THEY DO IT?

The Committee on Banking and Currency of the House of Representatives has been for some time giving hearings to the bankers to get their views as to what they think should be done to get our currency system in better shape. It is conceded that one of the conspicuous defects of the present system is too much concentration of money in some sections, and too little distribution in others, causing an overabundance where it can be easily commanded, and a scarcity where it is difficult to secure it, a gorge in one, a dearth in the other, a gorge where it is least needed, a dearth where it is most needed, millions lying idle in the vaults of the large money center cities where checks largely take the place of money in current transactions, and a famine in the sections where checks are comparatively but little used and business is done with money direct.

This defect in our present system is pretty generally admitted and it has been proposed to remedy it to some extent by so amending the national banking laws as to authorize the establishment of national banks in towns of 4,000 population, with a capital of $20,000. This would do some good, because it would increase the number of banks, and put some more money in circulation, but it would be only a partial and a very small relief to the people who most need it, that is the farmers, the shopmen and the small traders, very few of whom could take their notes into these banks and have them discounted. The banks thus started, whether few or many, would in all probability be branches of larger banks which might find an outlet for some of their surplus in that way, for very few new banks would be started when bonds are the basis of the circulating notes, and bonds command the premium they have for some time commanded and command now. Even with this amendment, if it resulted in the establishment of many banks in small towns, the volume of the currency would still be in the control of the large banks and liable to sudden expansion or contraction at the very time when either would be the most harmful.

No reform in the money system that does not provide for an elastic currency that may be adapted to the growing or lessening demands of business will be worth the time given to devise it or the paper it is written on. No banking system based on Government bonds which have a speculative value and are bought and sold as merchandise can do that, for the bonds will be bought and hoarded at times and at other times turned loose, both of which operations will more or less effect the volume of notes based on them. When the tendency is upward the banks will surrender a part of their circulation to get the bonds to put upon the market at the opportune time, and thus the volume of currency is contracted perhaps at a time when it would be most needed and its contraction would do the most harm. It is a one sided system in which the banks have wide latitude and the public little or no protection.

The national banks may do well enough for the cities, especially the large cities, where, as we have remarked, the daily business transactions are largely conducted with checks, but they are not adapted to the needs of agricultural sections where the people cannot use checks and must have money.

There is but one system of banks that will meet these wants and that is the State bank, which is managed by the people most interested, which gets close to the people, and can do business in a way that the people can do business with them. If we had State banks which could use other securities than Government bonds as a basis of circulating notes, we could provide our own money, our people could get all they needed on landed and other securities, and our towns which desired to sell bonds for local improvement would not be compelled to go abroad to find purchasers as they do now, although these bonds may stand well enough to sell at a premium. With State banks these bonds might be used as banking capital and be made the means of furnishing circulating notes for the town or city that issued and sold them. And so with our State bonds, which are now bought and held for the interest they draw. These might not only be drawing interest if bought by our own people, but might, with a State bank system, also contribute to furnishing the circulating notes which we need. For this purpose they are worthless now, as they have no recognition in the national bank system.

Another result which would be gained by the State bank system is that it would prevent these sudden contractions of the volume of notes, for the banks of one State being independent of the banks of other States the notes would not be controlled by any central power, and being thus uncontrolled would remain among the people unaffected by the contingencies that the banks of other States might be subjected to.

The statesman who is really desirous of instituting a reform in our currency system which will provide for an equable distribution of the currency and give the relief to the sections where relief is most needed, will serve his country most and best by advocating the restoration of the State bank system and the repeal of the State bank tax, which would make that practicable. This will not be an easy thing to do, we know, for there will be powerful influences against it. The money kings who control the national banks do not want State banks as competitors, but the agitation for them should go on all the same.

MINOR MENTION.

The Nicaragua canal scheme, which is now under consideration in the Senate, has to encounter two powerful influences which are exerted covertly against it, one the Pacific railways, the other British commercial interests, the former of which is opposed to the construction of the canal because it would result in dangerous competition in transportation, the latter of which is opposed to it because it would open the way for American commerce to become a formidable competitor in the markets of the East, where English merchants and manufacturers have found such a rich harvest. That canal will be to American commerce what the Suez Canal is to British commerce and will go far towards neutralizing the advantage that Great Britain now has and putting American enterprise on a plane where it can successfully compete with the Briton. If the conditions were changed and England had the opportunity presented to her of controlling this canal that the United States have she would seize it and turn it to her advantage, without a tenth part of the palavering that has been done over it in Congress. It has been a topic of discussion at times for over fifty years, for that far back its importance to the commerce of this country, and from a military standpoint, was recognized, and it is of incomparably more importance now than it was then, for the demands of our commerce are greater and our interests in the great and growing Pacific world incomparably greater. If we fail to grasp this grand enterprise, this "crowning glory of the nineteenth century," as Senator Morgan calls it, it will be the crowning blunder of the century.

* * *

The manipulators of the Republican party in Raleigh are playing to get full control of the offices, State and municipal, and of the patronage that goes with them, thus strengthening themselves for future political contests, whether they have the co-operation of the Populists or act independently of that co-operation. This accounts for the movement to change the method of electing municipal officers, and for the movement to put the penitentiary under the control of the Governor, which will doubtless be supplemented by other movements of a similar character and for a similar purpose. It is vesting the Governor, who is intensely partisan, with a one-man power never before exercised by any Governor in this State, nor in any other. Of course Governor Russell will placate and hold in hand the Populists, for whom he and his party still have use, by giving them some recognition in the parcelling of the "honors" and the spoils, but he will so manage that as to give his own party the larger slices of both and build it up and make it strong. The Populist who isn't knowingly and voluntarily permitting himself to be thus used when he votes for these schemes, must be as blind as a bat at noonday, or as dull as a terrapin.

Without professing to know anything about the accuracy of the figures in the following, which is extracted from the last message of Governor Culberson to the Legislature of Texas, we produce it because it shows one of the great drains on the South, and is an object lesson worthy of study:

"Life insurance companies principally chartered by and domiciled in the State of New York have for years done a large business in this State. The excess of premiums over losses paid these comdanies by the people of Texas for the year 1895 was $2 471 193. The premiums which our people paid three New York companies for the past ten years amounted to $18 644 194 85, and the policies which they paid aggregated only $4 947 569 81. The excess in premiums, the sum taken out of the State in that time, was $13 696 555 34 less inappreciable commissions paid the agents, and is greater than the total taxable values for 1896 of either of the great counties of Bell or Collin.

This is for one State. If the aggregate amount paid by the people of the Southern States to companies in the North for life and fire insurance were known we would have one of the solutions of the problem why money is so scarce in the South, and one of the reasons why it is so abundant in some sections of the North. When the Southern people begin to study the art and contrive the ways to keep our money at home, they will have less reason to complain of money stringency and will be entering on the way that leads to monetary independence.

Hon. John Sherman expresses the opinion that there are States enough in the Union now for all practical purposes, and that we ought not go out piruting for more territory. The probabilities are that Hon. John would be willing to reduce the number, if it were practicable, by lopping off some of those silver States that he and his solonic associates took in to give his party the long end of the legislative whiffletree.

Eight thousand persons are employed in the diamond mines of the Kimberly district in South Africa. Up to 1892 they had turned out about ten tons of diamonds, valued at $300,000, 00. The annual output is about 3,000,000 carats, and yet diamonds are so high that the average hotel clerk can't wear 'em larger than a hazel nut, and the average editor can't wear 'em at all.

"Billy" Mason, who will succeed decoy Palmer as U. S. Senator from Illinois, is not a millionaire, but what he lacks in millions he makes up in jokes, and according to the Washington *Post*, bad jokes, too. Squire Madden, that Chicago alderman who was an aspirant, thinks his election was a bad joke on him, and he is Madden—ough about it.

The Indianapolis *Sentinel* commends the city council for passing an act prohibiting the expectorating of tobacco juice in theatres or other public places, under penalty of a fine. This fine proceeding, it thinks, should be followed up and expectorating the yellow fluid on those "beautiful white stone sidewalks" be prohibited.

If it hadn't been for the Wilson tariff that homespun suit which Mr. McKinley is going to wear at his inauguration might have cost him double as much as it will, that is if it costs him anything, and he isn't simply being made a dummy of to advertise the work of that New England cloth factory.

The Greensboro *Record* has issued a splendid eight page industrial edition, which contains much valuable information as to the industrial progress and possibilities of that section. It is handsomely printed, nicely illustrated, and reflects credit on the men who did the work and the office which printed it.

We are under obligations to the Washington *Star* for a copy of its almanac for 1897, a splendid publication of 412 pages crammed with a vast range of subjects. It is complete in every department, skilfully arranged and so indexed that what is desired may be turned to and found at once.

A Canton dispatch says McKinley "is looking for brains" for his Cabinet. The slow progress he is making indicates a scarcity of brains.

Funeral of the Late Allan B. Brown.

The funeral of the late Allan B. Brown was held yesterday morning at 10 o'clock at St. James' church, Rev Robt. Strange, D D conducting the service. From the church the remains were taken to Oakdale cemetery, where the interment took place. The pall bearers were Messrs A. J Marshall, Geo. H. Howell, Geo. Peschau, Herbert McClammy, John H. Gore and J. Wannamaker.

Dr. Mortimer H. Brown and Mr. Jno. Kent Brown, brothers of the deceased, who accompanied the remains from Washington, D. C., returned to that city last night.

— Something ought to be done with the "obstinate eleven" jurors in the Holmes case who by refusing to join the twelfth man caused a mistrial. The "obstinate eleven" favored a verdict of guilty, while the twelfth fellow was the other way. Of course, the eleven should have gone over to the colored juror and made the thing unanimous!

TENNESSEE'S CENTENNIAL.

Mr. John T. Patrick Here in Interest of the Project—A Novel Suggestion—The Seaboard Air Line's Latest Undertaking.

Mr. Jno. T. Patrick, who holds the position of Chief Industrial Agent for the Seaboard Air Line, arrived yesterday. He is here for the purpose of arousing the interest of Wilmington people in the Tennessee Centennial Exposition, which is to be held in Nashville from May 1st to November 1st, in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the formation of that State. He conferred with Mr. T. D. Meares, Mr. Wm. E. Worth, Mr. Jas. H. Chadbourn, Col. F. W. Foster and others, to whom he outlined several plans which will be taken under advisement by the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Patrick suggests among other things, that a very novel and effective way of advertising the city would be to send a fish and oyster exhibit, to erect a restaurant at which all the delicacies from the seashore could be served, and to give in addition an oyster roast in honor of the newspaper men who will congregate at the Exposition from all parts of the country. All these plans seem perfectly feasible and can be carried into effect without very great expense.

Mr. Patrick talked also about the latest undertakings of that very enterprising road, the Seaboard Air Line. It will have at the Exposition a structure in the shape of a huge passenger car, twenty-four feet wide and one hundred feet long. The car will have a conspicuous place in the Exposition grounds and on its sides will appear advertisements of the prominent cities located along the line of the road.

The Seaboard is going to adhere to its policy of improving the condition and advantages of the people living along its lines. Four hundred sub-agents have already been chosen to work under the direction of Mr. Patrick, a meeting of whom will be held on the 2d of February for the purpose of discussing methods of procedure and for the assignment of duty.

All this of course is in the way of encouraging immigration to the points in question. But does it pay? The Seaboard thinks so, its calculation being that the freight and passenger business arising out of the immigration of a single family will amount to $150 00, while the cost to the railroad people in each case will be $50.00.

Some idea of how advertising can increase the railroad business at a given point may be had from the estimate that the amount of business done by the S. A. L. at Southern Pines during the season ending with May will be $75,000.

Mr. W. L. Aldrich and wife, of Boston, Mass., accompanied Mr. Patrick to Wilmington. Mr. Aldrich has been instrumental in sending many settlers from the New England States to North Carolina.

CITY MARKETS.

Plentiful Supplies of Country Produce—Fresh Meats, Fish, Etc.

There was a plentiful supply of country produce in the city markets yesterday, owing to the favorable weather. Eggs were steady at 13½c. A few shad were offered for sale. Poultry, alive and dressed, could be had in great abundance at comparatively low prices. Following are the prices obtained early yesterday morning before the stock was broken:

Meats—Pork, 10c; hoghead cheese 10c; steak, loin, 12½c; round, 10c; chuck, 7c; stew, 5 to 6c, sausage, 9 to 12½c.

Vegetables—Spinach, 25c per peck; Irish potatoes, 25c per peck; sweet potatoes, 12½ to 15c per peck; ruta bagas and turnips, 5c per bunch; collards, 5c per head; lettuce, 3 to 5c per head.

Oysters—New River, 80 to 90c per gallon; Stump Sound, 60 to 70c; Myrtle Grove, 50c; Sound oysters, 40c. Oysters in the shell sold for 75c per bushel; clams, 70 to 80c.

Poultry—Chickens, live, 12½ to 25c each; dressed, 40 to 60c; dressed turkeys, 10 and 12½c per pound.

Fish—Mullets, small, 5c per bunch; larger size, 10c per bunch; shad, $1.00 per pair; rock, 75c to $1 00 each.

A Break for Liberty.

Wm. McQueen, colored, a convict at the county house of correction, made a break for liberty Friday night, but without success. Mr. Thomas A. Watson, superintendent of the county house of correction, sent McQueen to the city, under guard, to get some clothing. Near Fourth street bridge McQueen made a dash for liberty, but his two guards captured him and after a short fight he was overpowered, put in irons and placed in jail. Yesterday he was carried back to the house of correction. McQueen is the man who severely cut James Smith, colored, with a razor last November, and was sentenced at the last term of the Criminal Court to three months' imprisonment in the house of correction.

G. Sam. Bradshaw

A leading Republican, says the *News and Observer*, quoted G Sam. Bradshaw as saying a few days ago to him: "I voted the Republican ticket from top to bottom." A Populist in the group said: "He voted the Rep.-Pop. ticket, and yet he kicked against the Democrats for electoral fusion with the Pops."

This is the same G. Sam. Bradshaw who came to Wilmington during the late campaign and made a riproaring "sound money" speech. He professed to be for Palmer and Buckner; but the STAR charged him (before he made his speech) with being for McKinley, and he did not deny it. G. Sam. is a political fraud.

Cotton Receipts at Wilmington.

Receipts of cotton at this port for the week ended yesterday are 3 487 bales; the same week last year, 3,397 bales. Receipts from September 1st, 1896, to January 23d, 1897 218 416 bales, against 147 004 for the same time last year; an increase of 71 412 bales. The stock at this port is 14,748, against 11 533 bales at the corresponding date last year.

SUPERIOR COURT.

A Mistrial in the Case of R. F. Holmes—Hicks, Alias Lee, the Bogus Check Passer, Sentenced to Five Years in the Penitentiary—Recess Taken Until Monday.

Shortly after the convening of the Superior Court yesterday morning the jury in the case of the State vs. R. F. Holmes, which had been out all night, came into court and stated, through their foreman, that they couldn't agree. Judge McIver sent them out again to once more try to agree upon a verdict.

John R. Hicks, alias R. F. Lee, the white man arrested by Chief of Police Melton and Sergeant Gore while passing bogus checks, and who subsequently submitted in two cases of false pretence, was brought into court to be sentenced. Solicitor Richardson stated to the court that Hicks wished to throw himself upon the mercy of the Court, but that there was no doubt that his act was deliberately meditated. Jno. D Bellamy, Esq., said Hicks came from Granville county, about one mile from Williamsboro, and that he was of a good family. Hicks stated that he had a wife and two children; that he had gambled away all his money and rather than see his family disgraced he had made out bogus checks and passed them. He also stated that he was sorry for his actions, but glad he was arrested, for it made him realize his crime and probably saved him from doing worse. In reply to a question asked by the Solicitor, Hicks said he had been in jail once before, charged with false pretence, but had been cleared.

Judge McIver ordered the judgment struck out in one of the cases, and in the other sentenced Hicks to five years' imprisonment in the State penitentiary, which evidently surprised Mr. Hicks very much.

Geo. Rountree, Esq., inquired of the Court if the sentence was not a little heavy, as the defendant had thrown himself upon the mercy of the Court, but he said he thought Hicks should be brought around with a sharp turn.

The Judge said he would consider the matter and might lessen the sentence.

Eugene Pugh, colored, convicted of resisting Police Officer Sallings, was brought into court to be sentenced. Solicitor Richardson stated to the Court that the resisting of an officer in Wilmington was getting to be a common affair; that at every court there were a number of such cases. Pugh was sentenced to two months in the house of correction, with the usual privilege to the County Commissioners to hire him out.

The case of Jas. F. Post vs. J. F. Richard, was referred by mutual consent to Mr. Jno. D. Bellamy, under the Code.

The case of T. C. Miller vs. Johnston Hooper was set for hearing Wednesday.

At 12 o'clock Court adjourned while hearing the suit of Junius Davis, receiver of the Bank of New Hanover, vs. the Butters Lumber Co. Mr. Eugene Martin and George Rountree, Esq., represent the plaintiff and Messrs. Ricaud and Bryan the defendants.

Before adjournment, as the jury in the Holmes case could not agree, the Court ordered a juror withdrawn and a mistrial entered. The jury stood eleven for conviction (the eleven white men) and one (colored) for acquittal.

Death of Mr. E. C. Robinson, in Baltimore.

Mr. A. B. Robinson, of the Postal Telegraph Company, received a telegram yesterday conveying the distressing intelligence of the death of his brother, Mr. E. C Robinson, in Baltimore yesterday morning. The affliction is all the more painful from the fact that the family had no knowledge of the young man's illness. In fact his death was very sudden, one report having it that he dropped dead in the store of his employer.

He had been in Baltimore for the last three years, engaged in the drug business. Before leaving this city he was in the employ of Mr. J. Hicks Bunting, W. H. Green & Co. and R. R. Bellamy & Co. respectively. He was in the 23d year of his age at the time of his death. His father and mother and several brothers survive him.

The remains are expected this afternoon. Funeral notice will appear later.

Regular Pops Resolve.

The regular Populist caucus, at its meeting Wednesday night, adopted the following resolutions:

"*Resolved* (1), That no one be allowed to sit with this caucus of the People's party members of the Legislature who did not vote for our nominee for United States Senator, Dr. Cyrus Thompson.

"*Resolved* (2), That no person be allowed to attend the meetings of this caucus who did not favor and support said nominee.

"*Resolved* (3), That we will be governed by the majority rule of this caucus, and that we will vote in the open sessions of the Legislature in accordance with the decision of said caucus on all matters coming before the same."

Chance for the Unemployed.

All the employes of the United States Engineer Department have been placed under the civil service rules. These embrace all from a deputy inspector and master down to helpers, and the Civil Service Commission will examine applicants for these positions in the near future. For Wilmington Col. Heap has appointed the following board of examiners: Charles Humphreys, J. C. Lodor and G. H. Sharrer. Persons wishing employment should call on Mr. Lodor, at the Engineer's office, in this city, for blanks giving full information.

New Business.

Mr. Charles D. Foard will run a hardware business in the Seamen's Home building occupying the store on Front street just below Mr. Kirkham's. The store is undergoing repairs and will soon be in readiness for the stock, which will consist of a regular line of hardware, stoves and house furnishing goods. Mr. Foard has had a good deal of experience in the hardware business, having been for seven or eight years connected with the Alderman Hardware Company, and he will doubtless command his share of the public patronage.

— Messrs. Paterson, Downing & Co. cleared yesterday the Norwegian barque *Audhill* for Manchester, Eng., with 4,178 barrels rosin, valued at $6,968.

RALEIGH NEWS BUDGET

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A Number of Bills and Resolutions Introduced—Republicans Said to be Pledged to Stand by the Populist Minority and Act with Them in the Division of Offices—Marshall Mott to be District Attorney for the Western District—Ki Gudger to be Rewarded.

[*Special Star Correspondence*]

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 28.

The condition of Dr. M. M. Marshall, rector of Christ church, is extremely critical. Dr. Marshall has been unconscious for several days.

A colored man from Asheville is an applicant for the position of keeper of the Capitol held by Capt. Roberts.

Marshall Mott is going to be District Attorney of the Western District. That is settled. Where Holton comes in is not quite plain. Rev. Hi Ki Gudger is going to get the best appointment that McKinley gives to North Carolina. Pritchard thinks the world of Ki. He did faithful work for Pritchard. Gudger said to a crowd of Republicans yesterday: "We are not grieving because Pritchard took the two-year term two years ago."

Secretary Parker, of the Teachers' Assembly, informs us that there are six thousand school teachers in the State. Of this number, over four thousand are actively engaged in teaching.

The inauguration of President Alderman of the University occurs next Wednesday. The programme has been prepared.

Maj. Hiram L. Grant, the chairman of the committee appointed to revise the election law and county government act, has some decided opinions as to changes that should be made in both laws and they will no doubt be favorably acted upon. He will prepare a bill at an early date incorporating his ideas into the election law.

A member of the Populist minority made the statement to-day that the Populists who supported Pritchard obtained a statement in writing from the Republicans pledging the party to stand by the minority members and act with them in the division of offices. He further said that if the Republicans went back upon them they would publish the agreement signed by the Republicans.

SENATE.

The Senate met at 10 o'clock, Lieut. Governor Reynolds presiding. After prayer by Rev. Mr. Utley of the Senate, the Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The following bills and resolutions were introduced and referred:

By Mr. Alexander, to amend the charter of the Carolina Mutual Insurance Company.

By Mr. Grant, in regard to the supervision of Public Schools.

By Mr. Scales, to amend chapter 11, Private Laws, 1895, in regard to the Southern Stock Mutual Insurance Company.

By Mr. Justice, bill for relief of sheriffs and tax collectors.

By Mr. Parker of Randolph, to amend chapter 214, Laws of 1895.

By Mr. Move, to amend chapter 453, Laws of 1893, in regard to trustees and assignees.

Mr. Grant said this was a serious question and moved to print. Adopted.

The calendar was then taken up and the following bills and resolutions were disposed of.

Bill to incorporate the Stone Mountain R R. Co. Mr. McNeill moved to amend. Amendment lost. Mr. McNeill and Mr. Barker were by request excused from voting.

Bill in regard to the county line between Chatham and Alamance counties was made the special order for Friday next.

[*Special Star Telegram.*]

RALEIGH, Jan. 28—W. H. Pyke, of Southport, writes Governor Russell, congratulating him on that part of his message referring to immigration. He states that he has arranged to bring a company of immigrants to the State from Illinois and Indiana, and settle them in Brunswick county.

Bills were introduced in the House—

By Hancock, requiring Craven county to refund illegal tax collected under act of March, 1895.

By Cook, to place the steamer Lily in the hands of the Naval Reserves.

By Dewese, to authorize sheriffs to make tax titles.

By Hauser, to amend the Railway Commission Act by electing commissioners by popular vote; to make rental of telephones twelve to eighteen dollars yearly; to make rates of passenger fare on railroads 1½ and 2 cents per mile; to make telegraph charges fifteen cents for ten words and one cent for each additional word; also, a bill to suppress trusts and combines, by imposing the penalty of forfeiture of charter by those out of the State, and for those in the State not over five thousand dollars fine or imprisonment; also, a resolution requiring the Governor to get information as to total salaries of railway officials and employes whose salaries exceed $2,500.

By Duffy, resolution to push the election case of Broughton vs. Young, so that testimony be placed in the committee's hands as early as possible, and that such committee be empowered to take evidence.

By Foster, to amend the Code for the better protection of mechanics and owners of buildings and vessels.

By Dockery, to provide for public road supervision.

By White, of Alamance, to make the terms of registers of deeds four years, after the election in 1898.

By Gallop, to prescribe the time in which mortgages may be recorded.

The resolution by Duffy to take action in the Broughton-Young contest was voted down by a strict party vote. The Republicans applauded.

The bill introduced to promote temperance makes it unlawful to sell or give spirituous liquors to an unmarried person under 21 years of age.

The bill in regard to laborers' liens requires that sub contractors must notify the agent or owner, in writing, of the nature and cost of the work contemplated by contract before any labor is done or material delivered.

A motion to table the resolution fixing the salaries of clerks at four dollars was lost. An amendment by Cook to make the act effective in 1898 was adopted; ayes 40, noes 34. An amendment by Sutton of New Hanover to reduce the pay of members to three dollars per day was lost. An amendment was offered by Dockery that the resolution take effect when each member returns to the treasury one-fourth of his per diem. This caused a lengthy debate, lasting over an hour, and is estimated to have cost the State three hundred and fifty dollars. The vote on Dockery's amendment was ayes fifty-eight and noes thirty six. Many members explained their votes. There was much laughter at Populists who were embarrassed by Dockery's amendment. The bill as amended failed to pass.

Auditor Ayer issues a circular to sheriffs calling attention to the fact that firms who offer a gift or a prize as an inducement to purchase are subject to a tax of twenty dollars. He says the law has not been enforced.

SPANISH BUTCHERS

Attack a Hospital—Wounded and Dying Men Butchered—Even Women Nurses Are Not Spared.

[*New York Journal*]

HAVANA, Jan. 21.—One of the principal hospitals of the Cubans, located in the Siguanea mountains, near Cienfuegos, was captured last week by Spanish troops. The Cuban soldiers defending the sick and wounded inmates of the hospital made a most heroic fight, holding the passes successfully for hours—as long, in fact, as their scant supply of ammunition lasted. They were finally compelled to give way, and the majority of them were mercilessly cut down by the Spaniards. Only a few escaped.

The hospital, once reached, was attacked on all sides. Dr. Soler, the patriot surgeon, came out, waving a white flag and bearing the insignia of the Red Cross, to ask for mercy.

A DOCTOR SHOT DOWN.

He was met by a volley of Spanish bullets and fell wounded. He was dispatched a few minutes later by the machete.

A sick American in one of the buildings, assisted by two wounded Cubans, raised the Stars and Stripes. This act infuriated the Spanish commander and was made the signal for a general charge.

The work of Spanish bayonets and machetes was short and bloody. Not a prisoner was taken, not even women nurses were spared.

When the dreadful work of cold-blooded assassination was over and the piteous but vain appeals of the sick for mercy and the moans of the wounded and dying were hushed, the Government commander, before retiring from the scene of his "victory," set fire to the hospital and surrounding buildings, burning them down over the bodies of his victims.

ARMS FOR THE CUBANS.

Two Expeditions Safely Landed—Timely Supplies of Arms and Ammunition for Gardia and Rivera.

TAMPA, FLA., Jan. 21.—News reached here by the steamer which arrived today from Havana stating that official advices received by cable from Santiago de Cuba at the Palace in Havana yesterday report the landing of a good sized expedition on the southern coast of Santiago de Cuba province on Sunday night. The Palace authorities will neither admit nor deny the truth of the report. It is hinted by those who are in close contact with the officials that the expedition probably started from Jamaica and landed east of Santiago de Cuba city, where, it is supposed, the rebel forces under Gen. Calixto Garcia went to take charge of the war material. The name of the filibustering steamer is not known here.

Another expedition, said to be of greater importance, is reported to have landed several days ago at a place on the southern coast of Pinar del Rio Province. This one, it is thought, must have been landed from the United States, judging from the American labels upon the empty packages found strewn on the beach. The ammunition, to all appearances was carried off by the Cuban forces of General Rius Rivera, which have had undisputed control of that part of the coast for two weeks.

HOT AFTER THE SPOILS.

The Star's Forecast on Mayor and Aldermen Hit the Bull's Eye.

In an article printed January 10th the STAR gave a forecast of the changes likely to be made in our city charter by the present Legislature in order to give the Rep.-Pop. combination complete control. The following is an extract from that article:

"There are two ways of making a Republican majority on the Board of Aldermen without making any change in the Wards as now constituted. First, the appointment of the entire Board may be vested in the Governor; or, second, the charter may be so amended as to provide for the election of one member from each of the present Wards, and for the appointment of one member from each Ward by the Governor. The result of this hybrid plan would doubtless be a Board of Aldermen consisting of seven Republicans and three Democrats; and such a Board would not have to consult a Philadelphia lawyer in order to learn how to elect a Republican Mayor."

The special telegrams from Raleigh printed in the STAR of yesterday show that Howe, the colored Representative from New Hanover, has introduced a bill providing for the election of one Alderman from each Ward by the people and the appointment of one from each Ward by the Governor.

Watch now and see if the STAR'S forecast in regard to the Board of Audit and Finance will not materialize.

Pritchard Pops.

The following is a complete list of the Populists who voted for Pritchard for Senator:

Barker, Senator from Lincoln; Cannon, Senator from Brunswick; Early, Senator from Bertie; Newsome, Senator from Hertford; Odom, Senator from Anson; Parker, Senator from Randolph; Wakefield, Senator from Caldwell; Abernethy, Representative from Lincoln; Babbitt, Representative from Pamlico; Brown, Representative from Jones; Bryan, Representative from Chatham; Harris, Representative from Hyde; Hodges, Representative from Beaufort; Parker, Representative from Perquimans; Rountree, Representative from Gates; White, Representative from Randolph; Scarborough, Representative from Caswell.

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GUNBOAT DESTROYED.

Captured and Burned by the Cuban Insurgents.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

KEY WEST, Jan. 28.—Havana advices received in Key West are to the effect that the Spanish gunboat Cometa had been captured and burned by the insurgents.

The Cometa was one of the most powerful of the smaller Spanish vessels in Cuban waters. She had been cruising near Cardenas to prevent the landing of filibustering expeditions. For some time she had been accustomed to anchor at night off Sierra Morra. The place where the gunboat anchored was favorable for an attack from the shore and the insurgents determined to capture her. Last Tuesday night they opened fire on the vessel with a 12 pound Hotchkiss gun. The vessel was struck several times and badly damaged. While the crew were in confusion, boats loaded with insurgents left the shore and the Cometa was boarded. A desperate hand-to-hand fight took place on the deck of the boat, the Cubans using the machete with deadly effect. Finally, after the Spanish commander and half his men had been killed, the survivors surrendered. The vessel was then burned.

THE THREE FRIENDS.

Attorney General Harmon May Institute Proceedings Against the Officers and Crew for Piracy.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—If the sensational stories in certain New York newspapers regarding the Cuban filibustering tug Three Friends on her last voyage training a Hotchkiss gun on a Spanish gunboat and firing at that vessel, have any foundation in truth, the Attorney General of the United States declares that the Three Friends is amenable to the laws of piracy and her officers and crew are liable to be surrendered and punished as pirates.

Attorney General Harmon, it is officially stated to day, is considering the advisability of instituting proceedings against the Three Friends on that charge. The Attorney General was originally of the opinion that the Three Friends had not committed a piratical act, even assuming that the reports published of her exchange of shots with the Spanish vessel were true. But a careful consideration of the law and decisions on similar cases has made him doubt his primary view. In order to expedite the case of the Three Friends the Attorney General has prepared an application to present to the United States Supreme Court for a writ of *certiorari* on the United States Circuit Court at New Orleans for the transfer of the case to the Supreme Court so that the latter tribunal may pass on Judge Locke's decision, given at Jacksonville. Judge Locke held that the Government in its bill of libel against the Three Friends did not show that the vessel had violated any law. He gave the Government ten days to amend its libel, and declared that unless this were done he would dismiss the application.

HAVANA ADVICES.

Spanish Troops Destroying Sugar Estates—Loss Over a Million Dollars.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

HAVANA, Jan. 28, VIA KEY WEST, FLA. Jan. 28.—Savador and Pedro Laborde, brothers, citizens of France and owners of an estate in Jobo, were sent to Cabana fortress under Weyler's orders for grinding cane against his commands and also made responsible for the defeat the Spaniards suffered in their recent fight which occurred on that estate. Ana Sotolongo, a lady imprisoned as a political suspect in the Paula hospital, managed to escape last night.

All the buildings of the valuable estate San Lina, in the Cienfuegos district, owned by Lino Montalvo, have been burned. The loss is estimated at over a million dollars. Over eight millions arrobas or quarters of cane were burned.

The sugar estate Constancia, belonging to Marquis Apezetguia and heavily mortgaged to an American syndicate, was also burned.

It is said that Spanish troops are responsible for the damage.

GEORGIA'S GOLD MINES.

A Bonanza Vein Struck Carrying $300 of Gold to the Ton.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

ATLANTA, Jan. 28.—Miners who came in to-night from Harrolson county report that a bonanza vein was struck in the Royal mine Thursday afternoon. A gang was working in a cross cut, running from the 150-foot level, when a vein carrying $300 in gold to the ton was found. Work has been pushed on this night and day and it appears to be a great find. There is much excitement in the camp. The vein on which the shaft goes down is $19