THE SENTINEL.

JOSIAH TURNER, Jr., EDITOR.

SATURDAY JANUARY 23, 1869.

REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE UPON THE PENITENTIARY FRAUD.

This report develops Legislative negligence, corruption and fraud. The report of purchase for the Penitentiary site was made by the Superintendent of Public Works, Cebe Harris, on behalf of the Committee appointed by the Legislature to purchase the site. That Committee, through its Chairman, reported *one* tract of land. The Senate Committee contradicted them by reporting *two*. The Purchasing Committee report "on this place," the 8,000 acres, "is an abundance of granite, and a large quantity of granite immediately on the banks of the river which can be easily quarried, placed on boats, and carried by water within the walls of the Penitentiary. The Senate Committee say there is no granite on the land. "No one, (say the Committee) with whom they conversed, knew anything of granite on the land."

The land, according to the Purchasing Committee, is on Deep River. According to the Smelling Committee, as the *Standard* would call it, the land is ten miles from Deep River. The Purchasing Committee say, it is valuable for agricultural purposes, while the Investigating Committee say, it is valueless for farming purposes. Downing, Lassiter, and each member of the Committee who purchased, swore they had not been upon the 8,000 acre purchase. Cebe Harris, the Superintendent of Public Works, is the only member of the Committee who had seen it, and he has seen only a small portion of it. The Investigating Committee say, "there is no evidence that the State is owner of a quarry on it," meaning the 8,000 acre purchase. Now we ask the Committee, if they did not have the word of R. W. Lassiter, John A. Hyman, (colored,) Hugh Downing, (white,) Jas. H Harris, (colored,) and J. H. Renfrow, that there was a "large quarry of granite" on the land? We ask the Committee if the Superintendent did not swear there was? And yet the Committee report no evidence of a quarry on the land! If the Committee will give us access to their papers, we should like to publish a portion of the evidence taken before them. We wish especially to see if the Superintendent of Public Works did swear there was a quarry, and yet, in the face of that solemn oath, the Committee say there is no evidence of a quarry before them.

THE HAPPY FAMILY.

Those of our readers, who have visited Barnum's Museum, and witnessed the "Happy Family"—a cage of reptiles, birds and animals,—will be struck with the contrast between the Happy Family at the Capitol, and the cage owned by P. T. Barnum. The good book says "how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity," &c; but the wise man, whose inspired pen wrote those beautiful words, had never witnessed a meeting of carpet-baggers, scallawags, adventurers and negroes—all *professing* to belong to "Gideons Band," but holding as many different opinions, as there are colors in the rainbow, save the one idea of making money, or getting money, as we should have said—and this *one idea*, makes the clan a unit in sentiment. *Vide* Mr. French's motion to take certain monies to pay the *per diem* of members, thus taking the last drop of blood from the financial veins of Mr. Treasurer Jenkins. Outside of the money idea, harmony among the unterrified, is below par—confusion commands a premium, and the leading spirits are in the advance and "casting about" for a safe harbor, with their flag *union down*, a signal of distress. Cuffy Mayo, makes a prayer; sleepy Downing responds, *amen!* and the whole family resolve to hold a caucus, and consult for the common good of the "hands," in order to prevent a meeting.

The great "bone of contention," the tax bill, occupied the sitting of the first caucus. *Revenue must be raised!* The State is in debt, and "somebody" is blameable for the "fix" in which, the great Republican party finds itself. Angry words pass! The people won't stand heavy taxation—it will kill the party. Then, says Mr. French, tax dogs, for "dogs are a luxury!" Cuffy Mayo says tax *cows*—and many "hands" were of the same opinion—opposed to the "dog law."

Another caucus is held—and another—about two each week, and the cauldron is heated to a boiling pitch. Somebody reports—we don't know how true,—that oaths and imprications are passed and heaped upon the heads of the adventurers; and a bold threat is made of the formation of a third party to "root out" the carpet-baggers. Cuffy Mayo prays again, and the paper collar of Cebe, wilts, "How pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity, it is like the precious ointment that ran down Aaron's beard," &c.

BUFFOONERY IN THE SENATE!

ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

The overseer of the "hands" in the Senate made the novel announcement, yesterday, of the "*Committee on Sweetsin*"; whereupon, the colored members grinned, and, as we have just been informed by a Senator, "all grinned."

The uncollected taxes due the City of Charlotte, for '67 and '68, amounts to $6,000.

ONE DAY'S WORK OF THE "HANDS."

It will be keen from the Senate proceedings of yesterday, that Mr. Purdie's seat has been vacated, at this late hour of the Legislature, under the cover of the Howard Amendment. It is due to the six Republicans who voted against the expulsion, that their names should be known to the public—we therefore publish the vote.—Aside from the ratification of a few bills by the Chief of the "hands" in the Senate, and the introduction of a bill or two, the brilliant achievement—the expulsion of Purdie—constitutes the sum total of the work done by the "hands" in the Senate branch of the Legislature. Now, let's see what the cost of this heavy days work amounts to: Fifty men at $7 per day, is $350,00; three cords of wood, for warming the Senate Chamber, at $4, is $12—waste of stationery, at least $5—making the sum total, of $367.00.

P. S In the above estimate, we have omitted the pay of the President of the Senate, and the door keepers.

The "hands," in the House, consumed *nine hundred and fifty dollars, four cords of wood* and an indefinite amount of stationery, on the bill to consolidate the Atlantic and the North Carolina Railroad, and after a very desperate struggle, the bill passed its second reading. The overseer of the House, Joseph William, appeared to enjoy the zeal manifested by the "hands" to do their work on this special occasion.

LEFT IN A HUFF—BLOW YOUR HORN BILLY!

The President of the North Carolina Railroad upon the passage of the consolidation bill by the "hands" in the House, left the city cursing carpet baggers. Curse them again, Billy. Blow your horn and call up the dogs you used for hunting deserters during the war. Put them after the carpet-baggers, if you like. It is more creditable to chase carpet-baggers than negroes. We have heard your friends deny you had such dogs. Nathan Gully, your neighbor, is our authority for saying you had such dogs.—You know him, he's your friend. You made him Agent at Clayton and then dismissed him. Yes, he's the man to whom you directed your dismissal after this wise:

"To Nathan Gully, Clayton, bully Republican but d—n poor Agent."

Since the particularity of Mr Lassiter about names, we don't like to speak of dogs without giving their names. Nathan, send us the name of Billy's dogs,—deserter hunters—and any particulars of his hunts and capture of his neighbors children for desertion. The facts, if published, would prove intensely interesting, just at this time.

HURRAH FOR "JUSTEES!"

ONE OF HOLDEN'S APPOINTEES IS SUES A WARRANT!

A friends sends us the following (original copy,) warrant, issued by one of Gov. Holden's Magistrates, for the county of Guilford. We take much pleasure in spreading the document before our readers, with the suggestion, that the overseer of the "hands," in the Senate announce, from his official position, that it be placed in the "archives of gravity," for the information of succeeding generations:

State of North Carolina
guilford County
to ina lawful officer to execute forthwith whereas information has this Day been made to me one of the Justees of Said Centy on oath of Andrew pelckten that on the 19 of December 1868 and in said County one Henry Coe her set forth the efence of and against the State and against the pece and dignity of the State this is therfore to Comand you to arest the said henry Coe and have Henry Coe before me or sum other Justees of the Said County to answer the forsaid Complaint and bee further dwelt according to law herein fail not and have you theo and ther this warnt given under mi hand and Seeal this 22d Day December 1868

FREDERICK SMITH J P

Nuten H parker you ar debtined to attend to this warnt I Hereby Debetize N H parker to arest and return this warnt

FREDERICK SMITH J P

SOME LOGIC.

In a conversation, reported as having taken place between the Hon. A. H. Galloway, Presidential Elector, and Senator from the Wilmington District, and Mr. French and Mr. Laflin, of the House, yesterday, on the subject of the location of the Penitentiary, the Hon. Elector and Senator was understood to say, that he preferred Greensboro' as the location, for the logical reason, that, if he, the Hon. Mr. Galloway, should unfortunately commit an offence subjecting him to a place in the Penitentiary, his time would expire before reaching Greensboro', *via*, N. C. R. R. on existing schedule.

We would suggest to the Hon. Elector, that there are other reasons more potent, to wit: He would be nearer to Mr. President Smith, who, no doubt, would procure his release, prior to an election, as it is understood he did the felons incarcerated in Greensboro' jail, and at Graham, prior to the last election—all of whom voted the Radical ticket—being released for that purpose.

STANDARD IN THE RING!

THE EDITOR OF THE STANDARD, GEN. LITTLEFIELD, STILL AT LARGE!

That Paper and its Absconding Editor thought to know something of the Bribery of which Senator Sweet has Spoken!

We call on the Committee to examine two gentlemen bankers of Wall Street, now at Blair's. We have talked with one of them—he can tell something that may give them evidence upon which to convict.

Have the Committee examined Senator Sweet. Have they examined Gen. Ledin. Have they examined Col. Heck? Have they examined Mr. Downing? Have they examined Mr. Pruyn? Have they examined C. L. Harris, Superintendent of Public Work and occupant of the Governor's palace.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TO INQUIRE INTO THE FACTS ATTENDING THE PURCHASE OF THE SITE FOR THE PENITENTIARY.

To the Senate of North Carolina:

The Committee appointed under a Senate resolution bearing date Dec 1s, 1868, to inquire into the facts attending the purchase of a site for a Penitentiary, would submit the following report:

For the purpose of obtaining satisfactory results, the committee deemed it expedient to make personal inspection of the site and lands purchased for the Penitentiary. This determination involved what, in the end proved to be somewhat of an exploring expedition that required time and considerable effort to find and reach this partially unknown region.

"The site" in the vicinity of Lockville was first visited. This contained twenty five acres on Deep River down to Rocky between the Lockville and the River Dams. It is a square plat of ground jutting on the River at an average distance of one hundred feet from the water. The ground rises rapidly from the river until it reaches an elevation of nearly one hundred feet above the water level of the dam, and is intersected by several deep ravines, as will be seen as described on a map presented with this report. On the east, west corner of this plat, near the river, over two hundred feet contemplated to erect the Penitentiary. The water power at this point on the river and conveyed to the State, where free and equal to any demand for machinery. The water will have to be conveyed from Rocky dam, about one thousand yards, through an aqueduct or flume, as the nature of the intervening ground will not admit of a canal, except between the site and the river, where the ground will have to be excavated to the depth of twenty or twenty five feet. To make this aqueduct of solid masonry for this distance will be enormously expensive, to build it of wood will give it a temporary character, and always requiring repairs. The probable cost of a wooden flume would be from six thousand of ten thousand dollars.

On the river above this site is an excellent building material, and at one, at a distance of sixteen miles; at a distance of ten miles abundant rock can be had on the bank of the river. Below this site, at a distance of twelve miles, iron ore is found, and still lower at a distance of fourteen miles, a fine quarry of granite is found. In order to convey this material to the site of the proposed Penitentiary, the dams and locks on the river will have to be repaired by the State or await their repair by the Deep River Manufacturing Company.

To level the ground for the foundation of the Penitentiary, would cost probably three thousand dollars, and the Committee believe that, owing to the very uneven nature of the ground, the expense of erecting the surrounding wall would be very great.

After examining the site, visiting the coal and sand stone region, they next visited the eight thousand acres of land purchased by the Penitentiary Committee, for the use of that Institution. The nearest point on this land is, perhaps, ten miles down the river from "the site." For this land the State paid $12.50 per acre. The Committee passed over this land several miles, and saw as much of it as their time and the weather permitted.

Of the eight thousand acres, six thousand six hundred and fifty acres are what may be styled *pine barren*. Although the Committee passed over what *may be* this land several miles, yet it is now a matter of doubt with them. This land has no *marketable value* aside from the timber. The growth upon it is almost entirely pine. At the nearest point this tract lies about three miles from the river, and, at the farthest, perhaps, ten miles. The timber on this land is almost all worn out turpentine timber. The tar timber has all been cut off from it probably. It is so inaccessible to, and remote from, market that it will not pay to convert it into lumber. It would probably not sell for ten cents per acre, and so worthless was it, in the judgement of its former owner, that he was about to parcel it out in small tracts and convey it as a gift to freedmen, so as to get rid of paying the very small tax there was on it, when it was sold to J M Heck, Esq., by being attached to other tracts, for six y cents per acre. No one of the Committee, who made the purchase for the State, were ever on this tract of six thousand, six hundred and fifty acres, for which they paid eighty three thousand and twenty five dollars.

Another thousand of this eight thousand acres is separated seven miles from the tract just mentioned, and is known as the Mc[illegible] mill tract, including a small tract called the "Spivy" tract. A small part of this tract that the Committee saw, has *some* value as farming land. On it, is a mill seat on a small stream that would afford water to drive a grist mill *part of the year*. It is supposed that there is mineral ore on this tract, but of its value the Committee have no means of testifying. It also boasts of a mineral spring, where the convicts it is supposed, might *pleasantly* enjoy "the heated term," provided the State should put up comfortable buildings, but it is no asserted that they were purchased with this view. It is possible that the Chairman of the Committee saw some part of this tract. For this one thousand acres, the McCoys had paid to them three thousand dollars. The Committee paid twelve thousand five hundred dollars.

The remaining three hundred and fifty acres is the Douglas tract, and is the part of all the eight thousand acres that reaches to the Cape Fear River, and this only to an extent of about one hundred and fifty yards. On this is the mine of iron ore so much talked of. It is not opened to any extent. The ore *is said to be* of the best quality. Of its extent no one knows. The land adjoining and containing part of the bank was recently bought for eight hundred dollars. Whether this property has great value or not depends on time and labor. For it Col. Heck paid five thousand dollars, the Committee who purchased for the State paid four thousand five hundred dollars only. Col. Harris examined the mine and was pleased with the specimen of ore, and so reported to this Committee. On none of this eight thousand acres could the Committee learn of any granite. And there is no evidence that the State is owner of a quarry of it. There is, however, a quarry near the Northampton dam about two miles further down the river.

It is now proposed somewhat further to consider the degree of knowledge the committee possessed themselves of in regard to the purchase they made. No doubt the committee are of the opinion that they presented only well established facts as it respects the lands now conveyed to the State. And so far as their own personal observation extends, there is no disposition to garnish their statements, however much this committee may differ from their judgements as to value and adaptedness. The intended site was carefully examined by all the committee, and, so far as it respects the extent and value of the water power, there is no difference of opinion.

Of the eight thousand acres the information that is imparted is very incorrect, and is only the result of hearsay, as only Col. Harris, of the Committee, ever has been near it, and he, as before stated, only on a very small part of it, and even then must have been misled by the information he received. The report on page six leaves the impression that the eight thousand acres form one compact tract, and such was the view of Col. Harris in its purchase. It is said to be "on Deep River and contiguous to Buck Horn Falls." The fact is, that the land at one point, for about one hundred yards only lies on the River—Cape Fear and Deep River for it is ten miles to the junc ure of Deep and Haw Rivers, and it is two miles below Buck Horn Falls, and the land is in two parcels and several miles intervening.

It is also said of the land that it is fertile and well adapted to the usual crops. The land itself, apart from its minerals and water powers, will, in a short time, scarcely sell for agricultural purposes alone to double the price agreed to be paid by the committee."—pp 6 and 8. This, so far as two thousand six hundred and fifty acres is concerned, is an entire mistake. It is valueless for farming purposes, as will be testified by a number of the Senate returning near it, and never and probably not for *ten dollars per acre*. There is but a small part of the remaining one thousand five hundred acres that has any value in this respect, and the State will never pay much of the price paid by this special tax to farming lands.

Also, it is said on this place—the 8,000 acre—"it was abundance of granite," "and a large quarry of granite immediately on the banks of the River, which can be easily quarried, placed on boats and carried by water within the walls of the Penitentiary. No one of the witnesses we conversed with knew anything of granite on the land purchased." As said before there is two miles between the river and the land, and the impression made on C. L. Harris' mind was that it was on the tract he was negotiating for, to supply stone and some distance it was to the River. The granite to be brought to Haw River, a distance of some three miles, and which is of a quality that [illegible] to be used for the walls of the Penitentiary. Mr. Downing also testifies that the specimen of granite was said to come from a quarry on the land purchased.

There is a supposition to be a want of correctness, to say the least, as it regards what was to be granted for the State by them in the contract they made with parties both in lands water rights, etc. There is no purpose of either to represent the committee in doing wrongfully in this, but simply to state a fact that there is not *secured* to the State what was intended.

There is likely an uncertainty in the minds of the committee, as to the extent of water power was they negotiated with, or in what sense to be stood to the land. The report does not state of whom the land, etc., was purchased. It would be supposed that it was one party that negotiated for the whole sale. However, the assignors are two parties, and one of them is mentioned as a party presenting claims.—The site is occupied by the Deep River Manufacturing Company, the right to which Harris testifies that he did not know that Pruyn was to convey, but supposed that other party connected in it. Mr. Lassiter testifies and thinks Pruyn made the offer as agent. Mr Downing testifies "It is our impression we purchased. The committee bought of Mr. Pruyn *either as agent or owner*."

Mr Pruyn himself testifies that he was not the owner of it when he negotiated, but had, by a verbal contract, bought the land of three citizens that he could sell it. It seems that even the Deep River Manufacturing Company had no deeds when the negotiation was going on. The committee did not know that when they paid $12.50 per acre for the 8,000 acres Mr Pruyn paid $7, and that the Deep River Manufacturing Company paid less than $1.50 per acre for the same land at about the same time, and that the titles from McCoy and Douglas to Deep River Manufacturing Company, and from the latter to Pruyn and from Pruyn to the State, are all of nearly the same date, and that part, perhaps the better part of the money, was loaned after Coit purchased, nearly 700 acres of land, for Pruyn by the Deep River Manufacturing Company. The deed from the Deep River Manufacturing Company to the State does not secure such right to the State as the Committee deemed it would. It does not grant an "unrestricted and unembarrassed water power," but one *greatly* restricted. Indeed it conveys that "a branch Railroad shall terminate at the door of the Penitentiary," and there does not exist any contract to that effect that can be enforced.—Much is said of "river navigation" and "locks and dams." These are all the property of the Deep River Manufacturing Company so far as the State may need them for the Penitentiary. The deed does agree that if the State will repair the Rives' lock and dam that no toll will be charged at that point, and it so happens that this is the only lock that will never be used by the State other going up or down. It will cost the State $6,000 to prepare the river to get up to the coal and sandstone for building—to get down to the iron ore and that fine farming land and that so well timbered with pine, hickory, etc. The committee has no data by which to estimate the cost as the Buck Horn dam and locks are greatly damaged.

Mr. Downing testifies "I insisted on unlimited water power and a railroad running to or into the penitentiary. The company gave us power to raise the Rives' dam as high as we pleased. If the State repairs all the dams and locks she is never to pay tolls. There is yet one item of the report to which we would refer. That is the estimated value of the site as deducted from the $100,000. The deed for the site sells at a nominal price of $1. The Deep River Manufacturing Company did not sell and so convey. It was accepted as a donation before even the committee on the Penitentiary heard of the 8,000 acre. Neither is it correct to say that only $65,000 was paid—that may be all the bonds now sell for, but the people of the State knew that they were to be given at par value—that they must pay interest on $100,000, and when they become due pay all of one hundred thousand dollars.

We must not neglect to call the attention of the Senate to the peculiar nature of the title to the 6,650 acres of land in Harnett county. It is simply some or any part of 10,000 or 15,000 acres of land that may be fixed by arbitrators. It is not between Summerville and Neill McCoy's. It is not bounded by the land of Neill McCoy, Esq. It does not include part of a 5,000 acre survey and a 3,000 acre survey patented by the late Jno. Gray Blount, but part of a 5,800 acre survey patented by —— Allison, and a 6,000 acre survey patented by the late Jno. Gray Blunt. How this, if at all, effects the title is not for the Committee to say.

It may be proper to state that eminent counsel hold the titles back of those held by the State to be good. It is not part of the duty to construe the statute appointing the committee and granting it power to select a site for a penitentiary, etc., and they have no purpose to undertake the work.—Neither would we attempt to value the iron ore of the Douglas farm, but the committee hold it to be of no use to the State and never can be worked with profit by the State. If it was the State's purpose to make iron, the Penitentiary should have been located at Buck Horn Falls, convenient in some degree to the ore and to the valuable pine forest owned by her at the cost of $12.50 per acre.

The committees are profoundly impressed with the value of the water power at the site near Lockville, and are satisfied that it is the purpose of the State to use machinery and engage in manufacturing with the convicts no better place can be found than Deep River. It is true they should not select the existing site, for they deem several other places more advantageously situated than this, and where the erection of a Penitentiary would not necessarily be so costly.

It is proposed by the parties making the deeds that they will now conform them to what is held to be the contract on which they were based. The committee would yet call the attention of the Senate to the very much extensive character of the [illegible] that is being erected on the site. There can be no earthly use for the timber when it is not for its present purposes. It is most every heavy and the expense to the State will be $18 or $20,000 above what existing $6 or $7,000, or perhaps less, would in the judgment of all practical men have been amply sufficient.

We beg leave to say that the deed for the site recites date Dec 1 1868 and has not expired warranty and the liabilities and obligations rest on the State. The deed for the 8,000 acres of land is dated Dec 31, 1868. For the Committee can be Penitentiary over the order on the Treasury for the bonds November 10th, 1868, by warrant November 30th, 1868 on which the Deep River Manufacturing Company received $50,000 and D J Pruyn $41,000.

We will now, pursuant to order, to close their report as follows. The Committee would call the part of the Committee to report [illegible] that the State [illegible] the people in a will [illegible] the crime and wrongs that led to its inception.

Respectfully submitted
G. W. WALKER,
W. L. LOVE,
H. A. BURNS.

APPENDIX.

NORTH CAROLINA, }
WAKE COUNTY. }

This Indenture made the Deep River Manufacturing Company, a corporation of the State of North Carolina, the Deed of the 4th, 1868, to [illegible] of which [illegible] hereinafter made, witnesseth

That said Deep River Manufacturing Company, in consideration of the debts and obligations hereinafter mentioned to be assumed by the State of North Carolina, and of the sum of [illegible] in hand paid by the said State of North Carolina, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain and sell, alien and convey, unto the said State of North Carolina, the following described tracts of land, situated in said State, to wit:

First. The Nathan Douglas property, on Cape Fear River and Davis's Creek, containing about three hundred and fifty acres, lying in Harnett county, bounded on the West by N. and J. W. McCoy's land, on the South by Yearby Thomas's land and J. W. McNeil's land, lately the land of the Deep River Manufacturing Company, on the East by the same, and the Cape Fear River, on the North by the lands of William Underwood and Alex. Gilcrist, including the residence of the said Nathan Douglas, "Ivan Hill," or "Mineral Hill," it being the land purchased (in part) by said Douglas from John Drake, (see the records of Cumberland and Harnett counties.)

The second tract, in the counties of Harnett and Moore, including the land devised by Neill McCoy, deceased, to M. M. McCoy, and by him conveyed to Malcom McCoy, and by him to Neill McCoy and John W. McCoy, and a tract known as the "Spivey" tract, which was conveyed by A. B. Horton, administrator of M. Spivey, to John W. McCoy, including the land known as the "Mill" tract, and also the tract known as the "Mineral Spring" tract, containing, by estimation, one thousand acres, as the references to the first named tract, to the records of Cumberland county, and to the Spivey land, and to the records at Harnett county, will more fully appear.

Third tract of land, six thousand six hundred and fifty acres of the following described tracts of land in the counties of Harnett and Moore, lying on both sides of the old road between Summerville, and Neill McCoy's land, in Moore county, bounded by the lands of Neill McCoy, Esq., those belonging to the estate of Murdock McLeod, deceased, James L. Harrington, Neill McCoy, jr., the Butler lands, James M Turner and the lands of the estate of Nathan Buckhorn and others, including a part of a five thousand acre survey, and a three thousand acre survey, patented by the late John Gray Blount, and conveyed by William B Redman and others to Neill McCoy and John W McCoy: Also six hundred and fifty acres, patented by the said John W McCoy. Also, a piece patented by the said Jas L Harrington and John Harrington and Neill McNeill, and Hector McNeill and others and by them conveyed to the said Neill McCoy and John W. McCoy,—all which said tracts, containing, by estimation, ten thousand acres, as appears on the records of Cumberland and Harnett counties, the said six thousand six hundred and fifty acres to be hereafter surveyed and laid off, if the parties cannot agree, by arbitration, to be chosen by each respectively.

To have and to hold the said lands and premises, and every part thereof, and all and every appurtenance on or thereunto property belonging and appertaining, unto the said the State of North Carolina. And the said David J. Pruyn, for himself and his heirs, the said land and premises, unto the said State of North Carolina will forever warrant and defend by these presents against the lawful claims of all persons whatsoever. In witness whereof the said David J. Pruyn has hereunto set his hand and seal, the day and year first above written.

(SIGNED) D. J. PRUYN, [SEAL.]
Signed, sealed and delivered
in presence of
V. BALLARD.

TELEGRAPHIC.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, M.

The President's Private secretary Mr Warden, resigns several papers, which employ him as correspondents are pending between our Government and Spain for the transfer of the Island of Cuba to the United states. The only material difficulty to overcome is, apparently, the price to be paid to the Spanish Government.

Information accessible to Agents of the Associated Press, does not enable them to verify this report.

The Virginia Committee have presented to the House Judiciary Committee a memorial, submitting amendments to the House Bill providing for election in Virginia, now under consideration, restoring the Convention to the extent of such as believe could be accepted by the people of Virginia.

In the memorial they say that the real feeling of the people of the late rebellious States is better expressed when they declared that the loyalists in the south in their present medicated condition are not prepared for the intelligent exercise of the elective franchise, &c., yet in view of the public opinion as expressed in the recent elections they believe that a majority of the people are willing to incorporate in their fundamental law as an offering on the altar of peace, hoping for the restoration of Union and harmony on the basis of universal suffrage and universal amnesty, consulting the policy of the Government to inquire into the Virginia constitutional recognition of civil and political equality of all men before the law, they have in the amendments proposed inserted all the provisions looking to that result heretofore deemed proper by Congress, and no such many provisions of the Constitution relative to the subject.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON Jan. 20 M.

SENATE.—Wilson introduced a bill reducing the army, and providing, among other things, the abolition of Brigadiers during peace.

The House is considering the Franking privilege.

NEGROES SHOT FOR RAPE.

MEMPHIS, Jan. 20, M.

Three negroes of the militia were Court Martialed and shot for rape at Marion, Arkansas.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 P. M.

General Grant goes to Baltimore to-morrow, to attend the Peabody Fund Board.

The Virginia Committee authorizes the statement that it is not true that any Conference has been had between the Committee of nine and the Radical Committee.

There was an informal talk between the members of both Committees. The nine have no object to the fullest disclosure of the original objects and purports of this talk, if the Radicals are willing.

Wilson's bill continues the Generals at the present pay, and makes three Lieutenants, and nine Major Generals at reduced pay.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, P. M.

The Senate considered Sherman's Railroad Bill for Roads centering at Washington, all day, and after executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE.—Schenck introduced a bill providing for the payment of bonds in coin unless otherwise provided, but such bonds shall not be paid before maturity unless United States notes be made convertable into coin. Section 2nd legalizes gold contracts. The bill was referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

The bill forbidding other than franks written by the privileged persons, passed.

Farnsworth introduced a bill removing political disabilities from a large number of persons which passed by a two-thirds vote.

A Committee of seven was ordered on the ninth census.

The Denver Railroad Bill was resumed, and the House adjourned without action.

FROM GEORGIA—THE LEGISLATURE.

ATLANTA, Jan. 20, P. M,

A resolution was introduced in the House, authorizing the Solicitor General to inquire into the reasons for colored persons performing the duties of Clerk of the Superior Court of Chatham County, and to institute proceedings against the same, and to carry to the Supreme Court, if necessary.

After much debate the resolution was referred to the Judiciary Committee for decision.

A member offering a resolution claims the State as fully reconstructed. The Legislature to judge of the qualifications of the State officers, and that Congress has no right to interfere.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Jan. 20, P. M.

A Republican meeting adopted resolutions protesting against Congress granting what is asked for by the Virginia Conference Committee in Washington.

FOREIGN.

LONDON, Jan. 20, P. M.

The loss of life by the recent earthquake near the Bay of Bengal was very great.

PARIS, Jan. 20, P. M.

Later Rio Janerio advices fully confirm the capture of Nilieta and the destruction of the Paraguayan army.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, M.

The Election Committee heard Judge Pendleton, of Texas, in favor of Simon Jones. N. Coleman, from Louisiana, Hines and Coil, Hunt and the negro Rapier, to-morrow, in opposition to Jones' right to a seat.

The Reconstruction Committee heard Gov. Wellet, of Virginia, in antagonism to the propositions of the Committee of nine.

The Post Office Committee heard General Orton, in opposition to the Government Telegraph.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON Jan. 21, P. M.

SENATE.—Memorials were presented from New Jersey, Ohio and Connecticut, in favor of Female Suffrage.

The Bill forbidding States tax on Railroads provoked a long debate. No action.

Conkling introduced a Bill forbidding secret sales of gold and bonds by the Treasury. The Bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

Williams offered the following amendment to the Constitution:

"Congress shall have the right to abrogate any restriction of the right to vote or hold office by the State laws or Constitutions."

Without action, in any respect, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Midshipman and Naval School bill passed.

The Speaker named as the Census Committee, Garfield chairman.

The Missouri election case was resumed.

The Committee reported in favor of Switzerlee, (Democrat,) but the House decided in favor of Anderson.

After a long contest the vote was 56 to 89.

The House then adjourned.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA—THE LEGISLATURE.

COLUMBIA, Jan 21, P. M.

The State Senate passed a bill, to-day, increasing the salaries of the Justices of the Supreme Court to four thousand five hundred dollars, also Circuit Judges to four thousand dollars.

A Republican banquet was given last night to Senator Leslie, in honor of the election of Reuben Fenton as Senator of the United States from New York.

Speeches were delivered by Leslie and others.

FROM FLORIDA.

TALLAHASSEE, Jan. 21, P. M.

The Committee appointed by a joint ballot to enquire into charges of bribery and corruption in the Senatorial election last June and the influence now exerted to prevent the election. Present indications are that, Gilbert's election will be endorsed.

A Joint Committee was appointed to whom was referred the proposition of the Alabama Commission.

We learn from the Wilson *Plaindealer*, that on Thursday evening last, as the mail train on the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad neared the depot at that place, John Farmer, son of Elizabeth and the late Wiley Farmer, aged about 14 years, attempted to step on the platform of the ladies' car, when he missed his footing and fell alongside of the track, the front wheel of the car passing over his right arm, crushing it in a dreadful manner, rendering amputation necessary.

The Goldsboro *Messenger* regrets to learn that Mr. Willie Everti, accidentally shot himself in the leg with a pistol, on Monday evening last. The ball was extracted by a physician, and we are pleased to state that the wound, though painful is not serious.

St. Maur, Ventriloquist, Magician, &c., has been playing successful engagements at Wilson.

The upward tendency of cotton in New York, on yesterday as reported by telegraph, has created quite an excitement in our city market. We trust our farmers will have still additional reasons for rejoicing in a few days.

The price of shad in Wilmington continues at $1.50 per pair, in consequence of the small supply on the market.

We learn from the Charlotte *Times* of Wednesday that Mr. Z. M. Johnston was drowned in Rock River on Friday evening last. On his way from Harrisburg home in attempting to cross the river which was swollen, he was swept from the back of his horse and taken by the current about seventy-five yards below. There he caught a limb, which he held on to about two hours. A man was standing on the bank who was too timid to go to his relief, but threw him a rope which he failed to get hold of. He was about thirty-two years old, and graduated at the University of the State in the class of 1859, and was highly and popular. A large number of the neighbors went to the river on Sunday morning to search for the body, when it was found near the bank in a clump of bushes.

Mr. Jos. W. Holden, Speaker of the House of Representatives, has furnished the reporters of the Press, in the House, a handsome and convenient desk, which adds much to their comfort.

We are under obligation to Wm. Ross Wyckoff, Esq., Editor of the New York World, for a copy of the WORLD ALMANAC, for the present year. We consider it invaluable for the statistical information which it contains.