THE SENTINEL.

JOSIAH TURNER, Jr., EDITOR.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1869.

Correspondence.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Raleigh, April 7th, 1869

Hon. Josiah Turner, Jr., Sentinel Office, Raleigh, N. C.:

SIR:—Having heard that an attempt was made on your life, last night, I have set two detectives at work upon the case and would like an interview at your earliest convenience to obtain any information that may aid in pursuit of the offender.

I have called twice at your office this morning but failed to see you.

I am authorized to say if you will state on honor that you believe an attempt has been made to assassinate you, a reward of *five hundred dollars* will be at once offered for the arrest of the criminal.

By order of the Governor.

Very respectfully
Your obt. servt.,
A. W. FISHER,
A. G. & Ch't. O. F.

SENTINEL OFFICE, April 8, 1869

A. W. Fisher, Adjutant General:

SIR—I have received your communication of the date of yesterday, in which you say you called twice at my office but failed to see me. I never heard of the call until you are informed me in your note. My Book-keeper, Mr. Ramsay, informed me that one Mr. Bozier had called to get the particulars of the attempt to assassinate me, when I directed him to say I would not talk with Mr. Bozier. I gave no reason at the time, but my reason was, that Bozier had accompanied the Speaker of the House, Joseph Holden, with his mob, all armed, and, as I think, to take my life at the depot. Mr. Ramsay says he saw you in the street, near our office, but you did not speak, nor did Bozier speak to him or your presence. You say "you have two detectives at work upon the case," and you are authorized to say that if I will state upon honor, that an attempt has been made to assassinate me, the Governor will offer a reward of $500 for the arrest of the criminal.

As to detectives, they are not officers of the law, nor do I recognize your right or duty to call out your militia or detectives unless called upon by the civil authority, when that power shall be unable to execute the law.

I deem it proper to add, that last night was not the first time that criminal violence had been attempted upon my person. As to the last attempt, I can only State what you have seen in the *Sentinel*. Since that public statement giving the particulars of being fired upon through my window, I heard Mr. J. W. Watson who lives near our office say, he heard the report of the gun, and soon thereafter heard a man running rapidly by his house, and he remarked at the time some one had been shot. This is all that I can state except the fact that Gen. Estes, member of the Legislature from New Hanover, before the last attempt at assassination, was heard to say in the presence of some three or four persons, that if any person would shoot Joe Turner even in the back he could be pardoned immediately, or it might be, have his pardon in his pocket when he committed the act.

The first attempt upon my life was on the 20th. of March last. Joseph Holden son of the Governor and Speaker of the House of Commons having threatened to shoot us on sight, engaged a number of armed men in the morning to meet him at 5 o'clock in the evening upon the arrival of the train, upon which he had been informed I was to come. According to this preconcerted arrangement the Speaker of the House, with C. L. Harris Superintendent of Public Works, C. M. Farris keeper of the Capitol, Jenkins Cheif Clerk and son of the Treasurer, B. F. Menninger, Clerk and brother of the Secretary of State, Fab. Bozier, whom I have before mentioned, Lieutenant Pike, and others, were at the depot, armed with clubs and deadly weapons, to attack me. By timely drawing a pistol and giving notice if they advanced I would fire upon them, they halted until the police came up and arrested them.

The Governor, himself, stated, in a public speech, that he was cognizant of what his son, the Speaker of the House, had said and done, and he approved it all.

I should, therefore, have some hesitation in accepting his offers of redress through the military, even if that were the proper channel through which to punish offenders against the criminal law, in a State with a constitutional government.

As you are a stranger, with little or no acquaintance with our laws or people, allow me to suggest that you have an interview with Judge Watts instead of with me; his Court and Grand Jury are now in session, and I have no doubt his Honor will tell you that I should rely upon him and the Grand Jury and peace officers of the State and not upon you and the military. He will tell you that you go beyond the sphere of your duty in calling out detectives and militia. His Honor will also tell you that you are in error to require me to "state, on honor, that an attempt had been made upon my life," and that you should require of me to swear it upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God.

With this statement of facts, I subscribe myself as I am,

JOSIAH TURNER, Jr.

—A. T. Stewart, Horace Greeley, and William Orton have been appointed by the Postmaster General a commission to effect the exchange of the present site for the new postoffice in New York city for another site at the upper end of City Hall Park.

EDITORIAL NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

1. Was the doctrine of the *right* of a State to secede from the Federal Union settled by the appeal to arms? Such seems to be the almost universally received opinion. Both North and South are accustomed to say, that secession is forever put to rest by the arbitrament of the sword. That we are not disposed to controvert.—The point with which we start is altogether different. We trip at it. Was the *right* of a State to secede settled? We agree with the *Statesman* in the opinion that that question was not determined, as it was not submitted to the great test. "What was brought to that test was the question whether the Southern States had the *power* to effect their separation by arms; and that and no other was the point decided." Great principles are obscured or darkened under the heavy clouds of defeat. Men will surrender the correctness of a principle when it is not involved in the contest at all. We are not contending whether secession was right or wrong. That issue will probably never be before the American people again. But we insist that its "heresy or orthodoxy" was not under consideration during the war. It was altogether a question of *power*.

2. Father Prout was a Scotchman. We have forgot on his real name, although only two or three years ago we read an amusing sketch of him in *Blackwood*. He was a Catholic Priest resident in London, and a man of learning and "infinite jest." He once perpetrated "just for fun" two amusing parodies on Wolfe's unique and beautiful poem, *The Burial of Sir John Moore*—In the *Atlantic Monthly* for April, a Mr. Johnson contributes a paper to prove that this poem was written by a German and not by Wolfe. It turns out that he has been imposed upon by Father Prout's parodies that were written in French and German and in turn has imposed upon the editor of the *Atlantic*. The whole thing is a very good joke and deserves mention. Father Prout died a few years ago. His clever parodies appeared first in *Bentley's Miscellany*.

3. The New York *Galaxy*, one of the best of American monthlies, makes this wise remark: "The stability and durable prosperity of the National government must still depend upon the retention of, and adherence to, the original design and symmetry of our system. The preservation of the State governments, with all their original and rightful powers, is essential to a maintenance of the National government." This is a political truth of the first importance, and any serious departure from it will entail upon us the most direful results.

4. The *Galaxy* contains some remarks concerning the low state of art, in connection with the stage which are worthy of note. It is known to all what a *furore* there is for immodest displays upon the stage. *Black Crooks* and *White Fawns* and *Can Cans* will attract, when the legitimate drama will not. The *Galaxy* protests against the style of *leg* on exhibition nightly, in certain theatres, and, in the interest of true art, observes:

"We have now before us the photograph of half a dozen of the most famous stage dancers of the hour, the display of whose forms is said to have induced the wildest admiration of untold multitudes of gazers; and we have also before us photographs of half a dozen of the models or ideals of the perfect female figures, which the genius of antique Greece left for everlasting study and admiration. The contrast between the symmetry, grace, and delicacy of the antique outline of the limb and licentious legs of the modern spectacular ballet dancer is as great as it well could be.

If the exhibition of legs is to continue as one of the chief attractions of the modern stage, it would be well to get a supply characterized by symmetry, grace, and delicacy, in place of those that nature or stuffing have swelled to uncouth and obnoxious proportions."

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

The best way of paying off the tremendous National debt has long puzzled financiers, and will tax to the utmost Secretary Boutwell's ability. The debt, we believe, amounts to some $2,400,000,000. It is enormous. The latest plan suggested is in the Baltimore *Home Journal*. We have only room for the following, as to the speediest and surest way of reducing the debt:

"How can this be done? Simply by authorizing the issue of enough "greenbacks," (which will increase the currency about five per cent.) to redeem and cancel the bonds held by the National Banks, thereby substituting a non-interest bearing debt of $350,000,000 for a similar amount of debt now bearing 6 per cent. interest in coin, thus saving their constituents $20,000,000 interest in coin annually, and giving them a currency which they prefer. This step would shorten the distance to specie payments very materially, and give the public, both here and abroad, increased confidence in the Government's determination to pay its debts.

Apply this $20,000,000, and the interest saved annually, to the reduction of the National Debt bearing interest, and in the incredible short space of 33 years not one dollar of the $2,233,187,986 of interest bearing and matured debt will remain unpaid."

DEMOCRATIC GAINS.—The Democratic Candidate for Mayor of the City of Cleveland, Ohio, is elected by over one thousand majority—a gain of over 3,000 votes. Grant carried that city by 2,115 votes. Another evidence of the ebbing tide of Radicalism. Cleveland votes some 13,500.

GLORIOUS!—It is now generally understood that the hands will actually adjourn on next Monday. It will excite universal joy. What a saving to the State will begin on next Tuesday—86 less than $1500 a day, according to the *Standard*. Many of the hands have already left, and others are hastening away. Farewell, farewell, and peace go with you. It is to be hoped that they will become so enamored of their homes that they will agree to remain there the remainder of their lives.

DEATH OF A SENATOR.—Mr. Richard I. Wynne, Senator from Franklin county, died last night at Cooke's Hotel.

"BEGONE AND LEAVE ME, I'LL HEAR NO MORE."

In the *Standard*, yesterday, is an editorial, written by the Governor himself, wishing for every race, death, plague and confusion, upon the coward who attempted to assassinate him. He says he has no language sufficiently strong, to express his detestation of the man who committed this instantly act. Yet the Governor, before it entered Booth's mind, advised on the 5th of June, 1861, asking who would plot for old Abe's head? "Shake not your gory locks at Booth, thou canst not say he did it all.

On Wednesday, the 24th day of March, the Governor's son, Speaker of the House, with a company of whites and blacks came to attack us at the depot. Every branch of the government was represented in the mob except the Judiciary. The Secretary of State had his brother, the Treasurer had his son, while the Superintendent of Public Works, Colie Harris, was personally present, with his huge red club. The Senate was represented in the person of Davis, of Montgomery, carpet bagger. B. F. Menninger said, next day, he approached us with his pistol cocked in his pocket. Lieut. Pike said that Joe Holden asked him, on the morning of the 24th, to meet him at the depot, in the evening, upon the arrival of the train and he did so. He further said, he stood with pistol cocked in his pocket, waiting for Joe to advance. He (Pike) did not advance because it was not his fight, he had nothing against Turner.

There were none of the mob, one man, a bully, was brought from Gaston county, as we are informed, for the purpose of whipping us. Our escape was as much from the mob, was as providential as our escape from the assassin's pistol, at midnight, on the 8th of April.

It was midnight and the ladies' car would have passed by in immediate contact with the armed mob. Joe would have raised his stick, we would have drawn our pistols and the mob would have shot us down, or the Hawes would have killed Joe with his rifle, rushing out at the West instead of the East gate, as the most cautious and, we get every seven steps from the direct fire they could be in opposition. Seeing our cover purposed, we drew a pistol, and threatened to shoot the man who advanced. The mob halted until the police arrested them. Now we did not more chance in such a fight than we had with the assassin who fired in our window. Yet the Governor—commissioner of sugar, ships, excited with whiskey, into the Town Hall, hailed the Mayor, and refused to hear speaking, when three times ordered by the Mayor to close. He spoke the mob into fever heat, and violence from them was imminent until a police officer cocked his pistol and threatened to shoot down the man who was guilty of a breach of the peace in the presence of the court. Such is the Governor, who has not words to express his detestation of our assassination, on the night of the 6th of April. Yet, in his Town Hall speech, to the mob, he said, distinctly, he knew what his son was going to do, what he had done, and he approved of every word and act. How can he, honestly and sincerely, condemn the attempt upon our life on the night of the 6th after approving the attempt on the 24th.

The Governor now says: If Mr. Turner will give his honor, as a gentleman, in a written statement, that the facts are as he has stated them, he (the Governor) will offer a reward of $500 for the apprehension of the perpetrator.

Now we say to the Governor, the midnight assault may shoot every night, and your son Joe, Colie Harris and the mob may meet us at the depot every day, rather than we would make a statement, on or off of honor, to a Governor who had publicly approved an attempt to murder us.—Having approved of the one you could but be pleased at the other.

Which called upon to go before the proper tribunal, the Courts of the county, we shall make our statement, not upon honor but upon oath, and that we are ready to do.

The Governor said, in his Town Hall speech, to excite the mob, that "we had assailed his family." He refused to allow us to reply, and said "we should not reply, we should not reply." His son Joe said we should not reply. And so said Jenkins, son of the Treasurer, and so said the mob.

The Governor, in his editorial article in the *Standard*, repeating the false charge made in the Town Hall speech, says, "we, overstepping the widest latitude of the press, invaded the family circle, and publicly maligned them for their conduct in family matters, but (he adds) even such conduct is not a warrant for the knife or pistol of the assassin." This is a false statement, though made by the Governor in his Town Hall speech, and repeated by him under the name of J. B. Neathery & Co., in the *Standard*. Name the family we have assailed. We have studiously avoided all family matters. We have dealt only with men, the heads of families. We have not indulged in abusive epithets, even of the men. It is true we have published acts of villainy and fraud, perpetrated by public men upon the public treasury. We expect to continue it despite the Governor, Secret Leagues, Depot mobs and midnight assassins.

Look to the files of the *Sentinel*. We have never said an unkind word of Billy Henderson. We have often alluded to the fact that he stands indicted for mule stealing. We never said an abusive or unkind word of Starbuck, though we said he had been justly and properly presented by the Grand Jury of the Federal Courts. Nor of Holden even, have we said hard things or brought charges. We call him the morning star of the Assassination, because he was first to ask for the head of "Old Abe." We would not call him a liar, but we said we could prove him one by divers gentlemen, and so we can. This is the extent of our offending and nothing more.

The Governor concludes his article by saying that "it is intimated by some who have long known Mr. Turner, that he himself fired into his office to gain notoriety, by reporting that an attempt had been made to assassinate him. We do not believe this, favor the Governor's friends may be trying for notoriety, but we do not believe that he would take this method of obtaining it, and we are convinced that those who hold this view are doing injustice to him. We say frankly, we do not believe from a man who would do such a contemptible action."

Then why do you want our statement on honor in writing? As the Mayor said in the Town Hall Meeting "Governor Shoals" we don't want to hear you, as we say, Governor, "Begone and leave us, we'll hear no more."

AT THE TABLE.

We were asked at dinner yesterday, why the incompetent and faithless Post Master, Mr. Miller, was turned out, and Colonel Rogers turned in.

We said, on the Holden principle of loyalty, for Holden called Andy Johnson "one of the most elegant developments of loyalty" and said Abbott Lawrence of Boston, brought him on the Federal ticket for he was and his spirit of forgiveness made Holden Provisional Governor. Holden pardoned the soul and founder of the Republic—but when Andy's pardon-seal set under Republican clouds and then Holden cried, he dagger, and Rogers was established his foe, and he telegraphed that the peace and quiet of North Carolina demanded the impeachment and conviction and removal of his once dear friend. Now we say he served Andy right while at the same time it shows the Governor to be the abject wretch we thought him and proves the truth of the poet who said:

"Now I drink a cup
When with pride we drink strong,
The cup of good fortune
Sparkling along,
But soon comes
Whatever thing hath made him a wretch
And turns down his pillow, as I have done such."

Holden once asked Abe Lincoln if he would pardon the head of Abe Lincoln. Holden pardoned Judge Redman to Judge Battle, because Redman was drunk and ordered his neighbors children to be shot. He escaped and Judge Battle was neither a sot nor a murderer.

By the operation of the Holden philosophy, Mr. Miller is turned out because he was a consistent Union man when in, and has taken the test oath. By the same philosophy, Colonel Rogers is turned in, for, like Holden he once asked for old Abe's head.

As a loser, in the better days of the Commonwealth, given to Major Young and his Company, Dr. Young Holden's brother-in-law, and Blow Your Horn Billy's Governor Tick Aggie at the shops, charged Young on this company, that when they returned from the war, they were bring him a lock of old Abe's hair. And I charge you, said Calvin J. Rogers, that you bring me his head. A year before this, Holden had advertised in his paper, a king who would put for old Abe's head.

Both answered the question, pop! went the pistol, off went his head. So much for Buckingham. No! No so much for Buckingham. So much for Caleb, so much for Holden and the Holden philosophy.

FAILED FOR WANT OF ALDEN.

There was a vote yesterday for the sale of the State's interest in the North Carolina Railroad; the vote stood 19 for, 31 against. Judge Alden when he was on Holden's Reconstruction Staff, and before he left the City by way of the Chatham county road to take the cars at Cary, said, the Legislature of North Carolina had been bought, and he could buy that body again; and he actually proposed to a Banker in New York, if he would join him in a speculation in North Carolina bonds, that he Alden could buy up a majority of the Legislature, even to repudiate the bonds of the State.

Alden was guilty of a fraud, and swindle so gross, that it shows he would steal. You we say steal, and yet Alden was in as good standing with the party as any carpet bagger or native, that belonged to the Governor's Reconstruction Staff.

Except Galloway, he was thought by some to be the strongest moral man of the party. If Alden had been here the Road might have had more supporters. But we know members who failed to vote and members who voted against the sale, who were committed to it the first of the session. They may come right next session, and they will be able to point to their vote of this session against it and say they were opposed to it, but necessity, necessity, and the honor of the State demanded that we should now vote to sell. Governor Holden's silence had some effect upon the bands. The sale of the North Carolina Road bonds at 65, the purchase of 8,000 acres of land for the Penitentiary and the Governor's approval of both, coupled with the talk in the streets that the Governor would be the richest man in the State at the close of his administration had its effect upon the sale of the Road bonds. We learn the Governor is trying to throw off the carpet-baggers.—The sale of the Road was a carpet bag measure; its defeat was a native victory.—Three cheers for the natives, including Coffee Mayo!

THE SCUPPERNONG GRAPE.—A writer in the *Rural New Yorker* thus writes of the Scuppernong grape: "This grape is worth untold millions to the Southern people if they will but follow the example of Mr. Hart, of Wilmington, N. C., in developing its culture, and the conversion of its juice into good wine."

INCENDIARISM.—A house belonging to Stephen Hunt of Friendship, in this county was consumed by fire on Sunday night last, and on the night following his corn crib was also burnt, supposed work of an incendiary.

Another house belonging to Joel Chipman of this county was burnt on Tuesday night. Isaac Gerringer,—(colored,) was arrested and lodged in jail this morning on suspicion of being the guilty party.—*Greensboro Topic.*

At a festival held in Fayetteville, by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church last Tuesday and Wednesday nights, $450 were realized, of which amount probably $100 or $200 will be required to meet expenses.

THE CONNECTICUT ELECTION.

The November last, General Grant carried this State by a majority of some 8,000 votes. At the late election, held a few days ago, the Radical candidate for Governor is elected by some 500 majority. The Congressional delegation is equally divided, and the Democrats have gained considerably in the Legislature.

What is the significance of these large Democratic gains? In nearly all of the elections held during the year, there has been a manifest falling off in the Radical vote, showing, and clearly, that the popular mind is recoiling from the doctrines of that party and are dissatisfied with the policy it has pursued and is pursuing towards the South. The people everywhere want quiet. They are thoroughly sick of the bitter and proscriptive measures of Radicalism. They desire, above all earthly things, a return of a healthy feeling throughout all sections, and with a return of that old prosperity that once gladdened the hearts of the people. Let the Radicals keep trying on, and, after awhile, it may be, the Democratic party will receive a mending of the transparency of political party and honor, and will boost at not the wishes of the American people.

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.—A Correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, writing from Asheville, Buncombe County, thus pays a just tribute to that portion of our State. He says:

"Truth is not to be found in any country, we think, offers more of great advantages to order and to make the well-to-do part of the good new North State. Indeed, there are, among the natural resources of this section and the industry, intelligence, and enterprise of its people, and also in the fact that it is the place for compounding economy and thrift, and I don't wonder that people have flocked to it. Land can now be bought from $1 to $2 per acre. The best improved farms are sold at from $5 to $10 per acre, and for good farms, well improved, and within a few miles of the railroad, or in the towns, and in good condition, from $20 to $50 per acre. Now is the time to buy. Soon it will be too late