The Semi-Weekly Sentinel.

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THE SENTINEL.

THE DIFFERENCE.

The old fable about the difference between your ox being gored and my ox being gored, finds an illustration in our affairs. The "Alabama," which was commanded by our immortal seaman, Admiral Raphael Semmes, was built near Liverpool, England, by the Lairds, leading ship-builders. It went to sea, "on a pretended pleasure expedition," getting safely out of the port of Liverpool. Her crew afterward joined her, and her guns and stores were brought to her from Liverpool by a British steamer. Our people—or Northern brethern—Brother Sumner for instance, argues that this was a clear violation of neutrality laws, &c. Well it may be. For our present purposes, as Radicals insist so strenuously upon it, we grant the claim, yield assent to the proposition. But *how* will this prove it right to sell munitions of war to Cuban insurgents? Or *how* will the law upon the subject permit filibustering expeditions to be fitted out in our cities, and that too, where the matter has become notorious, and the authorities must know all about it? Is it a *crime* in England to permit her ship-builders to sell to the South and her *sailors* to join Confederate vessels, and yet a *virtue* in Yankeedom to favor the Cuban revolutionists, and to supply thousands of *soldiers* to recruit the armies and strengthen the waning fortunes of the "rebels" of the island? What will Spain say to such hair-splitting, such absurd and floundering injustice? Our politicians and papers resort to the nicest and obscurest differences as to the law, to find some semblance of justification for the latter course, but the entire thing is too manifestly ridiculous and illogical to deceive any one for a moment. The New York *World*, amongst other things, says this:

"There was not, either before or after the Queen's proclamation, good ground of complaint against England, upon our own usage and practice in this particular, that her citizens sold arms and munitions of war to the rebels, deliverable to the purchasers in her own territory, to be transported thence into the Confederacy. Nor can we complain that English tradesmen sent, at their own risk of capture and confiscation, articles contraband of war to the Southern ports for sale. No neutral nation is bound to prevent such commercial dealings. If there be fair *exportation* of the contraband articles from the neutral country, and either belligerent has, according to his means, opportunity to capture the merchandise on the voyage, there is no neutral offence. In like manner we in the United States have held that a neutral may sell a ship of war as an article of merchandise to a belligerent. Mr. Justice Nelson has recently so ruled in the case of the Meteor. All this trade, both the United States and Great Britain can, under the law of nations as interpreted by themselves, carry on to day with the insurgents in Cuba, *without* any recognition of the latter as belligerents, and to-morrow, in like manner, *with* such recognition and a superadded proclamation of neutrality."

This statement of the matter may do.—But it is rather *finely* drawn for practical purposes. If it is right for the United States *government* to favor Cuban revolutionists—to permit all sorts of munitions of war to be sold them—to allow its people to hold meetings of sympathy where a vast amount of whipped syllabub patriotism is handed around—if all this is right, and we dare say it is, then surely it could not have been any great crime in England and the Lairds, when the latter sold the Alabama and the former permitted it to escape to sea. The whole difficulty, as far as the Northern people are concerned, lies in the simple fact that the Alabama was the English ox that gored the Yankee ox, and that is highly criminal. In the case of Cuba, it is the Yankee ox that gores the Spanish ox and that is highly creditable.

WHAT WE SAW AT HALIFAX.

We spent Monday and Tuesday at Halifax Court. We saw Judge Watts upon the bench and Solicitor Cox prosecuting at the bar. In attendance on the Court we saw Mr. E. Conigland, Mr. Moore, Mr. Peebles, Gen. Ransom, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Branch, Mr. Burton, Mr. Wesson, Mr. Solomon, Mr. Finch, Mr. Williams, (Henry G.) Mr. Hill, Mr. Long, Mr. Mullen and Col. Jenkins.—Several of the Junior members of the bar we had never met before. We wish for them all the success and well merited distinction which belong to the elders of the bar whom we have named. We saw 132 cases on the State docket, mostly indictments for larceny, against Republican "gentlemen" who have been initiated into the secret societies of which Gov. Holden is the head centre and grand President. There were two capital cases, one against Ben Wood, for the murder of William Drury, and John Freeman for the murder of George Jackson. Freeman had fled to parts unknown before this arrest. On the civil trial docket were 500 cases. On the appearance docket were 210 cases.

The Wade Ditcher murderers, who broke jail, had all been recaptured, at the expense of some thousand dollars to the State, the Governor having offered rewards for their arrest. They are three in number, Augustus Baker, Jim Thomas and George Johnson, all "gentlemen" of the league, who murdered Wade Ditcher in the old Hotel at Weldon and threw his body in the river. They have committed their last murder, unless the Governor, who is grand President of the league, shall pardon them as he did Willis, who murdered Anderson Selby, in this city. Willis is a member of the league, and the same who broke jail here last week, after attempting to murder the jailor. We see no good reason for pardoning the Ditcher murderers—we saw none for pardoning Willis—we saw none for pardoning the ten negroes of the league who were sentenced to imprisonment by Judge Thomas, for whipping a man of their color for voting the Democratic ticket....

This last mentioned case was the greatest abuse of Executive clemency ever recorded, except that of President Johnson and Congress, pardoning Holden himself after he had, in the *Standard*, called the President, Edward Everett and John C. Breckinridge, three of the most elegant [illegible] and that Andrew Johnson had been [illegible] to the Federal side. In our late war, [illegible] Abbot Lawrence, of Boston, who paid [illegible] down one thousand dollars.

The abuse of Congress consisted in pardoning or relieving his [illegible] the man who was first to ask for the head of "Abe Lincoln?"

If the Governor [illegible] and see the law executed, the Wade Ditcher murderers will all be hanged, and that will create a vacancy in the league, and the Radical party will [illegible].

We saw many of the best farmers [illegible] Halifax only, but [illegible] William Smith, Richard Smith [illegible] Nicholson, and [illegible] Mason L. Wiggins, with whom we [illegible] pleasant [illegible] about the labor and [illegible] We saw Mr. Powell, of Edgecombe [illegible] expressed the opinion [illegible] labor had gone from the [illegible] and villages, rather [illegible] We were astonished [illegible] but when we reflect upon [illegible] jail, and the idleness of the [illegible] were once field hands and producers, we are satisfied that he was under rather than over the mark. Other sights we saw which we must reserve for to-morrow's paper.

GEN. LITTLEFIELD.

The General's paper, the *Standard*, [illegible] we can't get off an article without the name of Gov. Holden's name. We think the General should be satisfied, for if we get off articles altogether on Holden, then the General will not have public attention drawn to him. If Senator Sweet [illegible] succeeded in getting the General before the Committee on Bribery and Corruption, [illegible] might get off articles on the General. Yes! Get off a book!—a volume! We thought to get off an article on the General without using the Governor's name by giving some account of how the General got the State printing and binding on the last morning of the session when there was no quorum in the House; and we can't even do that without the use of the Governor's name, for the act provides that the Governor shall appoint the State Printer, and the Governor has appointed Littlefield, State Printer. Littlefield helped the Governor by purchasing the *Standard*, so the Governor helps Littlefield.

The Governor pervades everything. We can't speak of Treasurer Jenkin's sale of N. C. Railroad bonds at 65, without alluding to the Governor, for he approved it. We can't speak of that naked, unveiled swindle, 8,000 acres for a Penitentiary, without the use of the Governor's name for the Governor approved of the purchase.

We can't write about the Judiciary of the State—the presentments against them—their want of dignity, learning, sober and decent deportment, but we think of the Governor; that he voted for them and they are all the men of his choice, except Judge Cloud, who is the Governor's second choice, Starbuck being first choice. Starbuck having been presented by the Grand Jury of the Federal Court and Cloud not, it strikes us that Cloud should have been first choice, and Starbuck second or last; but so it is, Starbuck is first.

We headed this article, Littlefield, as it it should be all about this good looking journalist of the party. When the Governor quits pardoning thieves and murderers, we will leave him out in at least one article, and make it all about Littlefield and his influence with the late Legislature.

One wonders that the South does not rebel anew, when he considers the miserable vermin who have been sent down there as government officials.—*Harper's Weekly.*

We copy this passage because of its remarkable coolness. We have never read any thing more unqualifiedly impudent. The effrontery is simply—tremendous. The most malignant, unscrupulous, and vindictive paper in the entire North is this same *Harper's Weekly*. It has been more abusive of the people of the South than any of the papers that have for four years traduced our best and truest and bravest. Its vile caricatures, its foul insults make it a stench in the nostrils of every honest and just man. After doing all it could to ruin, degrade and despoil us, it now begins to abuse the carpet-baggers, and dares to wonder how it is, that the long-suffering people of the South have not "rebelled" under the accumulated wrongs that have been so patiently borne. All that this vile sheet says is true, but who cares what *Harper's Weekly* may say? Not even a seedy carpet-bagger cares the snap of his finger for it, for even a carpet-bagger knows how unprincipled and mischievous it is.

Bishop Wightman, of South Carolina.—The Rev. Bishop Wightman, of Charleston, S. C., a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, preached on Sunday, both morning and evening, at the Church of the Strangers, in the New York University Chapel, on Washington square, of which the Rev. Dr. Deems, formerly of North Carolina, is pastor. The Bishop was on his way to St. Louis to attend to some official business, and was prevailed upon by his old friend, Dr. Deems, to remain with him over Sunday. This is probably the first time that a Southern Methodist bishop has preached in this city since the great division of the Church, which took place in 1844.—*N. Y. World.*

For the Sentinel.

PRINCETON—THE UNIVERSITY—DAVIDSON.

In the last number of the N. C. *Presbyterian* "N. McK" advises us to patronize the University *as it is*, apologizes for the Professors, and hopes that "our young men will again fill its halls and throng its groves."—and *The Presbyterian* makes but a very faint [illegible] to "N. McK's" views, closing an editorial notice with "as a sensible man he (N. McK.) accepts the inevitable and seeks to make the best of it." Now, I beg leave, [illegible] a conservative, and a bad Presbyterian, [illegible] from these views. We cannot patronize the University *as it is*, 1st. Because it is not ours. 2nd. On merely literary grounds. 3rd. And especially on moral and religious grounds.

1st. The University, as it is, is not ours, we have no part or lot in it, our votes did not make it. Our men are not put in it, our principles are not in it, no one we did not want it, we do not want it, and we [illegible] have it.

2nd. We cannot patronize the University, [illegible] on literary grounds, simply because its faculty have very little literary merit. Mr. Pool is a man of very small calibre, and [illegible] literary some point unfit for [illegible] position. I was in College when he was [illegible] and he had a very poor reputation as an instructor, and if he has made any reputation since then as a tax gatherer, [illegible] nobody has found it out. [illegible] Gov. Swain and Dr. [illegible] I was in College with the Prof. [illegible] His standing was very low in [illegible] I am pretty sure that he was a [illegible] that is, that he took [illegible] Let him [illegible] it this is a mis [illegible] he has made any reputation [illegible] then as a teacher of a little [illegible] school, nobody has ever [illegible] he succeeds Dr. Hubbard [illegible] in the chair of Latin, [illegible] N. McK. thinks we ought to patronize the University. Prof. Brewer may be [illegible] a missionary, [illegible] "N. McK's" sympathy for him on that [illegible] as we do not consider [illegible] N. C. *missionary ground*, [illegible] the proper objects of [illegible] Prof. Brewer may have been, as "N. McK." says, a tutor [illegible] and a Prof. in [illegible] *know any thing about* [illegible] and therefore we do not want him to teach our children, especially as he has shown a predilection for teaching negroes [illegible] that he won't [illegible] All this we *do know*, that [illegible] in any walk of life do not [illegible] on the [illegible] and would not want to [illegible] to any but tried, successful teachers. The well fed game cock crows [illegible] while the hungry carrion crow wanders about in search of some putrid carcass. If Prof. Brewer had had any reputation at home, he would have staid there, but his native Greek blood, and his missionary blood that charm "N. McK." can't atone for his carrion crow blood as a carpet bag Prof. in the University of N. C. Of Prof. Martling we simply know nothing except that he is of the carrion crow, carpet-bag [illegible] and that is all we want to know of him. Mr. McIver is a native, and as an instructor had a better reputation than Mr. Pool has. He is, I believe, a sincere [illegible] but as a sincere radical, a native and a man of fair ability—though nothing [illegible] is all the more dangerous. Such [illegible] are the Faculty. McIver, only a second class man; Pool, hardly a second class man; Patrick, no scholar at all and Brewer and Martling strangers. These men cannot instruct our children.

But 3rd. It is from a moral standpoint that we object most to the University and to "N. McK's" endorsement of it. Radicalism is *rank, reeking infidelity*. Its foundation stone is infidelity, and every stone in the superstructure is infidelity. Discarding [illegible] the Bible and the God of the Bible, it appeals to a law higher than God and the Bible and abrogates them wherever they interfere with its notions of "progress." The Professors at Chapel Hill may be unexceptionable individually in moral character, *but they are Radicals*—They are the educated, and, therefore, the leading men of a party that reeks with the leprosy of modern infidelity and humanitarianism, and he who exposes his child to such influences cannot escape the anathema pronounced against those who break a commandment and teach men so. Jeroboam and his house were cursed because, for political effect, he introduced idolatry and infidelity. Ahab and his house were cursed because he was not satisfied with the infidelity and idolatry of Jeroboam, but imported the idols, the priests and the infidelity of his neighbors. The curse of God rested on Manasseh and his house, because he not only followed the idolatry of Ahab and of his heathen neighbors, but because he exposed his children to the idolatrous fires of Moloch. And the curse of God will surely rest on us if, like Jeroboam, from policy, we countenance this Radical infidelity—if like Ahab, not satisfied with our own idolatrous proclivities (and we all have idolatrous proclivities) we patronize and thus endorse this foreign, Yankee, Radical infidelity and humanitarian idolatry, and most of all will the curse of God rest upon us, if, like Manasseh, we expose our children to the fires of this Radical Moloch. We are a great people—and, as yet, we are not degraded—and if we preserve ourselves unspotted from voluntary degradation, if we burn no incense to the golden calf that the Yankees so madly worship, if we bow no knee to this Radical Beelzebub, if we shield our children from the devouring flames of this Radical Moloch, we may yet, with God's blessing, be a happy and a prosperous people, but Radicalism is infidelity, it is an unclean thing, that we must touch not, taste not, handle not.

But where then shall we educate our children? Not at Princeton, nor at any Northern College. The Northern Church is rotten to the core with this same infidelity. Virginia offers the finest inducements; but can we not find a College at home. I believe in no sectarian education—in no sectarian Institution of learning. But why cannot Presbyterians, who at least in N. C. excel other sects as educators, why cannot Presbyterians offer inducements at Davidson College equal to any in the South. Let Davidson rise and shine. Now is its time. Let it be cut loose from its sectarian swaddling bands; let it secure live men, enthusiastic, successful teachers like Dr. Chas. Phillips, as Professors; let it rid itself of any old fogies or old fossils among its faculty and trustees and secure the best men in the State, in or out of the ministry, in or out of the Church, as trustees, and the best men in or out of the State, in or out of the Church, as Professors, let it raise its tuition fees to the level of other first class Colleges, let it raise its standard of scholarship so that boys at our first class schools may not when disapproved "quit and go to Davidson College" as has happened in past times; in full let Davidson take warning by the melancholy death before our eyes of the University as it was, where the average standard of scholarship was so low that the diplomas of two-thirds of the graduates was a flagrant lie, and let it run squarely against and squarely equal to the Va. University, let these things be done, and Davidson will take a place in the hearts of our people which Chapel Hill never took and can never take.

PUBLIC CORRUPTION.

"In plain truth, the age of [illegible] of unchecked corruption, of sham, [illegible] ignorance, is coming down on us like night. A free press should have given more [illegible] warning than it has, but the press dislikes, in a free country, to print unpalatable truth, even when it discerns such truth; and the journals that profess "inerrant devotion to principle" are necessarily the ones whose articles betray the most [illegible] to catch the applause and dollars [illegible] of the greatest number. Meanwhile, all what are called the great [illegible] fortunes, who sought to [illegible] railways or drawing handsomely [illegible] for the whole community, and by dint of vast wealth, amassed [illegible] impossible in any other [illegible] country, degrade the [illegible] direction an [illegible] of the senses. [illegible] or ambition is [illegible] strive to inculcate a [illegible] are either hated or [illegible] thought of but the design [illegible] fine clothes, of showy [illegible] ages in a world of [illegible] every description. [illegible] anything else [illegible] the best [illegible] be [illegible] All this is so [illegible] fully notorious, that [illegible] enough, so [illegible] of the subject [illegible] possible [illegible] that either a Democratic [illegible] form of government [illegible] ed. Unless a great change [illegible] American people, it will not be maintained by themselves. They are rushing toward the precipice at railway speed, and the universal corruption that good men deplore is the prelude of a decomposition which is as certain as fate."—*Round Table.*

FORNEY.

Forney was serenaded on Thursday last by the republican negroes at Lynchburg, Virginia, where he and his party halted on their pilgrimage southward. He told the negroes that he was going South as "a messenger of peace, good will and fraternity," at which the sable crowd shouted "good," "good," "good." It was very good! What an angel of peace is Forney! While Forney is orating to the negroes of the South, the white people of that unhappy land will not forget that it was this same individual who daily repeated in the *Press* last summer, the savage and vindictive proposition to revive, for campaign purposes, all the hatred engendered in the war. When Forney asserts that he is on an errand of good will, the people of the South will not trust him. If he swears it, they may be sure he means mischief. Not one of the atrocious measures proposed in Congress for the subjugation of the South was there that did not find an eager and officious advocate in this man Forney.—Every fraudful scheme to stifle the voice of the people, to wrest from them their state constitutions, and put them under the heel of the soldiery, found a ready spokesman in this missionary of new [illegible] for the South. He urged on Congress the atrocious proposition to arm the negroes of the South, and set them at the throats of their white neighbors—a proposition from which every radical who had a heart in him, shrank in horror. In his malignity he invented tales of terror, he retailed wild and incredible stories of the white man's barbarity to the negro of the South, in order to make party capital. Yet he goes among the Southern people now with honeyed words on his false lips, and boasts of his feelings of fraternity! With the same cruel complacency did Marat boast of his love of his fellows while urging his party to the commission of every atrocity, in his newspaper so appropriately named the "Friend of the People."—*Harrisburg Pennsylvania Patriot.*

COFFEE AS A CIVILIZER.

Dr. Draper makes out a very strong case in favor of "coffee as a civilizing agent."—He says: Those who have made it a subject of study and examination tell us that when prepared as a strong infusion without milk, coffee acts powerfully on the sympathetic nervous system and the organs supplied by it, quickening their action and increasing their vitality. That it renders the contraction of the heart and other muscles more powerful; enables the body to resist cold, moisture, and the deadly poison of miasmatic districts; counteracts the languor of torrid climes; prevents or ameliorates attacks of spasmodic asthma; alleviates laxity of the kidneys and bladder; and it is even said that calculus is not as common since it has been generally used. It also acts with energy on the brain, removing the sensation to fatigue and disposition to sleep, which has always made it a favorite with students. It obviates the excessive indulgence in the use of wine and spirits; is an antidote to opium, belladonna, and the vegetable poisons that act on the brain; and relieves the nervous headache to which many are subject. In brief, it is not merely a fashionable potation—it is one of the great civilizing agents; for, by increasing his power of accomplishing brain and muscle work, it has increased the power and influence of man.

In view of some of Grant's appointments, what has become of the old-time twaddle about our never dying obligations to "the men who upheld the country's flag in the hour of trial?" Here is a case in point. General Dubbin Ward fought against Gen. Longstreet at Chicamauga. Result: Grant appoints Longstreet to a fat Federal office in New Orleans, and turns out Ward from the Attorneyship of the Southern District of Ohio. In the loll talk about "the old flag," the flags somehow seemed to have got a little mixed.—*N. Y. World.*

Scientific men say that the time of the diurnal revolution of the earth is gradually being shortened, on account of the shrinkage of the earth by cooling in the interior.

WORK OF BROWNLOW'S MILITIA.

We find in a late number of the Nashville *Banner* the following account of some of the proceedings of Brownlow's militia in torturing and finally assassinating Captain Alfred Richardson, of Humboldt, Tennessee.

He was charged before a drum head court martial with the "mutilation of general order," an offence never heard of in the annals of military courts. It was proved and admitted that one word spelled wrong on an old [illegible] telegraph pole had been corrected with a lead pencil. The misspelled and corrected word was "Forkey." The [illegible] had it "Porky" which answered his purposes and proclaimed the man. The court found a verdict of "guilty," and sentenced the defendant to be tied to that same telegraph pole by the thumbs for six hours, and the sentence was executed with savage delight. During the time that the gentleman was tied up four passenger trains passed by, and people looked on in wonder at the rare and humiliating spectacle of a free born American citizen in time of peace undergoing a punishment that would have disgraced the walls of an inquisition. Among those who saw the sight was the Adjutant General of General Thomas.

When Captain Richardson was released, he entered a civil suit against Clingan for $[illegible] damages. Eminent counsel was employed and two of Clingan's farms were attached to make good the suit. He is worth about $40,000, which would go considerably towards paying for his attorney.—He saw that it was a tight case, and tried every way in his power, to effect a compromise. But he failed.

The next thing was assassination. Two militiamen fired on Captain Richardson as he was going to his house, in the suburbs of Humboldt, late Friday night. He drew a pistol and attempted to return the fire, but fell, and found himself badly wounded by a musket ball just above the knee, after they had fired three times. Captain Richardson recognized the two men who shot at him, and reported who they were to Clingan, but he refused to believe it, or to make any arrest.

Captain Richardson is about thirty three years old. He has a wife and children, was in the Confederate army, and is a gentleman.

BRIEF NEWS NOTES.

The mysterious bullets in New York and Brooklyn, it is asserted, are not shot from air guns, as has been generally supposed, but from a new kind of gun now sold that somewhat resembles the old cross gun except that instead of the arrow or bullet being propelled by the elasticity of a bow, it is in this case accomplished by the equally forcible elasticity of an India rubber strap.

Chinese laborers are still employed to a considerable extent in some of the parishes of Louisiana, and seem to give very good satisfaction.

It is found that, at Philadelphia, the mean velocity of the wind during the entire year is eleven miles per hour—nine miles in summer and fourteen in winter. At Trenton its annual average is nine miles per hour. The mean velocity of the wind at sea is estimated at eighteen miles per hour.—*Loomis.*

The nutmeg tree, it is reported, is found in the Sierra Nevada range in California.—The San Mateo, (Cal.) *Gazette* says that some years ago nutmegs, equal in strength and flavor to those of the East Indies, were plucked on the head waters of the Feather river, Placer county. The tree, it is reported, resembles a species of pine.

One patent medicine manufacturer advertises in twenty-five hundred papers in this country.

The Boston *Post* says Grant has made one thousand appointments and one hundred thousand disappointments.

House rents are reported to have declined one-third in Brooklyn, the supply of dwellings being in excess of the demand.

The Hoosac tunnel, it is asserted, when completed, will cost the State of Massachusetts the large amount of sixteen millions of dollars.

The New York police commissioners, being paid only $7,000 each a year, want an increase of salary.

A fellow out West advertises a fugacious wife, who he says "has left him just as his summer's work is beginning, notwithstanding he has had the expense of wintering her."

A young clerk in the Central Telegraph Office in France has discovered a very ingenious plan for the rapid self printing of dispatches, and has been offered 300,000 francs for his patent.

Three gentlemen of Chicago, it is said have clubbed together and ordered three copies of Longfellow's "Dent," to be illustrated with Dore's and Flaxman's designs, and many of the rare Dante prints. Only three copies will be printed, and the cost will be $1,000 per copy.

The Italians are very uneasy about the Æcumenic Council. They fear that an election of Pope may be made by all the Bishops of the Church of the Universe, which will make them a minority. They, therefore, strive to defeat the Council altogether.

According to Mayor Fox, at a dinner speech, Philadelphia has 156 miles of territory. He also stated that, with the large population of 850,000 persons, there were but 320 police officers on duty at night.

Dr. Brown Siquard reports a curious case of a dog which had just died having fresh blood passed into the carotid. The dead animal was revived, stood on his feet, wagged his tail, and lived over twelve hours, when he died again.

The Arizona cotton factory, established in Claiborne parish, Louisiana, since the war, is now paying a net profit of twenty-four per cent. per annum. This income is realized on a capital of $80,000, and with a part of the machinery counted in the capital, not yet at work.

Spain having failed in its quest of a King, is now thinking of a Directory. M. Castelar, a Republican, made a powerful speech against the Catholic Church and in favor of religious freedom. When he concluded the members crowded around him and hugged and kissed him. The Speaker left his seat to give him a cordial embrace and a kiss on both cheeks. Beautiful enthusiasm! In a month they may be cutting each other's throats!

STATE NEWS.

Bold Attempt to Escape from Jail.—Saturday night last Wm. H. Payne (white) and Henry Larkins (colored,) prisoners in the county jail, confined for larceny, made a bold attempt to escape from custody.—They were lodged in the debtors' room and while the jailor was at supper, and before the night watchman arrived, they succeeded with a chisel [illegible] which some medicine had been [illegible] by the attending physician, in forcing a hole through the ceiling into the loft. About 10 o'clock they succeeded in crawling up through this hole and got between the roof and the ceiling and crawled to the front portion of the building where the jailor and family reside. While descending they were heard by the watchman inside the jail, who gave the alarm to the jailer. Meantime Payne had descended through the hole beneath the scuttle, and after waiting until he thought all was quiet, proceeded in the attempt to make his way through the front door of the jail building. Here the jailer lay in wait, and as soon as Payne placed his hand upon the knob, the jailer seized him and presented his pistol. Payne's fright can be better imagined than described. On searching, Henry Larkins was found secreted in the loft near the water tank. Both were [illegible] lodged in strong cells and [illegible] more spirit.—*Wil. Journal.*

Prisoners Escape from Kinston Jail.—Two men named [illegible] and James Hines were arrested by Sheriff Cox last Saturday on the charge of horse stealing, and lodged in Jail in Kinston. About 1 o'clock Monday morning they were heard to shout, and on examination it was ascertained that they had escaped.

No marks of violence were found on the inside of the jail, but on the outside of the outside door marks were found as if made by a hammer. No bolts nor bars were broken, and it is the opinion of Kinston people that it was a "put up job" in some way, and we hope soon to have some insight into the affair. The Jail is now as secure and perfect as any in the State, and it seems impossible that these men should escape without help.—*Newbern Times.*

Wilmington and Manchester Railroad for Sale.—Attention is directed to the sale of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad advertised in this issue by Morris K. Jesup, Trustee. The sale will take place on the 23d June at public auction at the Exchange Sales Room in New York city. It will be made for cash to the highest bidder. The advantages possessed by this road are too well known, even abroad, to require description. We trust it will be purchased by parties fully competent to make it a first class road and a benefit to the entire section through which it passes.—*Wil. Journal.*

Frost.—A considerable frost fell upon the line of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad Sunday night as far down as Shoe Heel. It is thought that considerable damage has been caused the young crops.—*Ib.*

The wind Saturday night did a good deal of damage to the trees in this city. Some were torn up by the roots, and many branches were strewed in the street.—*Newbern Times.*

A Sunday School celebration and convention of the Flat River Association will be held at Oxford, on Saturday before the 5th, Lord's day, in May. The pastors, schools and friends of the work are earnestly requested to attend.—*Biblical Recorder.*

The *Standard* says: "The Democratic party of North Carolina is eminently entitled to be called the Sorehead party." The Radical party of North Carolina has not only a sore head, but is a mass of *corruption* from the crown of its head to the soles of its feet.—*Wil. Star.*

Patents.—Among the patents granted to Southern inventors for the week ending April 20th, 1869, we find the following from this city: Materials for journals and bearings, and for lubricating—A. B. Jones; Still, for turpentine and other substances—Robert W. Lamb.

In addition to these we find the following from other points of the State: Horse-shoe—J. H. Tyer, Martin county; Plow—W. S. Winesboro.—*Wil. Journal.*

Cape Fear Agricultural Association.—Dr. S. S. Satchell has been elected a member of the Executive committee in place of Major J. S. Hines, resigned. Dr. Satchwell has accepted.

We learn that the Executive committee are engaged in calling upon our citizens for aid to provide the necessary buildings to hold a Fair next Fall, and that our business men are responding with their characteristic liberality. We suppose there is no longer a doubt in regard to the holding a Fair in November.—*Ib.*

The *Standard* has assumed a desperate attitude, assailing the Democratic press of the State with a venom that shows the serpent *secreted* within its folds. Give it rope enough and it will soon hang itself.—*Weldon News.*

The most interesting sight we have seen lately is a young man, "free, white and twenty-one," holding his hands in idleness while his father stands behind a plow.—We would implore the next session of the Legislature to give such young men something to do—if it be only the combing of the wool of its sooty members.—*Ib.*

There could hardly be a better proof of the good nature of the Southern people than the reception in Mobile, Montgomery, and other Southern cities, of an excursion party of a hundred and twenty Illinois Radical editors and their families, who have been peregrinating down South on "dead head" tickets, and "accepting the hospitalities" of municipal governments, Boards of Trade, and "citizens representing all shades of political opinion." The annual delight of the provincial newspaper man is to do precisely this sort of thing, and as the Illinois party were so well treated, it is not surprising that they, "one and all, expressed themselves perfectly delighted with what they have seen for themselves in their progress South." If these same Radical editors, when they get back to their sanctums in Illinois do not turn and snap at the hands of those who fed them and use the information they have obtained to construct new and ingenious slanders against the South, they will be, in one respect at least, gratifying exceptions to their kind.—*N. Y. World.*

Richard Morris, the editor of "Chaucer," has been appointed an undermaster at King's College school. He is the first living authority on early English.

A CONFERENCE BETWEEN PRESIDENT GRANT AND GEN. LEE.

Washington, May 2.—The Conference between the President and General Lee, at the White House yesterday, was longer than has been reported, lasting nearly an hour. While the interview was of a polite and courteous character, there was manifested on the part of each a certain reserve, and there was the utmost dignity preserved.—No reference was made to their relative positions during the war, but after the exchange of personal civilities the conversation turned on the condition of the South and the present aspect of affairs in Virginia. Gen. Lee made several suggestions at the request of the President respecting the submission of the new Constitution to the vote of the people, and thought it important that they should have the right to a separate vote on the disfranchising clause, and that there should be separate votes on clauses affecting the local interests, when railroads and other improvements are to be made. Gen. Lee favors the Fifteenth Amendment, and approves the action of the recent Conservative Convention at Richmond. He does not believe that the enfranchisement of the negroes will work such prodigious harm as has been predicted by some men North and South. He holds that it is of first importance that not only Virginia, but all the Southern States, should be in practical accord with the Federal Government, and have full representation in both Houses of Congress, and when that is effected, all collateral and minor questions will adjust themselves satisfactorily.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

VIRGINIA.

Virginia is sufficiently humiliated, we should think, to satisfy even Sumner and Wilson, Chandler and Yates, Logan and Kelley, and even the saint Ashley. According to the latest dispatches, all that is now asked is, permission to vote upon a proposition, whether the conservative men of the State shall have the privilege of the ball in common with the negro! Even Gen. Lee, for the sake of peace, is now content to take the 15th amendment, and so are the so called conservatives. Will Gen. Grant consent to this, is the inquiry, with the abolition of the infamous test oath.—"We are not willing," say the white people, "that negroes be our jurors *exclusively*, but desire that persons of our own race may arbitrate our rights when on trial." Unless this defeated, sheriffs will have no discretion *but to empannel negroes exclusively*, and, in such a state of things, every white man who can will undoubtedly leave the State. Walker (Rep.) has put himself on this platform, and rumor has it that in a few days Gov. Wells will do the same. Suffrage for all negroes is conceded, and an early election is asked to end the agitation, but Gen. Canby does not favor an election before July.—*N. Y. Express.*

One of the most fruitful topics of discussion among English scientists and philosophers in the value of Auguste Comte's contributions to the higher departments of modern thought. John Stuart Mill gives high praise to his system of positive philosophy, but regards his "Religion of Humanity" as the dream of a crazed though noble intellect. Herbert Spencer criticises Comte's "Genesis of the Sciences" adversely, and declares he could not read, much less study, all his works; while Professor Huxley can find nothing of any scientific value in the writings of this man, who is regarded by his disciples as the greatest philosopher of this or any other age. Just now this discussion is raging in England so fiercely as to take up columns in daily papers like the *Pall Mall Gazette*. In that country Mr. Richard Congreve, Frederick Harrison, Professor Beegley, and Dr. Bridges have taken up the cudgels for Comte, and go so far as to declare that there is nothing of any philosophical value in the writings of his critics but what they appropriated from the man they attempt to depreciate. Of course, this controversy must have its echo in this country, and we reproduce elsewhere an extract from a discourse by Mr. Henry Edger, delivered yesterday in this city, in which he attempts to answer some of the attacks made upon the so called "Religion of Humanity."—*N. Y. World.*

The N. Y. *Times*, (radical) in speaking of the various schemes for plundering the Treasury, says:—"It is perfectly true that the Republicans have a majority in both Houses, and have the votes to stop this sort of stealing, if they wanted to. The inference is irresistable that they don't want to. Honesty is not one of the principles of the party—is never insisted on as a party measure."

WHIM WHAMS.

Sheridan gives the following humorous definition: Irishman—a machine for converting potatoes into human nature.

"Give me," said Herder to his son, as he lay in the parched weariness of his last illness, "a great thought, that I many quicken myself with it."

The old riddle, "Why is a bald man's head like Paradise?" being rehearsed to Lord Derby with its answer, "Because it is a bright and shining place, where there's no parting or deying," the Earl added, "And, thank goodness, where there are no more W(h)igs."

Riches, honors, and pleasures are the sweets which destroy the mind's appetite for its heavenly food; poverty, disgrace, and pain are the bitters which restore it.

"My son," said an old man, "beware of prejudices. They are like rats, and men's minds are like traps; prejudices get in easily, but it is doubtful if they ever get out."

He is the hardest laborer who drives the brain only; and he is the most reasonable worker who judiciously divides the responsibilities and duties between brain and muscle.

The *Standard* opposes "Imperialism," and glories in the present "Republican government," worked for the interest alone of the party it represents, and which does not regard the welfare of the people. Better "Imperialism" with some show of honesty, than despotism with a fiendish party to back it.—*Ib.*

Scotland Neck Railroad.—The charter for the Scotland Neck Railroad and Steamboat line to Weldon having been granted by the late Legislature, and signed by the Governor, we learn with pleasure that it is the intention of the people of the Scotland Neck section and along the line of the Roanoke to go to work at once, procuring the required stock.