

J. T. CROCKER, Editor.

ROTATION OF JUDGES.

In accordance with the amended constitution, the Judges of the Superior Court, will rotate. In fact, the requisite legislation for putting in operation this amendment has been had. According to the plan adopted we would have had Samuel W. Watts on this circuit, this time, but from some cause he has seen fit to resign. His action will throw the responsibility upon Gov. Vance of appointing some suitable person to fill the vacancy. Whoever the appointee may be he will enter upon his duties here on the 5th of next month. That Governor Vance will, in his appointment, be swayed by no influence, save competency for the position, we are satisfied. For a long series of years, we have complained that the republican party had prostituted the Judicial branch of our government to a partisan level. The soiling of the Judicial ermine is the greatest calamity that can befall any government. The judiciary should rise above party dirt and mire. It should be the custodian and guardian of the peoples fortunes and liberties. The people will look with great anxiety to the selection to be made by Gov. Vance, but we think we can assure them that his choice will be judicious in every sense of the word. We may expect a brand new Judge at our next term of the Superior Court. Greasy Sam has gone where the woodbine twineth, &c. *

The Editor of the Sun takes issue with Dr. Deems that Commodore Vanderbilt was a Christian. Dr. Deems says his last moments were happy, because Christ had tasted death, for him and was his redeemer, and that he could, "like a child lay his head upon the bosom of Jesus and go to sleep. To which the Sun responds, that he never had that reputation during life, and being a follower of the author of the saying, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God. He thinks his fortune would have been less had he followed his savior more singularly.

The Sun got no legacy, but that has nothing to do with his opinion. *

J. M. WELLS.

Now that the Republican managers find it necessary to give the Returning Board of Louisiana a character, they have all at once discovered that Wells, the President and directing spirit of that corrupt concern, is a maligned patriot, whose decisions deserve to take rank with the judgments of the Supreme Court. All the flagrant outrages, frauds, and forgeries which he committed or connived at are to them only proofs of his fitness for the trust which he has abused and perverted.

The full reports of his examination before the Congressional Committee furnish instructive reading, and show how disinterested this patriot is in doing the work of his employers. In the first place he gave his opinion as to the law by which he and his confederates have assumed to overthrow the popular will, expressed at the ballot box, in this way:

Blackburn—Do you believe the present law is the best law for the purpose?

Wells—I believe it is the best law which could be made.

The question affecting his personal interests brought out some striking facts, as follows:

Morrison—Had you any pecuniary interest involved to sway your action?

Wells—I have none.

Morrison—You have a claim against the Government unpaid?

Wells—The aggregate of the claims of my family, to the amount of about \$700,000, did not bias me in the least, [of course not].

McMahon—Do you hold any other office besides a member of the Returning Board?

Wells—I am Surveyor of the Port. My salary is on the average about \$3,500 a year. My son is my deputy.

McMahon—How do you get paid as member of the Returning Board?

Wells—There is no salary fixed. We get paid per diem and mileage.

Jenks—Do you not make out your bills for \$12 a day?

Wells—Don't know.

Jenks—What relation is Mr. Burgess to you?

Wells—He is my son-in-law.

Jenks—Was he appointed to any office?

Wells—Yes, sir; Tax Collector of Rapides parish.

Jenks—Was any other member of your family an officeholder in Rapides parish?

Wells—My son was appointed Clerk of the Court.

Nine years ago Gen. Sheridan forcibly ejected this man from the office of Governor because he personally knew him to be "dishonest and a political trickster." Now, he has a trumped-up claim for three-quarters of a million, mainly dependent upon the favor of partisan Commissioners appointed by Grant. He holds the Federal office of Surveyor of the Port of New Orleans, with a salary of \$4,500 a year by the Blue Book (not an "average of \$3,500 a year," as he swore before the committee). He also holds the State office of President of the Returning Board, with \$12 a day and mileage. His son, Levi Wells, is Special Deputy Surveyor of the Port of New Orleans, with a salary of \$2,500 a year. Another son is Clerk of the parish Court of Rapides, and a son-in-law is Collector of Taxes of the same parish. Between them a great deal of the people's money has passed into the pockets of both. That is one of the grievances of which they complain, and for which they have been visited with Wells's vengeance. In 1874 Wells counted out three Conservative members of the Legislature from this parish and returned three Republicans upon his own affidavit alone, alleging "intimidation," though he was not there at the election, and the Republican Supervisor had certified it to be fair, free, and peaceable in every respect.

This greedy, desperate, venal, and dishonest trickster, as Gen. Sheridan branded him in an official report to Secretary Stanton, now undertakes to decide the Presidential election by a fraud which has no parallel but his own previous infamies in the same line. With himself and his family billeted on the national and State treasuries, gorged with patronage which does not officially appear, and associated in jobbery with the crew of thieves who rule and ruin Louisiana, he is upheld by John Sherman and the other conspirators who are seeking to make Hayes President and to perpetuate their own power.—N. Y. Sun.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LOUISIANA BOARD.

Were the recent conduct and the final action of the Louisiana Returning Board honest or dishonest?

That is the simple but important question which is now on trial in this country.

This Board was indisputably and intensely partisan in its composition. It consisted of four members—two white and two colored men. The law creating it declared that it should consist of five members, and that men from each political party should be members. There was one vacancy, and, though having undisputed power to fill it, the Board refused either to appoint a Democrat to fill this vacancy or to appoint anybody. The Board thus made up deliberated and made its final decision in secret. It has refused, up to this time, to give the ways and methods by which its conclusions were reached. It threw out many thousands of Democratic ballots, and overthrew a popular majority for Tilden as President and Nicholls as Governor.

Surely here are suspicious circumstances in abundance. In the circumstances it was a crime in morals, if not in law, for this Board to refuse to fill the vacancy with a Democrat, and as the fruit of this crime has been found in possession of the Returning Board, the ordinary presumptions must apply. Further, if the testimony as to guilty intent be at all in equipoise between honesty and dishonestly, the previous personal character of the members must be inquired into.

Now, what manner of man was and is Wells, the Chairman of this Board? When by the law of 1867 Congress made Louisiana a military province under Sheridan as the department commander, Wells was Governor of the State, and Sheridan removed him from office by this order:

"HEADQUARTERS 5TH MIL. DIS., NEW ORLEANS, June 3, 1867."

"His Excellency the Governor of Louisiana, J. Madison Wells, having made himself an impediment to the faithful execution of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1867, by directly impeding the general in command in the faithful execution of the law, is hereby removed from the office of Governor of Louisiana, and Mr. Thomas H. Durant appointed thereto. Mr. Durant will be obeyed and respected accordingly."

"By command of Major General P. H. Sheridan."

"GEORGE L. HARTSUFF, Assistant Adjutant-General."

While Grant was General of the Army, and before he had become President, Sheridan, in reporting to him his action in Louisiana, said of Wells: "he has embarrassed me very much since I came into command, by

"his subterfuge and political chicanery. This necessary act will be approved by every class and shade of political opinion here. He has not one friend who is an honest man."

Not content with this, this same department commander Sheridan, in his report to Stanton, as Secretary of War, drew this picture of the present chief of the Louisiana Returning Board: "Wells's conduct as Governor had been notoriously corrupt. He had illegally appointed a board of levee commissioners, who were authorized to hold over by an Act of the Legislature, and a conflict of authority ensued, and in the mean time the Mississippi overflowed and great damage was done to property. There was an appropriation of \$4,000,000 made by the Legislature for repairs of the levees, and Wells wanted to 'finger some of this money.' General Sheridan, in a letter to Secretary Stanton, dated June 2, 1867, explaining the action in removing Wells, said: 'After the adjournment of the Legislature the Governor of the State appointed a Board of his own in violation of this Act, and made the acknowledgment in person that his object was to disburse the money in the interest of his own party by securing for it the vote of the employes at the time of the election. The Board continued in office, but the Legislature refused to turn over to the Governor's board, and each side appealed to me to sustain it, which I would not do. The question must then have gone to the courts, which, according to the Governor's judgment when he was appealing to me to be sustained, would require one year for decision. Meantime the State was overflowed. The levee boards were tied up by political chicanery, and nothing was done to relieve the poor people, now fed by the charity of the Government and charitable associations of the North. I say now, unequivocally, that Governor Wells is a political trickster and a dishonest man. I have seen him myself, when I first came to this command, turn out all of the Union men who had supported the Government, and put in their stead rebel soldiers, some of whom had not yet dropped their gray uniform. I have seen him again, during the July riot of 1866, skulk away where I could not find him a guard, instead of coming out as a manly representative of the State and joining those who were preserving the peace. I have watched him since, and his conduct has been as sinuous as the mark left in the dust by the movement of a snake. I say again that he is dishonest, and dishonesty is more than must be expected of me."

We commend this portrait to all candid Republicans, and ask them if they propose to cheat Mr. Tilden out of the office of President by indorsing the work done by such an instrument?

LETTER OF THANKS.—Mrs. Vance has addressed the following letter to the gentlemen in Philadelphia who sent to Dr. Worth the oil painting of the Governor, which painting was presented to Mrs. Vance on inauguration day by the gentleman to whom it was sent for that purpose:

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 6, '77. Messrs. Springs, Wheeler and others:

GENTLEMEN: Allow me to return to you my most hearty thanks for your very elegant offering, which was presented to me on the day of my husband's inauguration, by our worthy friend, Treasurer Worth, as a token of your high appreciation of my honored husband's efforts in behalf of our beloved old State. I trust the same spirit which prompted the donors may inspire the receiver in helping to uphold his hands in continuing to support a free and honest government.—I accept the portrait with the profoundest gratitude, and will ever cherish for each one of you the highest regard and consideration.

Very respectfully, your friend, H. N. E. VANCE.

Raleigh News.

The following is the substance of Grant's reply to Kellogg's demand for Federal interference to prevent Nichol's being inaugurated in Louisiana:

"There will be two inaugurations of Governors to-morrow unless one of them is prevented. I do not, however, propose to interfere with them. I have nothing before me to justify action in the way of recognizing either Governor and therefore cannot do so, particularly as a committee of each House of Congress is now engaged in investigating all the facts of the late elections, including the contests of the two Governors, and the two Legislatures, both claiming to be legally elected. Under these circumstances for me to recognize one or the other would be hardly justifiable and I have so informed Governor Kellogg."

Yesterday His Excellency, the Governor, sent to the Senate his appointments for the Board of Directors for the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, which were confirmed. The following named gentlemen constitute the Board: Dr. T. D. Hogg, Major Seaton Gales, Messrs. J. M. Betts, Chas. D. Heartt, Jas. J. Litchford, R. S. Tucker and John R. Williams.—Every one seemed well pleased with these appointments, and the general expression is that a better one could not have been made.—Observer.

RESOLUTIONS

Of respect to the memory of Mrs. G. W. REID, passed by Good Shepherd Lodge, No. 41, I. O. G. T.

WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father in His inscrutable wisdom to remove from our midst, since our last regular meeting, our much beloved sister, Mrs. GEORGE W. REID, who died at her husband's residence on Saturday, the 6th day of January, 1877. Therefore,

Resolved, That our deceased sister, who, from the very foundation of this Lodge, was one of its most active and useful members, and to whose kind and gentle influence we owe much of our present strength, had by her untiring zeal and energy, displayed in behalf of our beloved cause, endeared herself to all our hearts, and that we feel deeply the great loss we have sustained by her death. Our Lodge mourns the loss of an invaluable member, her husband a loving and devoted wife, her parents a dutiful and affectionate daughter, her children a kind, loving and indulgent mother, and her pastor and brethren and sisters of her church feel that an humble, consistent christian has been called to a better world above. In her brief illness she displayed constantly that patience and humble submission to the Divine will which is born only of a belief in and a reliance upon, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.

We acknowledge the Almighty wisdom and goodness, which has taken from us one whose loss we so deeply feel, and in our grief and sorrow, we bow to the will of an Allwise Providence, and humbly recognize the hand of Him, "who chasteneth whom he loveth."

To her bereaved husband and relatives we can but extend our deepest sympathies in this sad hour of affliction, and humbly pray that God in His infinite mercy and loving kindness may aid them to endure so bitter a trial.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Lodge, and that a copy be furnished the husband of the deceased, also, a copy to her parents and to her brother, W. P. Wood, and that the "RANDOLPH REGULATOR" be requested to publish the same.

J. E. WALKER, E. A. WILLIAMS, JAMES L. WINNINGHAM, Com. Mrs. LIZZIE E. WORTH, Miss A. E. MORING.

The N. C. Good Templar and the Raleigh Christian Advocate will please copy.

CREMATING THE QUEER.

AN IMMENSE AMOUNT TO BE DESTROYED AT WASHINGTON.

On the 27th of November the secretary of the treasury appointed a commission to make a complete schedule of and totally destroy all the counterfeit bonds, notes, fractional currency, coin plates, roll dies and apparatus designed to be used in counterfeiting the legal money of the United States, which have been captured during a period of about seven years. The commission have since been engaged in drawing up for future reference in the secret service division a complete schedule of the accumulations of the periods named. There are three hundred engraved plates, covering all denominations up to one hundred dollars, many of which, on comparison with genuine work, are quite equal to any engraved plates made by authority of the government. There are also about thirty rolls or dies for duplicating indefinitely any of the plates mentioned, as well as numerous die moulds for bogus coin. The counterfeit notes and currency which have accumulated within the period named are of all denominations, from the smallest fractional currency to notes of five hundred dollars, and a good many of these notes are such faithful imitations of the genuine notes issued by authority of law that experts have been deceived by them and the most careful Wall street tellers have been victimized, showing how extensive and artistic this particular branch of crime has been brought within the brief time since the issue of currency by the government was commenced. The total amount of spurious currency captured is \$900,000; and in gold, silver and nickel imitations, \$30,000. The whole mass will in a few days undergo a cremating process, which will quickly reduce it to ashes and relieve the treasury officials of a grave responsibility by placing it beyond the power of any one to purloin or use the counterfeits.

THE VANDERBILT ESTATE.—THE COMMODORE'S LEGACIES.—NO CONTEST OF THE WILL EXPECTED.—The report that some of the heirs of the Vanderbilt estate intended to dispute the validity of the old Commodore's will appears to be set at rest by the statements of Mr. William H. Vanderbilt to a Tribune reporter. Mr. Vanderbilt said that so far as he knew the will had given

en satisfaction to all concerned. He admitted that a large sum of money had been placed in his hands for the benefit of his father's old friends and servants, and added that his father always liked to distribute his charities in his own way. A few days before his death the Commodore said that he had already provided for many of his friends and relatives by private gifts of various sums, of \$10,000, \$20,000, or \$30,000, and he also made at that time several verbal bequests which would be attended to.

Mr. Vanderbilt also said that his father has long determined to found an asylum for railroad men broken down or disabled in his service, and that a site for such an institution would be selected as soon as possible. The work of building would begin soon afterward, and it was hoped that the benefits of the institution would be extended to men of all railroad lines crippled or worn out in service.

HOW HE WON HER AND HOW HE LOST HER.

We heard a joke on a certain party in this city which is too good to be lost, though of course we shall suppress names. It seems that the gentleman, who is a very worthy widower, had wisely come to the conclusion that "it is not well for man to be alone" and that a state of "single-blessedness" is anything else but agreeable in its realization, so he concluded to take unto himself a wife. The resolution was no sooner formed than he went to work to put it into execution at the earliest possible moment. He sought the lady of his choice, went through the usual preliminaries, propounded the important question, was accepted and was happy. An early day was fixed for the consummation of his earthly bliss, and he went straightway and purchased a fine turkey, got a No. 1 baker to fix up some choice cake, etceteras, and ordered the articles sent to the bride's residence. So far everything moved smoothly; but the day before the ceremony was to be performed which was to be made "Two souls with but a single thought, Two hearts that beat as one," he heard a whisper that something was wrong. It inspired him to investigate. He went to the office of Register of Deeds for that purpose. He sought for something which he fondly hoped he could not find; but, there it was, staring him boldly in the face! And what was it? Nothing more nor less than the duplicate of a marriage license issued to another party, with the name of his beloved figuring as the bride. He did not faint, neither did he rush headlong to the wharf and plunge into the raging Cape Fear, but he posted to the residence of his intended with the view of giving her "a piece of his mind" in reference to her inconstancy. Arriving at the house, however, fancy his feelings when he found that the marriage ceremony had already been performed, his turkey and other fixings having formed part and parcel of the marriage supper, and that the happy bride and groom had departed for the country, where his successful rival resides. This is but another demonstration of the Shakespearean maxim, that "the course of true love never did run smooth." W. J. Star.

THE BENNETT AFFAIR.—Philadelphia Jan. 11.—Information was received this morning that a startling and curious sequel to the May-Bennett duel would take place in the marriage of James Gordon Bennett and Miss May and their departure for Europe in the steamship Illinois, of the American line, sailing from Philadelphia. The Illinois got up steam early in the morning, and about 3.30 a carriage, driven violently down Christian street, attracted attention. A gentleman and a lady alighted therefrom and were soon on board. There is little doubt that the lady and the gentleman were James Gordon Bennett and Miss Caroline May, as they answered the description of both.—Special to N. Y. Tribune.

Philadelphia Jan. 11.—Dr. Pancoast returned from Maryland on Wednesday night. At clinic, next day, he explained to the students how he had performed an excellent work. A man had been wounded in the left arm by a pistol shot, which severed the artery; mortification set in, and he had been obliged to amputate the arm. A reporter visited the Jefferson Medical College to-night and learned that most of the students firmly believed that Dr. Pancoast had been called to attend May, and that he was wounded three or four days ago for mortification would not set in for a day or so after the wound had been made.—Baltimore Sun Special.

RALEIGH (N. C.) News: An infant died near Milton, lately, that was gifted with speech in the hour of its death. Its mother, a worthy farmer's wife, had just died and left it, a wee bit, helpless little baby, dependent on the bottle. Only a few months of age, it soon began to weaken and die; and in the fatal hour, when friends surrounded it, and the last grasp watched for, it lifted its little hands, and with its last breath cried, "My mother." This is no fancy sketch, but is the talk of the neighborhood.

A CARD.

JOHN A. BARRINGER, Esq., of the Greensboro Bar, and former partner of Mr. RALPH GORRELL, dec'd, will be in Asheville from the 12th of January until after February Court, and will visit Asheville from the 21st until the close of every succeeding month for the purpose of attending to professional business. Asheville, Jan. 17, 1877. 50:1f.

NOTICE.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 31st of this month, I will sell to the highest bidder, my property, consisting of 1 Yoke of Oxen, 2 Milch-Cows, 1 Heifer, 1 Wagon, 1 Buggy, 1 Set of Smith Tools. A lot of Corn, Bacon, Hay, Shucks and Straw, Farming Tools, Household and Kitchen Furniture, and other things not necessary to mention. Also, a lot of Wagon Timber, Spokes, &c. JAMES H. DUPREE, Jan. 13th, 1877. 50:2w.

1,000,000 FT DRY PINE LUMBER.

AT my Steam Mill, 3 1/2 miles South of Union Factory, I keep on hand and can fill orders promptly for FLOORING, CEILING, WEATHERBOARDS, AND WINDOW AND DOOR FACINGS. DRESSED LUMBER of the kinds named above kept always on hand. Twenty five percent of the cost of teaming saved by buying the Dressed Lumber. All persons wanting Lumber, will please address me or visit the mill. J. M. WORTH, Asheville, Feb. 2, 1876. nol:1f.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES.

JUST RECEIVING THE LARGEST STOCK. THE MOST Complete Assortment. AND THE NEWEST STYLES.

I DESIRE to inform my customers and the public generally, that I have just returned from the

Northern Markets,

with a large and desirable STOCK OF GOODS, bought very low, and will be sold the

Same Way.

My Stock will be found complete in EVERY DEPARTMENT. And you will be surprised after examining my Goods to know how low I can

SELL THEM. If you want good Goods and Cheap Goods come to

W. P. WOOD, Asheville, April 5, 1876. nol:1f.

NEW FALL AND WINTER GOODS AT WORTH & McALISTER'S.

THEY are now receiving a good assortment of DRESS GOODS, CALICOES, JEANS, Casimeres, Cottonades, NOTIONS, LADY'S & GENT'S HATS, AND READY-MADE CLOTHING, bought at

BOITOM PRICES, and which will be sold correspondingly low. Their Stock will be complete by the

MIDDLE OF OCT. and the public is invited to inspect and price before purchasing elsewhere. They continue to pay highest CASH & BARTER prices for all kinds of

Marketable Produce. Asheville, October 11th, 1876. 13:1f.

BLANKS For Sale at this Office.