

L. L. POLK, Editor

EDITORIAL BRIEFS

Upp. A. H. Stephens is hopelessly ill in Washington.

A car load of cotton was burned on Monday evening at Charlotte.

Col. E. R. Liles is on a short run home.

Hon. Ben Hill is elected to the U. S. Senate from Georgia.

The life of Col. S. H. Walkup was insured, we learn from the Monroe Dispatch, for \$5,000, and his family received the money last week.

Senator Liles has introduced a bill to aid the completion of the Salisbury & Cheraw Rail Road.

President Grant has signed the Electoral Bill, and sends in to Congress a congratulatory message, which is by far the best State paper that ever came from his pen.

And now, thank God! we have a prospect of a satisfactory and peaceful settlement of the Presidential question, which was pregnant with such perils to the institutions of our country. The breakers are past, and now with prosperous gales, may our old ship steer tranquilly and upspringly to the haven of prosperity and greatness!

BOUTWELL AND LOGAN.—"Soon the place that knows them now, will know them no more forever" and how grateful the American people should be that these two fomenters of strife, are consigned to that privacy, so richly merited by their traitorous conduct.

NORTH CAROLINA'S DEBTS.

The position of the Star has been often stated in regard to the indebtedness of North Carolina. We believe it is necessary to make some settlement, the very best that can be obtained under the circumstances. We believe that delay will only aggravate the disease—increase the difficulties. That part of the State debt that is unquestionably just cannot be avoided honorably, and some compromise should be effected if possible.

And this is not only the position of the STAR, and which the readers of that able Journal, have well known for the past several years, but it is the position of nine tenths of the tax payers of the State. The just and honest debts of North Carolina no one wishes to avoid—they want to pay all that they are able—but there is a certain class of State bonds held against us, that we are not legally nor morally bound for, and we are, and have ever been opposed to paying one dime of it. North Carolina, must and will pay her honest debts, so far as she may be able, the claims held against us, that are based in fraud, should not be paid, nor any part of them. And we believe that this position as held by the STAR, and advocated by the ANSONIAN since its establishment, IS THE POSITION OF THE PEOPLE. But by all means let the question be met, and settled in some manner, for in its present shape, it is a clog to progress in all branches of industry.

THERE NOW!

Doubtless Morton, Baine, Dix & Co., are greatly strengthened in their antagonism to the Electoral Bill, as passed by Congress, especially so in regard to their arguments as to its constitutionality, when they see that in the debate on resolutions in our Legislature endorsing that Bill, the great negro jurist, Moore of New Hanover, opposed it, because he doubted its constitutionality, Conkling, Bayard, Lamar and Trumbull, stand aside. Webster and Gilhoun were sometimes slow in reaching decisions on questions of

Constitutional law, but in this day of "progress and intellectual development," we can go to any little village in the South and find negroes by the score, who "are perfectly at home" in discussing these little matters. Moore was right—he didn't look at it as a peace measure—he liked it in many respects, but then its unconstitutionality—he couldn't stand that!

THE PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT—AND THE AGRICULTURAL STATION.

In view of the vast importance of these subjects, and which is sufficiently appreciated by His Excellency Gov. Vance, to have been given a very prominent place in his late message to the Legislature, it is to us, a matter of profound regret, if not surprise that it should receive so little attention by the Press of the State. No question of greater moment or magnitude, to our people, or of more lasting importance to our posterity, could employ the time and serious attention of our Legislators and public Journalists, than the great, overshadowing question: HOW SHALL WE BEST PROMOTE, AND ADVANCE THE MATERIAL INTERESTS OF OUR STATE?

And the action of our Legislature in organizing and establishing the Department of Agriculture, will indicate somewhat the interest and sentiment of our people, in regard to it, and that action will be more or less shaped and governed, by the weight of that interest as brought to bear on that body, through the medium of the Press. Can we not for a week or two, at least, allow Congress to take care of our interests in the Presidential contest, and devote some little thought and space to the consideration to this pressing and vitally important North Carolina, home interest.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—THE STATE GRANGE.

It was at the instance of the State Grange, that the clause, adopted, as an Amendment to the Constitution, making it obligatory on the Legislature to establish a Department of Agriculture, was incorporated by the Convention. It was the deep and pervading feeling, for the necessity of such an institution, among the masses of the people, that prompted the recommendation of the Grange.

And lest its importance might not be recognized, by its adoption, as a requirement of the fundamental law, the Grange, at its last session, in Greensboro, inaugurated steps, looking to its establishment and management, by that Order, and which will be brought before the meeting, next week in Goldsboro, for further consideration. Active, intelligent, prominent members of the Order, have become deeply and favorably interested in a plan, the outlines of which were laid before them at the last meeting, and which will doubtless be adopted, unless the one adopted by the Legislature, should supercede the necessity for action. The plan proposed, contemplates the establishment of permanent Head Quarters for the State Grange, at some central and accessible point and in connection therewith, a Patron's State Museum, for the collection and Exhibition of specimens of the Agricultural and geological wealth of the State—a land agency—an organ &c., &c.

The thinking, enterprising, progressive men of that order believe that the time has arrived when our highest interests DEMAND, an earnest, PRACTICAL MOVEMENT, founded on comprehensive, enterprising, statesmanlike, practical, com-

monsense views; for the development of our resources, and the general advancement of all our material interests. We must have a better labor system—a more elevated standard in agricultural pursuits—an influx of capital and immigration, and acting on these convictions, that body, will doubtless, give the matter careful and earnest thought, in its deliberations, next week. And it is to be greatly hoped, that should the Legislature, prior to the adjournment of the Grange, mature a plan for the organization of the Department, that it will at least give us the benefit of seeing it, to the end that whatever action may be taken will be in harmony with theirs. Of one thing we feel assured, and that is, that the proposition to connect the STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, with the STATE UNIVERSITY, will not meet the approval, or sanction of the people, for the simple reason, that the connection of that office with the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, is positively indispensable to a successful prosecution of the work which it must do, if it be of any material advantage to the State.

GONE TO HIS REWARD.

Capt. Thos. Settle an obscure individual, has gone down to Florida, to rusticate in the land of flowers. Ah! Captain, Gov. Vance, told you, when you resigned your seat on the Supreme Court bench, that there was "walking ahead of you."

Our consistent, and appreciative President, saw how hard the Captain labored, to show up Gov. Vance through the garbled letters, and now he has rewarded him with an appointment, as District Judge, for Florida.

GEORGIA AND AGRICULTURE.—The Empire State of the South is wide awake where her agricultural interests are concerned. She has an active, efficient, working State Grange; a chartered company engaged in Direct Trade; a Geological department employing one chief and six assistants at an annual cost of \$15,000; an Entomological Department with an annual appropriation of \$13,000. Some of our peacypone economists would go into convulsions over such extravagance. But the Georgia State bonds are at par and ours are at the price of wrapping paper. Her rail stock is from 115 to 120. Ours at 10 cents and upwards or downwards as the case may be. The State that fosters its agricultural interest will be rich.—The State that neglects its will become poor and poorer.—Southern Home.

We heartily commend the above, to the prayerful consideration of our law makers in Raleigh. When WILL North Carolina realize her great necessities?

SAD ACCIDENT.—In Greenville county, S. C., on Thursday morning, the 2nd inst., while a party of young men were out hunting, Mr. W. O. Hampton commenced loading his double-barreled gun—one barrel being loaded—when the gun went off, the load entering his temple, and taking off half his skull—killing him instantly. The deceased was a son of Mr. S. H. and Mrs. Abigail Hampton of Jamestown, and brother to Mr. J. M. Hampton, who is known by a great many of our readers.—Hickory Press.

Good. Beecher lectured in Richmond and only five or six females attended. But, we regret to say, there were five or six hundred men whose prurient curiosity and unhealthy taste led them to patronize the leachorous old fellow.—Will Star.

On the 19th, in the House, the resolution to remove the political disabilities of Wm. W. Holden, was taken up. Mr. Rose moved to lay the resolution on the table in accordance with the unfavorable report of the Judiciary Committee. The yeas and nays were called and the motion to table prevailed by a vote of yeas 57, nays 26. [A strict party vote, with the exception of Mr. Austin of Union, who voted no.]

The bill to incorporate the town of Griffinsville, Union county, passed its several readings.

TAR DROPS.

Ral Observer. The Governor's Private Secretary yesterday issued the commission for the newly appointed members of the Penitentiary Board Directors. We may now look for a cleaning out of that institution.

Ral Observer. A colored woman cooking for a family living near the old cemetery on Hargett street had a terrible time yesterday morning. While at work her clothes caught fire, and filled with the thoughts of a death by fire she ran blazing to a hoghead of water in the yard, and climbed to the top and plunged head-foremost into the water. The fire was extinguished, but a worse death stared the poor woman in the face when she found herself unable to turn in the tank. Had not assistance been at hand she would have escaped being burned only by a death from drowning.

MONEY.—Some people in this section of country have plenty of money. By the published statements of the four National Banks of Charlotte, this week, we learn that there are one million one hundred and twelve thousand three hundred and twenty-one dollars and two cents on deposit in the Banks of this city. Trade is bound to follow capital and capital will control trade, although there may be and will be seasons of depression and dullness. Charlotte is the money-centre and will be the trading centre of the South.—Char Democrat.

Ral Observer. The great change which presents itself upon entering the Superior Court room is remarkable. When Sam Watts was playing Judge, there was no dignity, no order or intelligence on the bench, and confusion pervaded everything. Now the strictest order and decorum reign, and that dignity and intelligence which should always fill the exalted position of a just Judge is found in the person of Judge David Schenck, who is presiding over the special term of our Superior Court. The officers of the Court and the attorneys at the bar are well pleased with Judge Schenck.

PER DEE MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—We were shown a number of samples of checked and striped cotton goods just from the Pee Dee Manufacturing Company at Rockingham, Richmond county, which for elegance of finish and strength of fabric, cannot be excelled by any similar goods of the kind that we have seen. The factory has only been in operation for a few months, and is under the management of Mr. R. L. Steele. It deserves success, and with a continuance of such work as was shown us, we have no doubt but that it will prove remunerative to its stockholders. Such institutions are beneficial to our people, and are a credit to our State, and we wish them all the most abundant success.—Char Observer.

A COWARDLY MURDER.—On Friday night a dastardly and cowardly murder was committed in the edge of Union county near Providence township in this county. Mr. Jeff Dunn, a well known citizen, was out in his barn lot attending to the feeding of his stock, when some one approached and calling him asked if that was Jeff Dunn. Upon being informed that it was, he made some inquiry about the distance of some point in the neighborhood. Mr. Dunn, with the view of giving him the information desired, climbed over the fence, and walked towards the individual. As he approached he discovered a man disguised by having a piece of cloth tied about his face and head and pointing a gun towards him. He made a sudden leap aside, but the unknown individual fired, and the entire load of shot entered his body near the waist and passed through. As soon as he fell the man left. Mr. Dunn lived long enough to relate the above facts. In reply to questions, he said that he had not the slightest idea who the individual was, and could not tell whether he was white or black, and that he was not aware that he had an enemy in the neighborhood. The community are utterly at a loss to know who the guilty party is, and thus far no traces of the individual answering the description have been heard of.—Char Observer.

CHERAW & SALISBURY RAILROAD.—The Wadeboro Herald, of Wednesday says: "At a meeting of the citizens of Wadeboro and surrounding country, held at the Court House yesterday, a committee was appointed to visit Charleston, S. C., for the purpose of stirring the business men of that city to a practical interest and aid of this road, and securing their co-operation and aid. A resolution was also adopted in structing our representatives in the Legislature to introduce a resolution during the present term, asking aid from the State in the employment of seventy-five convicts to work on the road."

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