

W. P. CANADAY, Editor and Proprietor. WILMINGTON, N. C. FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 1, 1878.

The State of Maine has presented to the government collection of statistics, in the old Hall of Representatives, the statue of William King, the first Governor of Maine.

The Dardanelles is about forty miles in length, and is from three-fourths of a mile to two miles wide. Xerxes crossed the channel on a double bridge of boats B. C. 480, and Alexander crossed it B. C. 331. Gallipoli on the peninsula which forms the western boundary of the straits, has a population of about 25,000.

From the first, the Chinese held a very correct notion with regard to money. They recognized it simply as an instrument to further exchange, and not as being in itself wealth. "Money," says one writer, "is an object that in time of famine cannot feed us, in a time of cold cannot clothe us, but, coming to the service of all occupations, all sorts of precious things may be secured by it."

The number of books in the Congressional library, as shown by enumeration made Jan. 1, is 351,118 volumes, and there are about 110,000 pamphlets. About 10,000 volumes of the books belong to the law department of the library. The increase of books during the year has been over 20,000, and of pamphlets over 40,000. Of the books 7,582 came by purchase, \$3,552 by copyright, and 2,231 from Smithsonian Institution.

The passage of Senator Matthews' resolution, declaring it to be the right of the government to pay the principal and interest of the bonds in silver, by a vote of 43 to 22, must be taken as an indication that a silver bill, requiring the signatures of the President, would pass over his veto. But it is not exactly certain. Some Senators who voted to endorse a mere opinion might not choose at this time to embody that opinion in the form of a law. If the minority can command 20 votes against a bill the veto of the President will stand, if he gives it. Into these narrow straits is the fat of the silver dollar pushed.

THE CRISIS BETWEEN RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

Things have come to such a pass that undoubtedly Turkey lies at the mercy of Russia. There appears to be no serious obstruction to the progress of the armies of the Czar to the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus and the occupation of Constantinople, if Russia is left without interference from the other nations of Europe. It appears that the two more important nations, Germany and Austria, are not disposed to embarrass Russia in the accomplishment of its purposes, as far as they are developed, but England is restive—at least its present ministry is restive. But the English Cabinet is not entirely united on the Turkish question, nor are the English people.

When it was found that the Russians were approaching Gallipoli, a point which would give them the control of the Dardanelles, Lord Beaconsfield, the Premier, and all but two of the Cabinet, voted to order forces there. The order is understood to have been countermanded on the protest of Lord Carnarvon and Lord Derby, and the Cabinet are now awaiting the result of the armistice. What is to be that result seems a little uncertain, although it is stated that the Turkish envoys have accepted the terms of Russia, which are substantially as follows:

1. Servia to be independent without compensation; Montenegro to receive Autavari, Nicosia, and Spuz, and a portion of the territory bordering on Lake Scutari; Russia to hold Batouma, Kars and Bazarum until a war indemnity of £20,000,000 is paid; the Dardanelles to be opened to Russian men-of-war; Bulgarian autonomy to be conceded, and Turkey to nominate a Christian Governor for a long term of years, subject to ratification by the powers; Romania to be independent; Bulgaria not understood to include Thracia; part of the Russian army to embark at Constantinople for their return home, and the final treaty of peace to be signed at Constantinople by the Grand Duke Nicholas.

The London Post publishes the following as an official version of the preliminary conditions of peace: 1. First—Autonomy for Bulgaria (boundaries not defined) under a Governor, to be appointed according to the stipulations of the Constantinople conference, the Turkish military forces to be withdrawn to certain localities to be determined upon. 2. Second—The independence of Roumania, with compensation for territory near the mouths of the Danube, which she will make over to Russia. 3. Third—Local autonomy for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the independence of Serbia with territorial rectification. [This "rectification" of the Servian frontier may mean the transfer of Little

Zemnik to Servia, but in deference to Austria and the other powers, the question is left quite open. Fourth—Agreement for the Montenegro on the basis of the status quo post bellum, subject to the approval of the powers. Fifth—The cession of Batouma and payment of indemnity in money, territory or some equivalent to be determined upon. Finally, the Sultan to undertake to consider how to protect Russian interests in the passage of the Dardanelles. The Agency Basse, contradicts the rumors that the Russians are marching on Gallipoli, and that the peace conditions contain a special arrangement relative to the Suez Canal.

SUBSIDIES DEFEATED.

On the 28th of January in the House the resolution below, offered by Mr. Baker, of Indiana, came to a call of the year and was passed by a vote of 174 yeas to 87 nays. The resolution is as follows:

"That in the judgment of the House, no subsidies in money, bonds, public land, interests, or by pledge of public credit, should be granted or requested by Congress to associations or corporations engaged in, or proposing to engage in, public or private enterprises; but that all appropriations sought to be made to such amount and purposes only as shall be imperatively demanded by the public service."

Gen. Stokes was the only one of our delegation who voted for the resolution. In this we believe he came nearer expressing the will of the majority of the people of this State than the other seven did. For, if the subsidies which are now at the doors of Congress demanding consideration were to be granted they would nearly if not quite double the present national debt. We do not believe that our people are prepared to assent to such a monstrous addition to our national obligations. The chances are that the legislation of the present session will, unless checked, greatly impair the public credit by diminishing the revenue. In what condition are we to double our national obligations when there is a possibility even of such a diminution of the revenue already as will leave a deficiency?

We hope, however, that such a construction will not be put on Mr. Baker's resolution as to prevent the continuance of such guarantees as have been already granted, and from which the country is a gainer instead of a loser. There are several enterprises which would come under this head, the chief of which is the North Pacific, which simply asks an extension of the time for completing its road. In any instance where the government would gain under and lose nothing by renewing or extending privileges already granted, there ought to be an exception to what might be a strict construction of this late declaration of the House.

MR. LAMAR'S SPEECH.

The very able speech of Senator Lamar on the Matthews silver resolution closed with patriotic and noble words. Mr. Lamar considered at great length the present relation of the south to the Government, and reviewed its past history as a portion of the Federal Union, and in conclusion said:

"Mr. President, by a policy which is a necessity in this intricate country, we have come to mingle with the representatives from the States of this Union in a common council for the good of this country. We come no longer as representatives of the capital interests of the South. We come not as allies of the laboring men of the North, but as laborers ourselves. Every one of us and all of our constituents, taught the stern lesson of the necessity of earning our subsistence by the sweat of our brows. But, sir, we come with our convictions unchanged as to the necessity of the laboring class being protected in all their rights and in all their interests, for when they sink the social fabric of society may sink and crumble with them. But we come believing that they are honest, that they are patient, that they are self-reliant and true to their obligations, and that what is their duty to do they will feel it to their interest to do. We have differed upon this great question; but of one thing the world may be assured—that no southern Senator representing a southern people will give a vote upon the one side or the other which is not designed to protect the laboring classes of this country alike with its capital, or on the other, that will not preserve unimpaired the sacred honor of America." [Applause in the galleries.]

Lawlessness in Kentucky.

The acquittal of Grove Kennedy, who is known to have killed eight or ten men, and who has been in a score or more shooting affrays, seems to have given lawlessness a new impulse in the region of Lexington, Ky. A week ago, one Silver was hanged by a mob on suspicion of having knowledge of a murder, and on Wednesday next three colored men, who were similarly suspected, were hanged, two of them being hanged and the third being shot in his home, and in the presence of his wife. This happened in the heart of the famous blue grass country, in which there are churches and courts and offices of so-called justice.

Alligator skins.

A single firm in New York City purchases as many as five thousand skins annually. They employ men to pursue the reptile in the bayous of the Mississippi River; and the work is usually done at night by the aid of lanterns, the light being aimed straight at the creature's eyes. This leads to the destruction of some animals, that are either too old or too young. A good size is eight or nine feet, counting nothing beyond the thick part of the tail. The market price for finished skins in New York is \$30 to \$15 per dozen. They are used in the manufacture of boots.

PALMETTO PURITY.

How Hamburg Massacre Butler Sold Out His Constituency—Reformers Need to be Reform—The Decadence of Chivalry, &c. (Condensed from the New York Times.)

Serious charges against Gen. M. C. Butler, now representing fraudulently the State of South Carolina in the United States Senate, have been developed and proved in a suit brought in New York by L. D. Childs and John P. Southern against William E. Everett and others. It appears that while he was a delegate to the "Tax-Payer's Convention," held in South Carolina in 1871, he entered into a contract with a party of speculators providing that he (Butler) was to receive 10 per cent. of all the profits on the sale of S. C. State bonds caused by the action of the said convention. The suit which developed Butler's venality was brought in the Supreme Court of New York.

The plaintiffs alleged that they and the defendants entered into an agreement, in April, 1871, for the purchase and sale of the bonds in question. The parties advanced various sums of money, and were, according to their compact, to share proportionately in the gains or losses that might result from the transaction. As luck would have it, the venture resulted in a loss, and the outstanding debts and liabilities having been, as alleged by the plaintiffs, paid by the latter, they sued for an accounting, &c. Everett, in his answer, made a general denial, and then went on to allege that on or about March 1, 1871, an agreement had been made between the parties to the action and M. C. Butler and M. W. Gary by which it was covenanted and agreed "that in consideration of and on condition that Butler and Gary would, by their personal influence or any other means they might employ, induce the convention then about to assemble at Columbia, in that State, to pass certain resolutions, the purport of which was then agreed upon by the parties, touching the financial condition of the State of South Carolina, which would produce the effect of enhancing the value of the bonds of said State in the market—at that time very low."

The following is a copy of the contract: OFFICE COURTNEY, EVERETT & CO., No. 83 PEARL STREET, NEW YORK, —, 187—. Whereas, the undersigned being desirous to take action to reinstate the value of the bonded debt of the State of South Carolina: It is hereby agreed that the undersigned to agree to pay to M. C. Butler and M. W. Gary 10 per cent. of the net gains that may arise from the purchase and sale of at least \$500,000 of said State bonds, the increase to be measured by the advance due from an endorsement of the public meeting to be held on or about the third day of May next, at Columbia, approving the payment in full of all the present bonded debt of the State, and agree to use their best efforts to that effect in consideration of said 10 per cent. aforesaid mentioned.

NEW YORK, April 17, '71. (Signed) W. E. EVERETT, L. D. CHILDS, J. B. PALMER, by L. D. Childs, J. P. SOUTHERN.

We accept the terms of the above agreement. (Signed) M. C. BUTLER, att'y, &c. M. W. GARY, att'y, &c.

The proceedings of the convention not only show how Butler and Gary did their 10 per cent. work, but, viewed in the light of the present disclosures, are in parts exceedingly ludicrous. Thus, on page 13 of the printed report of the proceedings, it appears that Butler nominated Gary for permanent President, and that the latter—apparently seeing that as presiding officer his chances of usefulness to the bond speculation would be curtailed—declined, saying that he was not there as an aspirant for any office, "but as a representative of the people of Edgefield."

He said that he had no ambition, and was unwilling that by the use of his name "the harmony of the convention should be disturbed." He concluded by remarking: "I do think, at a time like the present, when we are oppressed, we should present a united front; we should have no differences between us. Actuated by these feelings, I must decline the nomination."

Butler was elected as First Vice President. Almost immediately after the organization had been effected Butler introduced a resolution referring to the bonded debt of the State and calling for the appointment of a committee of eleven in regard to such debt. The committee, of which—as a matter of course—Butler was chairman, proceeded to duty. Gary was made Chairman of the Committee on Election and Suffrage Laws, and in speaking on the adoption of the report gave utterance to the following remarks, which show how well he and Butler knew the solemn character of the trust they were abusing:

"I would ask, why have I gathered together from all parts of the State? Why have the wise men of the State met in council? From the fact that taxes have been levied by the present Legislature which, in our impoverished condition, we are unable to pay. To say that these abuses of the Government have been effected by the Republican or Radical party would be unjust, for it would be a gross misnomer to dignify those now in power by any party name. They are known by all honest men, North, South, East and West, irrespective of party alliances, as thieves and

robbers; for they are not governed by, nor do they regard the principles and policy embodied in the platform of the Republican party. We have assembled, then, to take counsel against these abuses of power, to represent the intelligence and the tax-payers of South Carolina, and to enter a solemn protest against the past record of those in power."

Butler, with his committee of eleven, went to work with a will, and on May 12 presented, among other things, a report in regard to the bonded debt of the State. The grand total of such debt was set down at \$8,865,908.98. Besides this there were \$1,800,000 of bonds which had been pledged for a loan of \$300,000 of cash advances. The committee recommended that the Governor be requested to confer with the financial agent of the State and to telegraph to New York not to sell any more bonds of the State at less than 80 per cent.; that he be requested to proceed to New York and to make the most economical arrangement possible for holding the \$1,800,000 of bonds referred to until the limit of 80 per cent. became "attainable." The committee also recommended the application of a part of the \$1,800,000 of bonds in satisfaction of a part of a debt of \$994,000, of which \$744,000 were overdue and \$250,000 about to become due at that time. Then follows this very significant paragraph in the committee's report:

"It may be reasonably objected to these suggestions that the present market price of the bonds is only 65 per cent., while the calculations made proceeded on the basis of 80 per cent. for the bonds. But it is quite reasonable to expect that, upon this exhibition of the exact condition of the debt of the State, and upon the concurrence of his Excellency the Governor in the general course of arrangement, an immediate and considerable advance in the market value of the bonds, and greatly increased facilities for holding them off the market."

The resolutions which they recommended, and which were adopted, show conclusively, if any proof were wanting, how hard Butler tried to gain the 10 per cent. The first two of these are as follows:

Resolved, As the sense of this convention, that the bonded debt of the State, as described in the report of the committee of eleven of this body, is a valid debt, and that the honor and funds of the State are lawfully pledged for the redemption thereof.

Resolved, That the general plan for the arrangement of the funded debt, suggested by the committee; be recommended to the favorable consideration of his Excellency the Governor.

On reading this portrayal of the conduct of one of those "reformers" whom we are urged to believe God has sent in their transcendent purity to relieve an oppressed people from the machinations of scoundrel and carpet bag thieves, we can begin to have a little appreciation of the sublime virtues which now sway the destinies of these southern states.

South Carolina.

We copy the following communication from the *Inter Ocean*, published at Chicago:

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 16, 1878. The result of the recent elections in the three counties of Beaufort, Sumter and Georgetown, has opened wide the eyes of the bulldozing Democracy, which counted so confidently upon having its own way hereafter. Cuffies is not so thoroughly subdued as many of the people of the North have been led to believe. It is true that, as a general rule, the negroes are timid, docile, and tractable, easily managed when treated with decency and respect, but, when aroused to a sense of danger to their freedom and liberty, they are BOLD, FEARLESS AND AGGRESSIVE.

At the elections in 1876 many of them remained away from the polls because they were tired of the constant jangle of politics, and were ready to take any party that promised them protection in the enjoyment of their civil and political rights. The Republican party had controlled the State for nearly ten years, and, while it had done much to elevate and educate the colored race, it had failed to secure for them that protection from persecution which is the principal essential to a full enjoyment of civil or religious liberty. The dominant white race had shown no sympathy for the Republican party, and had thrown every obstacle in the way of its progress.

During every campaign since reconstruction scores of negroes have been whipped, abused, maltreated, and murdered because of their political opinions, and to be a Republican became to them a most expensive luxury and an exceedingly dangerous and hazardous pastime. They saw in these constant recurring struggles for political supremacy in the States nothing but danger and trouble for the black man. So long as it was apparent to them that their personal liberty was in danger, or that their political or civil rights were imperiled, no danger was great enough to deter them from going to the polls to deposit their ballots. But the constant appeals of their former masters, and the honeyed words of the glib-tongued politicians succeeded in allaying the fears of a sufficient number to induce them to keep away from the polls entirely, and thus give their political opponents at least one opportunity to prove their sincerity by acts and deeds.

THEIR FEARS WERE QUIPPED by specious promises, and their suspicions allayed by constant appeals to their recollections of the days of their youth "when we were children together and played on the lawn." "Give us one trial," said the Democrats, "and then, if we do not perform what we have promised, you can turn us out of power and go back to your old party. It is neither wonderful nor strange when one comes to realize what difficulties and dangers the poor colored man had to undergo, that he should be willing to trust, at least one time, with power those who promised him freedom from persecution, the full enjoyment of

civil and political rights, and the full protection of the laws, made alike for the government of the white and the black. They did trust the white Democracy, or at least a sufficient number did, to give them the election of Hampton by counting in all the fraudulent votes cast by Georgians, by South Carolinians, and by our own Democratic repeaters. There is no doubt whatever in the minds of the intelligent Republicans or Democrats in this State that thousands and thousands of fraudulent Democratic votes were polled; and another fact is quite as patent to all who reside here, and that is, that while a comparatively small number of negroes voted for Hampton, probably no more than there were whites who voted for Chamberlain, yet there were several thousands who did not vote at all. As I have already said, they were willing to trust Democracy once. Since that election some very important events have taken place, and the Democrats are beginning to arouse to a sense of their danger.

THREE IMPORTANT ELECTIONS.

have been held here during the past two months, viz., the counties of Beaufort, Sumter and Georgetown. Three strong negro counties, or rather three counties wherein the negroes are in great preponderance. In each of these counties the fight was a square one between the Republicans and Democrats, both parties putting forth their respective managers, and each county the negroes were voted solidly for their candidates, and elected them by majorities ranging from 1,000 to 5,000. Now, had the efforts to throw out ballot boxes, on account of alleged frauds (and all the managers were Democrats appointed by Houghton), the majorities were so overwhelming that this trick would not work. Whether the Democratic Legislature will attempt to keep out these newly elected members of trivial grounds remains to be seen. They were fairly elected, and are as much entitled to their places as any member in the present General Assembly, but right is not right here.

The charges of "fraud and irregularities" come with poor grace from a party which has sole and absolute control of the entire machinery of election. All the managers of election were appointed by the present Governor, and if Sambo in his ignorance can outwit his white antagonist, and succeed in committing "frauds and irregularities" upon the ballot-box in the very teeth of his watchful and suspicious Democratic foe, he is entitled to more consideration for shrewdness than has generally been accorded to him. The facts are, however, that the only "fraud and irregularities" practiced at all were those practiced by the Democrats in throwing out nearly 4,000 Republican votes from the Beaufort boxes, and in destroying the boxes in Sumter county, where large Republican majorities prevailed.

UNEXPECTED REAPPETITION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

In South Carolina may be found in the persecutions of leading Republicans by the State authorities, upon trumped up charges; the failure of the Democrats to keep faith with the negroes as was promised during the Hampton campaign; and the belief that if they were not voted their freedom and be remanded to a system of serfdom akin to chattel slavery. They regard the promises made to them in 1876 as having been basely violated; their trusted leaders have been persecuted to conviction, or driven from the State, and the President for whom they suffered so much during the last campaign has virtually betrayed them into the hands of their enemies. They still have unbounded faith in the Republican party, and will vote that ticket next time or perish in the attempt.

CURE OF SUGAR.

The cargo of sugar of the brig Mattie B. Russell, which arrived at this port a few days ago, was seized by United States Marshal Harlow, Brooklyn, yesterday, upon a process of libel entered against the cargo by the government for an alleged evasion of the duty due thereon. The cargo, which consists of 143 hogheads and 810 bags of sugar, is consigned to the firm of Maitland, Phillips & Co., of this city, and is to be bonded in the storehouse of Bartlett & Co. pending the settlement of the action. The sugar comes from Demerara, West Indies, and it is claimed is of a higher standard of colored sugar than is represented in the amount of duty paid thereon. The question of duties upon Demerara sugar is one which has recently been a subject of inquiry in the Customs Department, and a commission has recently been sent to the island named to investigate the subject. — *N. Y. Herald*.

Nearly a quarter of Scotland is owned by five men. They are the Duke of Athol, Argyle, Buccleugh, Sutherland and the Earl of Breadalbane—this peer being able to ride over a hundred miles in a straight line on his own land without coming in sight of a dwelling. Another quarter of Scotland is owned by twenty-four men, and it is estimated that 130,000,000 of acres are owned by 130,000 persons. The gradual absorbing of the domain of Great Britain by a few monopolists is apparent. When they control the land they control the tenants and so on. The Duke of Northumberland invests £20,000 every year in enlarging his freehold land. The Duke of Bedford has a park with a wall around it fourteen miles in extent. In this park some 30,000 persons could be well housed and comfortably, and the Duke, as a richer man, but no; the land monopolists don't like that.

The Educational Convention.

On the 6th of February a convention is called to meet in this city to discuss the educational interests of the South, and to aid in giving direction to the anticipated legislation of Congress this winter, devoting all the proceeds if possible to the sale of public lands to the cause of education. Professor Orr, the State School Commissioner, has been foremost in the work of calling the convention and of the selection of Atlanta as the place of meeting. A large attendance is promised, and great good must follow such a meeting. Hereafter the work of educating children is to engage the attention of the South as never before. — *Atlanta Republican*.

Ex-Secretary Chandler is visiting his son-in-law, Representative E. Hale, in Washington.

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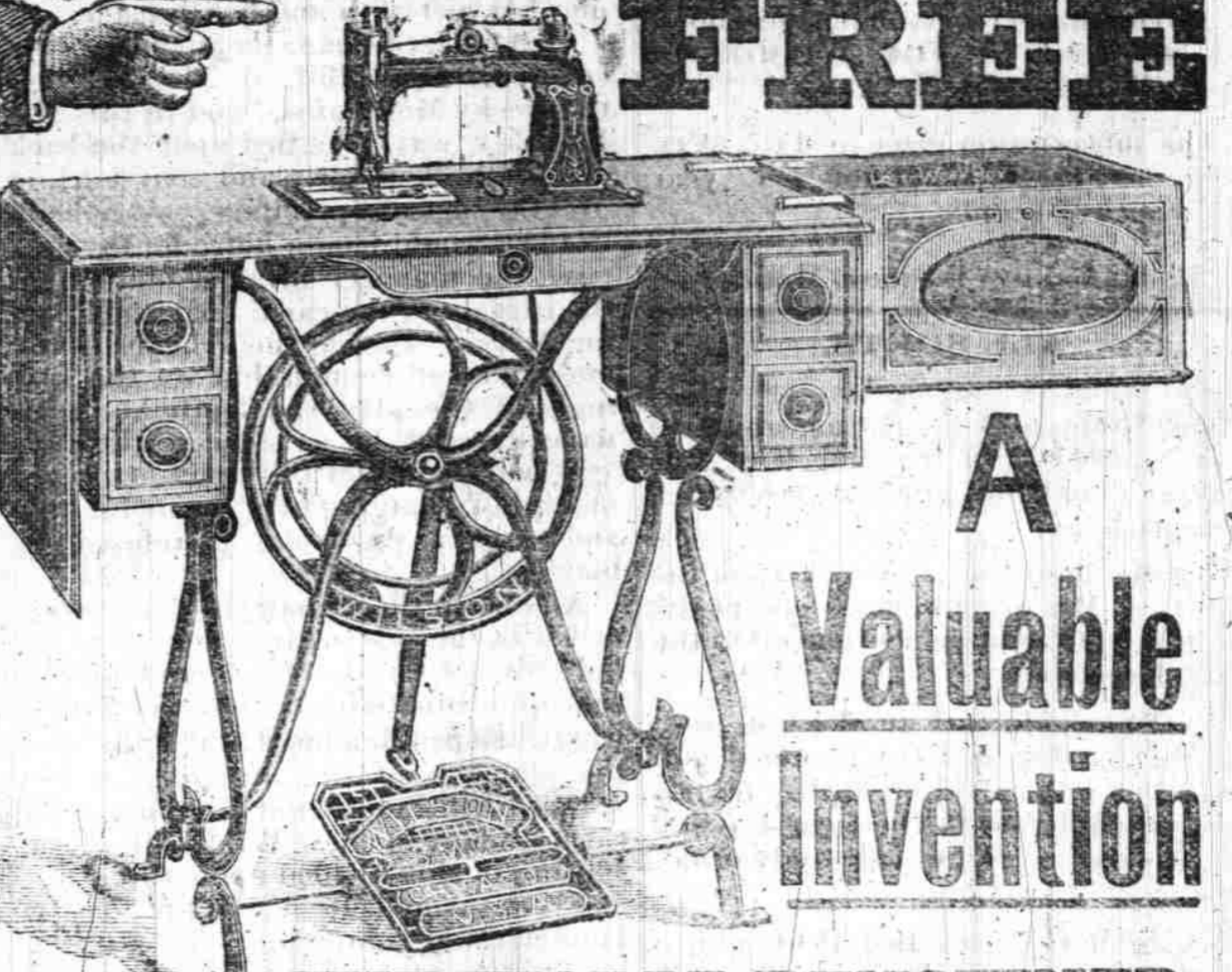
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