

The Wilmington Post.

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Political.
 Colorado Senator Chaffee declines a reelection, and the selection is doubtful.

The Chicago Labor Convention says: "Let the south understand the question perfectly."

There is not the slightest disposition in the north to prevent the able Democratic statesmen of South Carolina, or Louisiana, or Mississippi from gaining as many converts among the colored people as they can procure by fair means. Argument, entreaty, promises of eternal friendship, are all legitimate, and no one questions their perfect right to employ all of these.

What the north objects to is threats of violence to compel any man to vote contrary to his convictions or not to vote at all.

The Butler-Corbin Senatorial case is being agitated. Senator Cameron of Wisconsin, Chairman of the Sub-committee on the case has made a report which is a legal one and it decides that the fifty-nine members of the House of Representatives, who organized the House and voted for Corbin, were a majority of all the members chosen and constituted a quorum, the members from Edgefield and Laurens counties not holding certificates of election in accordance with the laws of the state. This House, acting with the unquestioned Senate, composed the legal Legislature, and by a legal proceeding elected Mr. Corbin United States Senator, and his election was in all respects valid.

Senator Furnside has reported the conclusions arrived at by the Joint Committee on the Reorganization of the Army. The abstract sent from Washington indicates several radical changes in the present organization of the Army. Gen. Sherman's plan of making the battalion the unit of the force has been adopted, and one battalion in each regiment of infantry, cavalry, and artillery is to remain unofficered and unmaned, but ready to be equipped whenever circumstances shall require. The reductions in the number of officers are large—333 being dispensed with. By consolidating the departments of Inspector-General and Adjutant-General, 6 officers are taken from the active list. In the Quartermaster's Department there is a reduction of 48 officers; in the Subsistence Department, 11; Pay Department, 27; Ordnance, 10; Bureau of Military Justice, 6; and Chaplains, 8. There is to be a consolidation of regiments, and the whole plan, if adopted, is to be worked out by a board, which must begin operations July 1, 1879, and finish during that year.

It has been brought to the attention of the President and the Attorney-General by eminently reliable authority in Louisiana that in that State "two hundred colored men have been whipped since the recent election, with the view of compelling them to testify before the grand jury of the parish of Ouachita that two well-known and esteemed white citizens, Republicans, had tried to instigate the colored people to rise against the whites." During the investigation just had of the preposterous charge by the grand jury, one of their number, who was familiar with the facts, compelled the witnesses to remove their clothes, when their backs were found to be crusted with scales, the result of recent whippings. Thereupon, with much reluctance and great trepidation, they (the witnesses) confessed to the whippings and threats of still greater punishment if they failed to testify as they were directed.

The white Republicans alluded to are natives of Louisiana, and men of high social and political standing, but have given mortal offence to their political enemies by advocating the Republican principles and denouncing Democratic outrages. Had the grand jury indicted them, as was intended, they would have been placed in jail and they mobbed and butchered, as the Coushatta prisoners were some time ago.

On the other hand, the fifty-seven members of the House who met in Carolina Hall, on account of the illegality of the title of the Edgefield and Laurens delegates to seats, lacked two of being a legal quorum. This illegal body acted with a body claiming to be the Senate, though having six less than a majority of that body, and proceeded to elect Butler United States Senator. The full legal Senate, with a legal quorum, never in any way recognized the illegal House. The report throughout supports the claim of Corbin and denies that of Butler; but it goes still further and takes the position that if all

be admitted that Butler claims for the Carolina Hall body—namely, that it was lawfully organized and had a legal quorum present—while this would invalidate Corbin's title, it would not make Butler's valid, since a single, isolated House of Representatives cannot by any process of reasoning be held to constitute the Legislature of South Carolina, and whether or not Corbin is elected, Butler has no shadow of a claim. Under this report, if the Senate cannot see its way clear to seat Corbin, it must certainly unseat Butler.

A correspondent of the N. Y. Times writing from Selma, Ala., says:—

"At the election in November, thousands of colored Republican voters in this State (with 16,000 Republican majority) were deprived of the right of voting for member of Congress, &c., most of the large Republican prospects Democratic officials secured possession of the ballot boxes, poll-books, &c., and kept themselves hid all day, thus preventing the opening of the polls. Thousands of colored voters remained around the polls throughout the day, waiting for their opening. But they waited in vain. The Democratic party has control of all the election machinery in this State. Democratic Judges appoint all the election managers; Democrats make up the returns, and Democratic Supervisors do the counting. In this large Republican district there was not one single Republican election official appointed. In the second District, which is very close, but which really has a fair Republican majority, the Greenbackers nominated a candidate in opposition to Herbert, the Democratic nominee and present member. The Republicans supported the Greenbacker as a choice of evils."

It was known throughout the State that Herbert's renomination gave great offence to the Democracy; that large numbers of white men in every county of the district publicly made known their determination to support Armstrong, the Greenback candidate. On the night of the election it was believed that Armstrong had been elected. The returns from the various counties footed up a fair majority for Armstrong. But the Democratic managers had the Supervisors of two counties, remote from the railroad, to hold back their returns until all the others were in. No efforts to get news from those two counties were successful. At last they came up with overwhelming majorities for Herbert—majorities so large that every just man in Alabama must admit that they are the result of fraud.

State Political.
 The *Chowan Gazette* is a good deal distressed at the waning strength of the Democratic party. It asks, significantly, "Are the people disgusted with both parties? Have they lost heart and interest in public affairs?" "It is evident that for some reason or other the Democracy is losing its hold upon the masses, and so is the Republican."

The fence law will probably become in a measure a political question in this State. If the legislature pass a fence law, they will make a great many people very mad. If they don't pass any law relating to that subject there will be a good deal of dissatisfaction. Fencing is a very expensive business, but it is common to all civilized countries. We hope no law will pass, preventing anybody from putting as many fences on his own land as he pleases.

X. X. Robbins is announced as a compromise candidate for U. S. Senator. "Let us have peace."

When the State Government was in the hands of the "Radicals" the Democratic whangdoody cry was "extravagance and turn 'em out!" and now the Democratic officials get 50 per cent, more pay than did the "Radicals" by taking the same salaries and decreased cost of living—the people meanwhile having no reduction of taxes, to pay which they are forced to sell the products of their labor at half what was obtained under "Radical rule."—*Stateville American*.

The travelling correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* favors us with this item:

Judge Settle, now of Florida, formerly of this State, is spoken of as the nominee for Vice-President on the Republican ticket. The Republicans think that Grant and Settle would carry North Carolina and Florida. Judge Settle spent the summer with his family at Redville in this State, and is still there. I saw him a few days ago, and spoke of the political outlook. The Judge believes in strong Government, and will gladly play left hand to Grant's right.

Some of the Democratic papers in this State have taken occasion to praise in extravagant terms, a late decision made by Judge Bryan, United States District Judge for South Carolina, in which he says that a Deputy Marshal has no right to a transfer of his case from the state Courts to the United States Courts, unless the alleged act was done under color of his office. This is as it should be. But why should these papers refuse to praise in Judge Dick that which they seem to think so meritorious? Judge Dick has repeatedly decided the same question in the North State.

It is probable that Mr. Estlin, the present Senator from Louisiana, will be re-elected.

They are about building a pier in front of the Ocean House, at Long Branch, 551 feet long, and on which 100 quadrilles can be danced.

Business Prospects
 The Herald has sent a correspondent into different States to secure as far as possible information in regard to the prospects for coming business. He writes cheerfully from Hartford as follows:

There can be no question that the general condition of the State has undergone a decided improvement within the past few months—not rapid, but steady and sure. Manufacturers, farmers, all classes of employers, in fact, see brighter times ahead—not the flush days of before the panic, but more of the steady business of anti-bellum times. Recovering from the great depression of several years past they find contentment in more limited, but safer business, and small an ordinary amount of speculative profits—such profits as are fair with fixed standards of value, rather than those that might be reaped at the corresponding amount that might be lost in the fluctuations of the markets under the operations of an unstable currency.

While manufacturers and farmers may not have made any considerable profits last year they have certainly done better than in the two or three years past, and they are looking forward with confidence to the year to come.

The manufactories of metal goods, the silversmiths, of Meriden, brass works of Waterbury, bronzes and iron goods of New Britain, arms, carriages, &c., of New-Haven, woven fabrics of Rockville and elsewhere, the clock works of Bristol, Thomaston, &c., the hat business of the western, cotton and woollen industries of the eastern, and the silk business radiating to the smaller places from the great Olney focus, alike feel the impetus of better times. In illustration of this fact no better proofs can be given than condensed quotations from the daily press during the past three months and facts obtained through personal investigation.

He says that the general feeling in Connecticut is that the hard times are nearly if not quite at an end, and that henceforward manufactures of all kinds will improve; that real estate is gradually improving; that there are increased orders and sales of mechanical products; and that there is a general starting up and liveliness.

"Things do not look quite so well in Rhode Island, but there is a healthy and steady improvement. He says:—

Mr. Cameron is confident that the people are more hopeful now than they have been for a long time, and he predicts the speedy revival of all kinds of business. In common with others he believes that the result of the recent elections has had a great deal to do toward creating a degree of confidence in business circles. The people in Rhode Island, however, were not seriously disturbed in regard to the recent state elections, and they did not in the least predict the success of either Greenback or Democratic candidates for Congress or other important offices.

Current Matters.
 Stories remain not found yet.

Senator T.O. Howe, ex-Senator Matt Carpenter, and two or three others, are candidates for Senator Howe's place in Wisconsin.

A decision has just been rendered in St. Louis that the city cannot be held responsible for damages when a person is run over by fire apparatus while hastily answering an alarm.

It is only two years since Mme. Durand the French novelist who writes under the pseudonym of "Henri Greville," first became known to French readers, and at present her works of fiction number more than a dozen.

An American egg preserving company has been established at Shanghai for some time. The object is to preserve eggs in such a manner that they will be useful for cooking at any time and in any climate. The business is entirely export, chiefly to England.

"Tim," said the parson severely, "suppose that the Lord should call you just as an oath was on your lips?" "I shouldn't go," said Tim. "Ah! my friend," rejoined the preacher, "you could not escape. We must submit to His laws. We cannot escape the laws of nature." "Then, parson," said Tim, "will you make you put up those lightning rods?"—*Boston Transcript*.

The Princess Alice, daughter of Queen Victoria, died at Darmstadt on the 14th, of diphtheria. She was born in 1843, and married the Grand Duke of Hesse Darmstadt. The blinds are drawn in all the royal residences in London, and Windsor Castle. The Queen is at Windsor, and Dean Stanley has gone there. The flag on the Castle is at half-mast. The Queen though greatly grieved is not ill. This is the first death among the children of the present royal family.

Minister Kasson, in a letter to the Secretary of State, from Vienna, after speaking of the late reception of the Shah of Persia by the Emperor of Austria, says: "If the United States desired a commercial treaty with the Shah it is very probable a favorable one could now be obtained, which might be of special advantage to our cotton manufacturers and to some other branches of trade. The whole external trade of Persia is considered to amount annually to \$12,000,000 to \$20,000,000."

Latest News.
 Mr. Edmunds' electoral bill has passed the Senate.

There is great distress in Great Britain among the business men and the laboring classes, and meetings are being held in the great cities for relief.

The state Board of Censors have given the certificate to Kitchen for the second district, although the fellow was in a minority of 3000, on the actual vote. This is stealing a District.

Gov. Bogden has introduced a resolution in Congress to investigate certain revenue officers. He charges all sorts of things against these officers, but says the President won't take any notice of what he says.

The Senate has passed the House bill of \$450,000 to provide for the deficiency necessary to keep up the Postal Car Service as it existed Dec. 1st, 1878. The last provision will result in taking off several important mails.

The Senate committee under Blaine's resolution consist of Teller of Colorado, Cameron of Wisconsin, Kirkwood of Iowa, Hoar of Massachusetts, and McMillan of Minnesota. Mr. Hoar will probably be designated as Chairman.

A meeting of the southern Senators and members of Congress was held whereat eloquent speeches were made, and resolutions adopted in recognition of the aid rendered by the north to the south, during the affliction of the yellow fever.

Bayard Taylor the American Minister to Berlin has just died at his post of duty, at the age of 53. He was of such remarkable literary powers, and his productions were so voluminous and various, and his life so earnest and sincere, that we cannot now enter upon anything further than the mere announcement of his death.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs has amended the bill heretofore introduced by Mr. Harris of Massachusetts, providing for a board of assistants to the Secretary of the Navy. The board is to be composed of five Chiefs of Bureaus of the Navy Department and three line officers, together with two persons skilled in engineering and construction to be selected either from the navy or from civil life. Instead of appropriating \$3,000,000 for the reconstruction of the navy, the committee provides that the proceeds of the sale of condemned and worthless ships shall be applied to that purpose.

CITY ITEMS.
 The Criminal Court has adjourned.

See fourth page for Boatwright and McKoy's ad.

Mr. A. David is making new overcoats and furnishing hats for the police, in which they will appear on Christmas day.

Let none who are afflicted with chills and fever despond. Dr. Harter's Fever and Ague Specific is a sovereign remedy that has never yet failed to cure.

Mr. W. G. Fowler, formerly of this city, was knocked down by some ruffians, with a club, last week, at Mooresville in Iredell county, where he lived, and died on Friday morning.

George Fox, the commission, "Humpty Dumpty" died from paralysis attributable to the "flake white," laid upon the face for his comic makeup. Let ladies cultivate only the pink and white of health that follow the use of Dr. Harter's Liver Pills and Iron Tonic.

CITY ITEMS.
 Christmas is right at hand with its pleasures for the children and for older heads, with its hope, and germs, and sports and jollifications, and family gatherings, and religious ceremonies, we wish all our readers a "merry Christmas."

The entertainment at Tleston upper room given by the Thalian amateurs on Friday was charming. There were few persons in our city who are aware that we have a company in our city who can present light drama in such taste and excellence.

THE CITY DEBT.—A meeting of the citizens and tax payers and bondholders was held at the City Court Room on Thursday evening, to receive the report of their committee appointed to devise ways to manage our city debt. The report of the committee recommends a funding act to take up that part of the bonds due and soon to become due (about \$200,000), with interest at six per cent. The Mayor being in the chair, Mr. Henry Nutt moved to strike out that part of the report which recommended that the new funding bonds should be exempted from taxation upon which Major Stedman stated that a recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court prohibited any city from taxing its own bonds.

Upon this a lively debate sprang up in which some parts were sufficiently rambling and discursive to get rather beyond the city limits, and into the question, "money against labor."—Finally, however, Mr. Nutt's motion was carried, and Messrs M. Cronly, Donald McRae and James H. Chadbourne were appointed by the chair, as a committee in accordance with the third resolution of the report, which resolution is as follows:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the chairman, to whom shall be given in charge the drafting of the act and all matters pertaining thereto, until its final passage by both branches of the Legislature of this state.

LOCAL NOTICE.—The advertisement of Walters Importing Company, of Cincinnati, O., appears in this paper. They are large dealers and importers of foreign watches, and offer a bankrupt stock of watches, warranted one year for accurate time at only \$3 each. They are a reliable firm, and all that desire a good watch, for a small amount of money, should send to this firm and secure a good time-piece.

A very heavy storm of wind and rain opened upon us on Saturday morning, at daylight the wind stood about east and then swung around about to south, and a little after 12 a m went back to northeast, roaring and thundering, and back to the south west. The storm flag is up and the wind gauge is whirling at such speed that it was impossible to see it.

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.—This very creditable home Review conducted by Mrs. Cicero W. Harris, comes to our table this month full of interesting matter. The article on the "Botany of North Carolina," though lacking in completeness, contains a large amount of curious information. The writer, Dr. Hunter does not seem to be aware of the existence on the Cape Fear of the *Dioscorea Muscipula*, or "Venus Fly Trap," one of the rarest of plants, nor of the fact that there are descendants of William Bartram, the earliest of American botanists, now living on the Cape Fear in Bladen county.

The article on "Fort Barnwell by moonlight," by Judge Cantwell is short but pleasant. There is a lyric from Paul W. Hayne, one of our best lyric poets; and two acts of a drama which, while it takes the name of Eugene Aram, does not pretend to be that work dramatized, but whose defects of measure may be excused on account of its dramatic power.

CITY BRIEFS.—Mr. Henry R. Lane, heretofore the courteous clerk at the Empire House, on Monday took a similar position behind the counter of the Purcell House.—Col. J. R. Davis, formerly of the Purcell House, has taken the Emory House at Wehlon, where, we wager, you can hereafter get a good breakfast.—Three young men and a lad, went on a sail on Sunday down the river, when the boat capsized and they hung to her two hours, until they were relieved by the Douglas. Their names were, Geo. Barr, Rufus Skipper, William Wheeler, and W. Burke.—Hon. Geo. Davis will deliver an address for the benefit of the widow of Lieut. Benner of the Navy, who sacrificed his life in going to Memphis to relieve the sufferers from yellow fever.—Dugald Clark of Bladen, having been brought before U. S. Commissioner, Ed. Cantwell for selling tobacco without license, was discharged for want of evidence.—John Kooner, and his followers will appear on Christmas day, and likewise many horns and fire crackers.—Poor Mademoiselle Lotta got badly strangled here on account of the stupidity of her managers in putting the price of admission to high.—The subject of Geo. Davis's address is "An Episode in Cape Fear History."—The bar have done honor to the memory of the late Hon. Hugh Waddell by resolutions commemorative of his gallantry and his virtues, and by graceful funeral addresses by M. London Esq., and the Hon. Ed. Cantwell.—Col. Thomas D. Long was in the city last week on his official tour as Inspector of Post office Department, looking as vigorous as always.—The M. W. Grand Lodge of the F. and A. M. Masons (colored) met at Newberne last week to the number of 400, and transacted important business.—The flag of the British Vice-Consul was at half-mast on the day of the funeral obsequies to Princess Alice.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
READ.
 We stood at an open window
 Learning far over the hills,
 And if something hadn't happened
 We might have stood there still;
 But we reached for a banging shutter
 In a blinding northeast breeze,
 So our friends will have to be invited
 To join in the obsequies.

SATURDAY NEXT.
 and we stake our reputation on its being the grandest funeral they ever witnessed.

As he sits he scribes, and every time he strikes he slips his pencil wearily. We look to our "kind friends" to find out the meaning of the above. While they are doing so we will ask the following questions:

Have'n't we the ugliest and dirtiest store in the State?

Have'n't we the poorest stock of goods in Wilmington?

Have'n't we made prices much higher since we commenced?

Have'n't we been very unaccommodating and impolite to you?

Have'n't we charged you for all the goods delivered?

Have'n't we made a great many mistakes and refused to correct them when our situation was called thereat?

All of our friends who answer "yes" to the above questions will please not buy from us any more. Respectfully and truly,
 P. L. BRIDGERS & CO.

P. L. BRIDGERS & CO.
 In glancing over last Sunday's paper we regretted to notice the tact acknowledged by some of our brother grocers that we had taken away part of their trade, and making an appeal to the others not to leave them. We regret this exceedingly, especially as they were so kind and considerate about our coming to grief, but suppose, as we have determined to do the

SAINT CLAUSE.
WE CALL THE ATTENTION OF
 our friends and patrons that we have just received an additional assortment of fine Groceries,

Confectionaries,
 Candles,
 Nuts,
 Raisins,
 Apples,
 Oranges,
 Fig.,

Cocoanuts,
 Fine assorted Crackers, &c., &c.,
 Also a Large and Select assortment of Toys,
 And Christmas Goods,
 Things which will make the Little Folks Happy and the Old Folks Smile.

COOPER & Co.,
 No. 19, South Front street next door to George Myers.
 Dec. 21

LARGEST RETAIL GROCERY BUSINESS
 ever done in Wilmington, we will in the future have to keep from being so tender hearted, and CUT DOWN PRICES a little more.

THE BLOODY CHASM HAS BEEN BRIDGED OVER.
 THE LITTLE JOKERS are not quite gone.

A fine line of TOILET SOAPS received to-day, very low down.

THE OLD CAPE FEAR is flourishing and MATTELLE swimming.

We have been over and smothered that "Cape of Fear" (in five Havans it was but a stick) it would be best policy to stop turning the papers with our fine literary criticisms, as they have the tendency to keep prices very low, which we, of course, with all other good grocers, desire; only want enough left to pay for clerk's hire, store rent and taxes.

NOT PURITANICAL.

Although opposed to the drinking of Liquore, P. L. BRIDGERS & CO. are not puritanical enough to refuse to sell those who think no FIRST CLASS GIN TOBY STOUT can afford to be without; but they promise the ladies that they would never send out there was any on the premises, as it must be taken slow here to be drunk.

BUMGARDNER,
STUART'S DEW and
DURHAM OLD RYE
 received this week.

TRY OUR BUTTER AND LARD!
 The purest, oldest, and best CORN WHISKEY in the State, to be bought only at

THE PURCELL HOUSE
 HAD PASSED INTO THE HANDS OF the undersigned, has been newly furnished throughout, and as heretofore, will be run strictly as a

First-Class Hotel!
 Board reduced as follows: \$2.50 and \$3 per day; With Room, per month, \$5; Table Board, per month \$25.

Best of Wines, Liquors and Cigars
ALWAYS ON HAND AT
Regular City Prices.

We hope to see all the old patrons of the house and ALL THEIR FRIENDS, presenting them that no party shall be spared to please all.

Jan 15. COBE BROS. Proprietors.

P. L. BRIDGERS & CO'S.
 P. L. Bridgers & Co. have just received the most delicious of our own manufacture, prepared by a fellow grocer, who was not satisfied with the quality of his goods, they would never sell an amount of one of our Stouts having been in New York for many years.

Dec 21. P. L. B. & Co.

