

THE WILMINGTON POST.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, NOV. 30, 1883.

Who May be Pension Claim Agents.

Secretary Teller declines to make the order asked for by the Commissioner of Pensions—namely that only attorneys at law be allowed to appear before the department as pension claim agents—and he gives good reasons for his refusal.

But even if the Secretary had the authority, it would hardly be wise or expedient to exercise it. There are many capable and worthy agents who would be excluded from practice simply because they are not attorneys.

Protection to Garfield's Body. WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Col. A. F. Rockwell, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, in speaking of the guard in the cemetery where the late President Garfield is buried, said that he was not desirous of having a perpetual military force stationed there, as reported; but he thought the body should have the protection of some kind of guard until arrangements could be completed to effectually secure it.

Secretary of the N. C. Conference. In commenting on Judge Black well's testimony before the committee investigating the Danville butcher, the Philadelphia Press says: "If this does not directly confirm Gen. Mahone's statement that for days the poor victims were found dead in alleys, in warehouses, and under barns, it leads strong probability to it. The Democratic committee reported a few negroes left dead or wounded on the scene of the affray, but the number who were mortally wounded by the fire at the retreating negroes, without at once falling in their tracks, must have been considerable. No amount of whitewash or explanation can make the Danville affray anything else than an unprovoked butchery by whites of unoffending negroes."

The fact that the administration and the Republican party in congress respected the public demand that character services should count less than character and capacity in the selection of the minor officers under the government ought not to have been construed by the bourgeois of the south into any abatement of the popular determination to place above all other things the right of every citizen to an equal participation in the government through the ballot box.

A disinfectant introduced to the medical profession by the late Dr. Goulden has been used in London eight years. Half a drachm of nitrate of lead should be dissolved in one pint or more of boiling water, and two drachms of common salt in a bucket of water. Pour the two solutions together, and let the sediment subside. A cloth dipped in this and hung up in a room will sweeten a fetid atmosphere instantly, or the solution thrown down a drain or over a heap of rubbish will produce a like result. Clothing worn by a patient with infectious disease, or bed linen, can be put into this solution without injury to the material, thus destroying the risk of infection for those persons who wash the clothing. Although it is a strong poison taken internally, it does not injure the skin. A room could be scrubbed with the solution, and would be sweetened at once, by the process.

The Laws of Trade. "Twenty-three dollars for that 'ere stove!" she exclaimed, before a Wall Street man, as she held up her hands in horror. "Yes—in twenty-three." "But iron is down." "Yes." "I've seen in the papers during the last month where as many as six big iron companies have failed."

The act of putting a lead pencil to the tongue to wet it, just before writing, which is habitual with many people, is one of the oddities for which it is hard to give any reason—unless it began in the days when pencils were poorer than now, and was continued by example to the next generation. A lead pencil should never be wet. It hardens the lead and ruins the pencil. This fact is known to newspaper men and stenographers.

It is in the nature of popular movements that the bonds of authority are over-broken to burst into anarchy. The woods were full of hunters on Thanksgiving Day.

Longevity in Different States.

A student of the reports of the tenth census has compiled a table for the Boston Commonwealth, for the purpose of showing in what state or states one has the best chance for a long life. New Hampshire seems to him to be the favorite refuge of green old age, for he finds that one seventy-fourth of the inhabitants are at least eighty years old. The proportion among native white males is 1 to 80, but the environment in New Hampshire seems to have been even more favorable to the preservation of life in the other sex, for the proportion among native white females is 1 in 53. Other New England states do not contain quite so many old persons, the average proportion for the six being 1 in 131. Coming to New York, he finds that for one person who has reached the age of eighty, there are 161 who have not been so fortunate, and in the three Middle states the average proportion is 1 in 182. As he goes southward he discovers a greater preponderance of young blood, for in six South Atlantic states the average proportion is 1 in 203. The Gulf states afford a less attractive shelter for the average is 1 in 300. In Texas, where so many worthy persons die with their boots on in the prime of life, only one octogenarian can be found in a group of 377 citizens. The average rises again in the interior states east of the Mississippi, but in the Great Lake states it falls to 1 in 263, a good old age being attained with the greatest difficulty in the wealthy and prosperous state of Illinois. In seven states west of the Mississippi the aged rarely appear, for the average proportion is 1 in 453. In Iowa a crop of 341 persons yields only one who has reached the age of four score; in Minnesota, Nebraska and Kansas only one of these aged citizens can be found in a group that would yield two in Iowa, and in Colorado 1,150 must pass in review before an octogenarian comes in sight. The old are even more rare in Nevada, but in California and Oregon the proportion is nearly 1 in 500. If the inhabitants of the whole country could be assembled in two hundred and twenty-seven groups, it would be possible to place at the head of each group one patriarch of eighty or more years. So our student, assuming that long life is the inalienable right of those who reside in New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine, cries: "Pile to the mountains of New England for health and longevity!"

The Bed of an Eastern Prince.

Some time last year there was a wooden bedstead manufactured which was intended for the use of the King of Siam. It was fourteen feet wide and divided into three parts, the center part being raised about eighteen inches. This piece of furniture, being of such unusual dimensions, caused a slight sensation among all those who were permitted to examine it. But the bedstead made in Paris lately for an Indian Prince would draw thousands to see it if exhibited in New York, even if fancy prices were charged for admission. The bedstead is partly made of real silver, and cost many thousands of dollars. At each corner stands a beautifully modeled nude female figure, (six-foot high) holding a delicately constructed fan. Each figure is said to wear a wig of real hair. This is to be regularly "dressed" by the court barber once a week. On the great pedestal getting into bed the weight of his body sets certain machinery in motion, the effect of which is that so long as his royal highness enjoys his horizontal refreshment the silver maidens gently fan the sleeper. If the figures at the foot of the bed are required to exert themselves in a like manner, this can be accomplished by the aid of a clock-like apparatus. Moreover, should the dusky owner of the bed wish to be lulled to slumber by the dulcet sounds of soft music, this can be done by touching a spring. The bottom of the bed contains a large musical box which is so arranged that the tunes can be loud or soft as desired.

The Center of Population.

General Walker, Superintendent of the Census Bureau, has published a curious bulletin showing the position of the center of population since 1790. In 1790 it was eight miles west by south of Cincinnati, having moved west fifty-eight miles during the preceding decade. The following is the approximate location of important points from 1790: 1790. Twenty-three miles east of Baltimore. 1800. Eighteen miles west of Baltimore. 1810. Forty miles northwest by west of Washington. 1820. Sixteen miles north of Woodstock. 1830. Nineteen miles west by south west of Moorefield. 1840. Sixteen miles south of Clarksville. 1850. Twenty miles southeast of Parkersburg. 1860. Twenty miles south of Chillicothe. 1870. Forty miles east by north of Cincinnati. 1880. Eight miles west by south of Cincinnati.

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A member of a manufacturing firm that employs five hundred men told the Senate investigating committee that the knowledge he possessed he got by reading the newspapers, and not from books, and that by reading the papers he kept himself informed on the literature and current events of the day. Thousands of other prominent business men would make the same acknowledgment if questioned on the subject. The tendency of all literature is toward expansion, so the most industrious reader of books can scarcely in a lifetime become well informed; newspapers, on the contrary, condense nearly everything in as few words as possible. Were a student to attempt to give the political, social, religious and literary history of the world for a day he might do it in a far more elegant style than the newspapers, but his story would occupy the reader's time for at least a week. The newspaper is the true American university.

In the forthcoming report of Attorney General Brewster attention will be called to the unsatisfactory character of juries drawn from the citizens of the District of Columbia in cases of national importance. The attorney general will recommend that in all national cases like the star route trials, a list shall be made up by taking the names of two citizens from every state in the Union, and that panels shall be drawn from this list.

The effort of the bourbon to shift the responsibility of the Danville slaughter from their shoulders is as ridiculous as the attitude of the sheep-killing cur which whines in fear behind the feet of its master whenever it sees a lamb. Their cry that the negroes and the white readjusters were wholly at fault is ridiculously foolish and base, and they know it!—Loudoun Telephone.

Reliable Information Wanted.

We believe Editor Dana is a safe counselor, and we therefore ran to him for a little information. If the democrats are obliged to have the electoral vote of New York, and Mr. Tilden will not be a candidate, where is the man that can carry John Kelly?—Atlanta Constitution.

WILMINGTON MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various goods like turpentine, cotton, and other commodities. Includes columns for item names and prices.

10 1-16 cents per lb for Middling. The following were the official quotations: Ordinary 7 13-16 cts per lb Good Ordinary 9 1-16 " " Low Middling 9 11-16 " " Middling 10 1-16 " " Good Middling 10 5-16 " "

SPRITS TURPENTINE.—The market opened firm, with sales reported at 34 cents offered and 35 asked. ROSIN—Market firm at \$1 10 for Strained, and \$1 15 for Good Strained, with sales at quotations. TAR.—The market was firm at \$1 60 per bbl of 280 lbs, with sales at quotations. CRUDE TURPENTINE.—The market was steady, with sales reported at \$1 00 for Hard and \$2 00 for Yellow Dip and Virgin. COTTON.—Market firm, with sales reported of 400 bales on a basis of 10 cents per lb for Middling. The following were the official quotations: Ordinary 7 1/2 cts per lb Good Ordinary 9 " " Low Middling 9 1/2 " " Middling 10 " " Good Middling 10 1/2 " "

SPRITS TURPENTINE.—The market was opened dull at 34 cents per gallon, with no sales to report, closing at 33 1/2 cents bid, but held at 34. ROSIN.—The market was firm at \$1 15 for Strained and \$1 20 for Good Strained, with sales as offered. TAR.—The market was firm at \$1 70 per bbl of 280 lbs, with sales at quotations. CRUDE TURPENTINE.—Market steady, with sales reported at \$1 00 for Hard and \$2 00 for Yellow Dip and Virgin. COTTON.—The market was dull, with sales reported of 300 bales on a basis of 10 1-16 cents for Middling. The following were the official quotations: Ordinary 7 1/2 cts per lb Good Ordinary 9 1/2 " " Low Middling 9 1/2 " " Middling 10 " " Good Middling 10 1/2 " "

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ALYON & HEALY. Sole and Wholesale Agents. Dec. 17-19

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