

DAILY NEWS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1878.

Now is the winter of our discontent, made happy by the glorious sun of York-Trye, of Wilkes.

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Ben Hill has issued a vigorous address to the people of his State to the effect that he calls "Morphium in Georgia." The story is this: Marphy, a clerk in the State treasurer's office, received from interested parties \$5,000 for getting Governor Colquitt's indorsement of certain disputed railway bonds; Hill told the Governor, and expected him to discharge the clerk; instead he retained and defended him; and a legislative committee which Colquitt asked to investigate the affair has whitewashed him. The senator appeals to the people against condoning "Tweedism in its beginning," and it will be interesting to see whether they back up Colquitt or Hill.

THE RETRENCHMENT committee of the Massachusetts Legislature thus concludes its report: "But the committee would not recommend the change for the sake of saving, if, in their judgement, it would impair the quality of the service to be rendered. In our opinion the salaries recommended are not so small as to deter the 'best men in all the walks of life from accepting service in the Legislature, nor so large as to lead a temptation to unfit men to seek the office for the sake of the compensation. While 'we believe them to be just toward the State, we also consider them 'sufficient to enable the poorest as well 'as the richest to contribute his service to the public in this direction, if chosen to do so, for the limited notice of the year during which it is for the 'public interest that the Legislature 'should sit.'

Reduce Expenditures. Have the people been deluded by false promises? "The battle-cry in the last great campaign, when the Democratic party waved its victorious banner over our entire State, was 'Retrenchment and Reform,' so now, 'away and the white-winged dove of peace hovers over our beloved land, the legislative authority should see to it that the people have not been deluded by false promises, but that the 'fruits of their victory are substantial and beneficial.

"If hard times means anything, it 'teaches that all, both high and low, 'rich and poor should reduce expenditures a'nd out of extravagances, exercise 'self denials, and bend (not break) the 'back to the burden. That 'hard 'times' (so-called) is upon us, no

one will deny. But that the bright 'day dawn of prosperity will speedily 'follow this dark night of apparent 'adversity, if the Legislature will 'carry out in letter and in spirit the 'great principles proclaimed in 1876, 'no one can deny."

The People Will Submit no Longer. The Salisbury Watchman admonishes the Legislature not to trifle with the confidence of the people. The Watchman says:

"Tax-payer," in the Raleigh News "of the 11th January, brings forward 'the figures showing the expenses of 'the State Government before the war 'and now. If this important paper 'escaped the attention of members of 'the Legislature they should immedi-' 'ately obtain a copy of it. It will be 'a very serviceable document in the 'hands of our delegate Mr. Barringer, 'who so emphatically pledged him-' 'self to work for the reduction of 'public expenses and the taxes. There 'is an unaccountable difference be-' 'tween \$38,180 in the year 1860, and '\$75,315 in the year 1878. The ex-' 'penses of the State Capitol sprang up 'under the administration of the Rad-' 'ical party, but it remains to be shown 'that the Democratic party has done 'its whole duty in reducing them.

"We verily believe the fate of the 'Democratic party in this State hangs 'on the ability, wisdom and firmness 'of the present General Assembly in 'the performance of the work the peo-' 'ple are expecting them to do. They 'have submitted to disappointments 'therefore, but there is a limit to 'these things beyond which confidence 'is clean gone forever."

What "Everybody will want to know." Salisbury Watchman. In withdrawing from the Senatorial contest "we regret the Judge has seen fit to use ambiguous terms in this short note. A most every body will want to know what is meant by 'causes and influences have been brought to bear,' &c. To our mind it seems to be a very clear case of popular preference for Gov. Vance—simply that and nothing more—and as such fair and honorable to all, and terms of uncertain signification under the circumstances are unbecoming the Judge and disrespectful to the popular sense."

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