The News and Observer.

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RALEIGH, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 5, 1899.

AICE FIVE CENTS.

GIRGU ATION. DAILIES LEADS ALL NORTH GAROLINA

FEWER EMPLOYES

at Home.

ALL SALARIES REDUCED

ALL DEPARTMENTS ARE TO BE INVESTIGATED.

THE RESOLUTION PASSED LAST NIGHT

The Committee Will Probably be Appointed To-day. The Work Will be Thorough and Will Begin at Once.

Though the Legislature is only one day old, two facts may be put down as certain:

It will cut down the number of em ployes and otherwise reduce expenses. It will investigate the public institu tions and their conduct.

night in caucus.

members of House and Senate. It was called to order by Mr. W. B. Council, of Watauga, and Senator Thomas G. Skinner, of Hertford, was elected chairman. After considerable discussion over the matter of enrolling clerk, it was decided to repeal the act of 1897 providing for two enrolling clerks, one to be appointed by the presiding officer of the Senate and one by the Speaker of the House. The old law will be re-enacted providing for one clerk, and it was decided to elect E. B. Norvell, of Cherothe Senate nominee, for the posi-

The enrolling clerk matter settled, Mr. Prancis D. Winston, of Bertie, intro-duced the following resolution, provid-ing for an official investigation into the ffairs of the penitentiary and agricul-

"That it is the sense of this body that the public interests demand that an in-vestigation be had of the conduct of the various departments of our State gov-ernment, and especially the penitentiary management and the department of agriculture since January 1st, 1897."

The reading of this resolution was

greeted with applause, as was also the statement that the party was not to be bound by Russell's appointments, several speakers plainly amending that no quarter was to be shown in dealing with this matter.

Before the vote was taken, though, the following substitute was offered by Mr. D. H. McLean, of Harnett, ac-cepted by Mr. Winston and unanimously

"Whereas it has been charged by the press of the State and not authoritative-ly denied that various sums of money have been paid out of the State Trea ury as loans or advancements to some o public institutions of the State with out authority of law and that gross in regularities if not transactions of a graver type prevail in other branches of of these matters should be ascertained end that proper remedy be ap plied thereto; whereby the interests of the people shall be jealously guarded,

It is therefore the sense of this cau

cus that a thorough investigation be en-tered upon by the General Assembly of all the departments of the State, and that legislation to that end should be enacted t once if necessary."
The House caucus which met after the

joint caucus elected a steering committee composed of Lee S. Overman, of Rowan; E. J. Justice, of McDowell; D. H. Mc-Lean, of Harnett: George Rountree, of New Hanover; J. Frank Ray, of Macon Heriot Clarkson, of Mecklenburg, and W. B. Council, of Watauga.

The committee appointed at the caucus Tuesday night to fix the number of House employes, clerks and laborers, made the following report reducing the number of House employes 40 per cent and the salaries of those retained 20

per cent.

"That in view of the depressed price of all products and in keeping with the pledges made to the people, we recommend that the salaries paid all clerks assistant clerks, door-keepers and as sistant door-keepers, messengers. ers and all other persons employed by the House in any capacity, except as pages. paid during the session of 1897.

"We recommend that the number of persons to be employed now be fixed as

One principal clerk. "Two assistants to be selected as now provided by law. "Nine pages-one from each Congres

"One laborer to look after the water closets, to be appointed by the door keeper after consultation with th

Three laborers to be appointed by the door-keeper after consultation with

One laborer to look after the heat, to be appointed by the door-keeper.
"One messenger, to be appointed by the

Two assistants to the engrossin clerk, to be selected as now provided by

The committee making this report composed of Francis D. Winston, H. G. Connor, W. R. Allen, Locke Craig and T. J. Williams.

The report was adopted and the cau

be heartily endorsed by the people of North Carolina.

"The books will be unlocked." AND LESS PAY spoke a prominent Senator last night after the joint caucus of the Democratic Senators and Representatives in Com-

The House Begins Economy

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The Democratic Senators had caucused in the afternoon, and it had been the sense of the body that no time should be lost in going into a thorough investigation of the Penitentiary and perhaps of other institutions. In the joint caucus at night it was made clear that the institutions are night in the clear that the institutions are night in the clear that the institution of the clear that the investigation would be imme diate, sweeping and thorough. The investigation will begin at the top and go

to the bottom—to the bottom of the departments and of each department.

The Democratic administration of public affairs, when it begins, will begin with a clean bill of nealth. The fusion administration will have its workings sounded. istration will have its workings sounded and any rottenness that may exist or ha existed will be exposed. "The people will take a look at the books."

The ball will be set a-rolling in the Senate to-day when Senator J. A Brown, of the 15th district, will intro duce a resolution calling for the appoin ment of a joint committee to investigate The committee will be instructed to vestigate the management of all public institutions and of all the departments of State. There will be no discrimina tion. The penitentiary, the rotten man agement of which has been a steach in the nestrils for this many a day, wil not receive the exclusive attention o the committee. The opportunity will the other institutions and, if any reno vation is needed, to renovate.

There was no difference of opinion as These things were decided upon last to this. Senators and Representatives right in caucus.

The first caucus was a joint one of ly for it. Said one last night: "Our instructions from the people were imperative on this point. We were sent here to investigate the conduct of public affairs during the past two years as part of our work. We have no desire and no intention to shirk it. My under-standing of the matter is that the investigation is to be thorough and impar tial. I, for one, feel that to do less would be to violate the trust imposed in me by my constituents." Others spoke much to the same purpose.

Naturally, the personnel of the committee was not discussed at the join caucus last night. That will be taken up and determined after the joint rese lution has been put through the House and Senate, and the matter thus gotte into formal shape. Much interest wi attach to the make up of this com mittee, as it will be one of the mos attach important of the legislative session, and undoubtedly some of the ablest members of both Houses will be placed on it.

THE BANK OF GUILFORD

HE DOORS C OSED AND A RECEIVE ASK'D FOR.

He Will Wind up the Business. Bank Losing Money for Some Time. Depositors Will be Paid.

Greensboro, N. C., Jan. 4.—(Special.) closed its doors to-day. A notice was posted stating that by order of the diwind up the affairs of the bank. The bank has been losing money for som time, and the announcement caused no surprise. It is stated that deposits will be paid in full.

RETURNED AS FROM THE DEAD Coming of Ten American Sailors Given Up as Lost.

New York, Jan. 4.—The steamer Maa dam, of the Holland-American Line which arrived today from Rotterdam brought as passengers ten American sail ors who were sent by the United States Consul at Rotterdam, Mr. Listoe, They were the captains and crews of the ber schooner Bertram N. White and the coal-carrying schooner barge Quinnebaug The crews in each case, consisting of five men, were picked up at sea by an English sailing vessel and taken to Rot terdam. The men hailed from various ports of

he American seaboard and are American itizens. They proceeded to their homes The five men from the Quinnebau; eturned as from the grave, for since De cember 2d they have been reported These men have twice crossed the Atlantic and have undergone experiences they scarcely looked for when they shipped aboard the schooner barge Quinnebaug, bound from Norfolk Providence with 2,500 tons of coal aboard. In the storm of November 27th ast which created so much havoc among shipping the Quinnebaug, while in tow went adrift and reported to have sunk with all on board. This occurred off Scotland Lightship. At the same tim and in the same vicinity the Corsica and Helicon, barges in tow of the tug Luck-enback, also sank and the craw of the Corsica was lost. The Quinnebaug was built in 1877 in Philadelphia and was 970 tons register. Her home is New Yo She left Norfolk on November 23d.

The captain and crew of the schooner Bertram N. White were picked up by British steamer Eric on December 2d last and taken to Holland. The schooner was abandoned on that when about 350 miles southwest of thi She was bound from Jacksonville to Philadelphia. She was built in 1892 and was 392 tons and her home port wa Ionesport, Maine.

HOBART CONFINED WITH GRIP

Washington, Jan. 4.-Vice President of the Senate today, being confined to

things they would rather not know.

Experience teaches people a lot of

It Will Doubtless be Consummated To-night.

S. A. L. TO BECOME PART OF THE G. AND A. ROAD.

IOHN SKEL'O I WILLIAMS TO CONTROL

Price Agreed on \$200 per Share for 8,300 Shares of Stock par Value \$100 Each. Syndicate Baltimore, and Other Capitalists

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 4.-The report concerning the proposed purchase of the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad Com pany, parent corporation of the Seaboard Air Line system, is officially confirmed. The syndicate which has bid for the property, subject to the approval of the improved to look into the affa. s of all owners of three-fourths of the stock pooled with Messrs. Louis McLane and Legh R. Watts, is composed of Baltimore, Richmond and New York capital-

> John Skelton Williams, President of the Georgia and Alabama Railroad Company, is the moving spirit in the transact tion, and it is understood that he will be president of the company when control is transferred to the syndicate.

> The price agreed upon is \$200 a share. which is \$75 a share more than was offered for a controlling interest in the property two years ago by Thomas F. Ryan.

A member of the syndicate said to-day that it is the intention of the new owners to continue the company as an inde pendent system, though he admitted that a line might ultimately be built from Atlanta, the Seaboard's Southern terminus, to Montgomery, where connection would be made with the Georgia and Alabama. The distance between these points is 175 miles. This would make a through line from Washington to Jack-

ROAD'S OFFICERS IN THE DARK. Norfolk, Va., Jan. 4.-The Associated Press dispatch this morning, with respect to the deal of Mr. John Skelton Williams, of Richmond, and associates for a controlling interest in the Seaboard Anr Line stock, fell pon Norfolk with the startling effect of a thunderclap from a cloudless sky. Poth towns have been stirred from centre to circumfer-

A representative of the Virginian-Pilot called upon Mr. E. St. John, Vice-Prestdent and General Manager of the S. A. L., in the company's building in Portsmouth. He, too, was in search of in-formation. The dispatch was a great -The Bank of Guilford, of this county surprise to him. Other general officers were as much in the dark.

Later in the day the reporter rat across a gentleman who does know. He is largely interested in Norfolk enterprises and vouched for the accuracy of the statements made in the dispatch The syndicate has offered \$200 per share for \$8,300 shares of stock of the par value of \$100 each, and are absented lutely certain of securing the system of roads and Bay Line. The syndicate already controls the Richmond, Petersburg and Carolina road, now in course of construction from Richmond, Va., to

The S. A. L. will be merged with the Georgia and Alabama Railway, of which John Skelton Williams is President, and a strong system will be organized.

The deal has been on hand for severa weeks and is expected to be consumms ted in Baltimore to-morrow night. The syndicate is much worried that the deal publicity before it was con summated, but our informant says there s now no danger of failure.

WANTS TO LOOK AT THE BOOKS. Ryan Files a Petition for a Writ of

Richmond, Va., Jan. 4.-Thomas F Ryan, of New York, filed a petition in the Supreme Court of Appeals here to day, for a writ of mandamus to compel W. W. Chamberlain, secretary, and John H. Sharp, treasurer of the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad Company to allow im or his agents to inspect the books of the company.

At the same time Chamberlain Sharp, through Wm. A. Fisher, of Bal timore, and G. Hatton, of Portsmouth their counsel, filed their answer.

The papers in the case are very bulky Ryan's petition recites that he owns 2,000 shares of stock, and at great length eils of the affairs of the company. This s an old fight. Ryan and his associates have for a long time been seeking to ac uire control of the Seaboard Air Line They have been fighting in the Federa courts, and have certain causes pending

The Court of Appeals will not render its decision for some time, as it will re-quire much time to examine the papers.

SYNDICATE'S FIRST MOVE.

The Completion of the Road From Richmond to Ridgeway.

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 4.-The Sun to orrow will say: "The offer of \$200 a share, made by

Richmond, Va., for the pooled stock of the Seaboard and Roanoke railroad has been accepted by all persons living in Baltimore who have stock in the pool. Assurances have been received that out-of-town stockholders who signed the pooling agreement will also accept, and the necessary three-fourths assent under the agreement, will, it is understood, be readily secured. readily secured.

"The offer of the syndicate to buy out the company, and with it the control of the thousand miles of railroad in the TREATY WAS NOT READ Seaboard Air Line system, is one of a number of offers for this property in the past three years. After Mr. Thomas F. Ryan, of New York, made his offer about two years ago to buy the pooled stock at \$125 a share, another syndi-Ryan, of New

"This second offer was the outcome of ing of the Hoffman management and proposition came from a syndicate in which Baltimore merchants were largely interested. The offer was partly induced by the feeling held in some quarters that the control of the Scaboard Air Line might fall into the hands of the Southern railway or its allies un-less secured by strong influences not identified with an existing Southern

"The big rate war which was the culmination of the disagreement between the Southern and the Seaboard, and the subsequent litigation coming from the Ryan syndicate in its attempt to break up the pool which held the control of the system, kept things at a tension. Criticism was shot at the management for not accepting the offer of \$125 a share made by the Ryan syndicate, and the claim that the property was worth, more was denied by some stockholders signing the agreement.

"Considerable interest is manifested in the plans of the syndicate, which in es, in addition to Richmond and Baltimore capitalists a number of New York men, who are represented by the Produce Exchange Trust Company of

"It is stated that the first move will be to complete the construction of the Richmond, Petersburg and Carolina railroad from Richmond. Va., to Ridgeway, N. C., where it meets the Seaboard Air Line. Some time ago property was purchased in Richmond to be used as terminals for this new road. A connec tion with the Georgia and Alabama will not, it is said, be a thing of the near future, although the fact that the syndicate has a controlling interest in that road will induce steps to connect the

"It is regarded as highly improbable that such a connection, if made would be built from Atlanta to Montgomery, as these two cities are the Western terminal of the two systems. The most likely plan would be to build from some point on the Georgia, Carolina and Northern to Savannah, Ga., so as to secure a direct route to that city. The Seaboard already has a direct route to Atlanta. A plan to establish a new direct line from the national capital to Florida, by building into Richmond and securing a connection from there to Washington, would take the road to-

filling in the gap from Ridgeway, N. C., to Richmond, Va., would put the system position to make satisfactory terms reaching the Crescent City. has been considerable talk in the past of an alliance between the Louisville and Nashville and the Seaboard Air Line, and it is believed that such an agreement would quickly follow if the Seaboard was in a position to furnish a satisfactory entrance into Washington "There would be but little difficulty in

arranging for through cars to Baltimore Philadelphia and New York from Wash-

THE DEBARAS' HEARING.

They Are Positively Identified as Two Clever Chicago Swindlers.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 4.-Baron at Baroness Edgar DeBara, alias George B. Henschel and Miss E. Wilson, who was arrested at St. Augustine on Tues-day charged with using the mails for fraudulent purpose, were given a pre-liminary hearing before United States Commissioner Goodell today. Decision was reserved till tomorrow morning The case was very strong against them and they were positively Registered Letter Carrier Hogan, of the Chicago postoffice as Henschel and Wilson, operating the Edison Phonograph Company at 115 Dearborn street in that city in November last. No testimony was offered by the defense.

THE LEWIS RESOLUTION.

Providing For Rigid Investigation Into the Beef Scandal.

Washington, Jan. 4.-Representative Lewis, of Washington, to-day introduced resolution providing for an inquiry by any House committee appointed to in vestigate the conduct of the war, into the beef contracts made by the Government, whether the beef was in all case wholesome, and "whether the facts disclosed should or should not demand the ubmission of the subject matter, and persons connected therewith to an appropriate grand jury of the United States to enquire into and present such indictment or presentment for obtaining money by false pretenses or for the cheat and swindling of the United States, or of any other departments."

was argued before Justice Nash, in the to those whose sentences seem to have

Senate.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.

the stubborn contest waged for the oust- MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON FROAY

Resolution then Probable for Publication of Both Treaty and Proceedings. House Considers Bill to Define and Punish Crimes in Alaska.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.-The first session of the Senate after the holiday recess occupied only fourteen minutes, although in that brief time two open sessions and an executive session were

Before the presiding officer's gavel fell on to-day's session, the Senatorial members of the peace commission appeared on the floor and were given a hearty greeting by their colleagues.

In the absence of the Vice-President, Mr. Frye, (Maine), the president pro tem called the Senate to order. The chaplain in his invocation made a touching reference to the death of Senator Morrill.

Scarcely had the clerk begun to read further reading be dispensed with. The notion prevailed.

of the United States. The message contained the treaty of Paris.

that the treaty might be referred to the committee on Foreign Relations, In a few minutes the Senate reconvened in open session and Mr. Allison announced the death of Senator Morrill. In the course of his brief remarks Mr. Allison said that Mr. Morrill had come to the Senate at the opening of the session in December and had taken part in the proceedings until the day of the holday recess. Although he was enfeebled in body, said Mr. Allison, his brain was active and his mental vision undimmed. The fact that his activity was undimin ished led his colleagues to believe that he was to remain with them yet a long time, but an inscrutuable Providence or Washington, would take the road to-ward Savannah.

"The Seaboard has been anxious for briefly to the funeral arrangements some years to reach New Orleans and a connection into Washington made by of the sorrow of the Senate. The reso-

lution was adopted. resolution providing as a further mark of respect that the Senate adjourn. This, was adopted, and the Senate at 12:15 adjourned until to-morrow.

PROCEEDING IN THE HOUSE. Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.-The House spent to-day considering the bill to define and punish crimes in Alaska and provide a code of crim;nal procedure for the territory. The bill was prepared by the Commission appointed to codify the laws of the United States and is voluminous measure of 232 pages. Sixtyseven pages were completed to-day and the bill was made a continuing order until disposed of, not, however, to in terfere with appropriation bills or other special orders. The only section of the special orders. bill which promises to cause a contest is that providing for the sale of liquor in Alaska. Upon this question considerable difference of opinion developed. The House adjourned out of respect to the memory of the late Senator Morrill.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE READ. Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.-When the Senate went into executive session today the peace treaty which had just been received from the President was laid before the Senate by Senator Frye, who occupied the chair in the absence of the Vice-President. The treaty was not read but the President's message accompanying it, was. This was a simple letter of transmittal without any word of recommendation or suggestion and was only a few lines in length. On motion of Senator Davis the treaty was referred to the Committee on Foreign Rela tions and ordered printed for the use of the Senate.

Senator Davis entered a motion to day to make the treaty and the proceedings of the commission public, but upon the suggestion of Senator Allison he withdrew that motion for the purpose of allowing the committee to act upon it. A meeting of the committee on Foreign Relations has been called for Friday. and it is probable that the committee will then bring in a resolution for the publication of both the treaty and the proceedings.

Governor Roosevelt has established a code of rules to gov-ern his consideration or applicants New York, Jan. 4.—The application for pardons and commutations of senfor a certificate of reasonable doubt, tenees. He will not exercise executive pending an appeal, in the case of William A. E. Moore, who was sentenced to been convicted of murdering or abusing 19 years imprisonment for robbery, extortion and assault in the first degree, criminal. His mercy will be shown only the syndicate headed by the banking Supreme court to-day. Decision was re-house of John L. Williams & Sons, of served

A WEIRD WHISTLING CASE.

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 4.-Charles Memberger, 27 years of age, who was found lying by the New York Central track last Friday with his skull fractured, is dead. On the evening of the day on which he received his injuries, Memberger began to whistle, although he was wholly unconscious and remained so to the last. He whistled all sorts of tunes and without cessation for 95 hours.

TROOPERS ORDERED TO CUBA.

Washington, Jan. 4.-Orders were sued today for Troops D, E, F, H, K and L, of the Eighth cavalry, now at Huntsville, Ala., to proceed at once to Savannah, Ga., for embarkation on the transport Michigan to Nuevitas, The troops will be fully armed and equipped for field service, and will carry rations and forage for 30 days in addition to what may be necessary for the 'rig The other troops of this regiment are already in Cuba distributed between Nuevitas and Puerto Principe.

CABLE COMPANIES CLAIMS.

Growing Out of Suspension of Their Business By Our Forces.

Washington, Jan. 4.-Another disagreeable consequence of the late war has been the presentation to the Government of claims of cable companies for damages sustained through the suspension of their business by the United will be cannot be foretold. The companies in each case base their claims upon the number of days of interruption to business, estimating the loss each day by the records of business the journal of the last session of the There is no exact precedent for them, Senate when Mr. Day moved that the and it is realized that we must make and it is realized that we must make some new international law to meet the case. The companies believe they have Mr. Frye who was in the chair, immediately recognized Major Pruden, Assistant Secretary to the President, who the claim of the Central and South presented a message from the President American Telegraph Company, whose of the United States. The message con-cables were cut off the coast of Chile on motion of Mr. Davis the Senate ceeded in overthrowing the Balmaceda went into executive session, in order party in Chile. The Chilean claims commission allowed the cable company about one-fourth of its claim.

The principal argument against the allowance of the claims in the pending cases is based upon a denial that they are parallel with the South American case. It is also asserted that at Manila for instance, the cable was being used as a weapon by the Spanish garrison, and that the United States was justified in destroying this weapon.

TREACHERY AT PANAY DENIED. Aguinaldo's Friendship for Americans

Makes Him Unpopular. Madrid, Jan. 4.-The statement that the Spaniards evacuated Hoilo in order to render the situation more dificult for the Americans is positively denied here. It is added here that the Spanish Government, immediately after the signing of the treaty of peace, ordered the Philippines to be evacuated as quickly as possible, in order to avoid further bloodshed and "conform with the expressed wish of the Americans, who were very

exacting, especially in the case of Cuba. An interview with an ex-prefect of a province of the Philippines was pubished here in the course of which he is

President McKinley has shown com plete ignorance of the situation in the Philippines. When the Americans occupied Manila there were only four insurgent provinces. The Americans en-couraged the rebellion and now they are themselves the victims of the support which they gave the insurgents, who have become masters of the entire archpelago, except Mindanao, where the natives, who are Mussulmans, have refused to recognize American rule, al-

though they have not revolted. "Aguinaldo's unpopularity is due to his friendship for the Americans. His treatment of Spanish prisoners has been horrible. Monks have been marched through the streets, le. by cords attached to rings through their noses, and others have been employed literally as beasts of burden. A thousand have died of ill treatment."

SIXTEEN TO ONE LEAGUE.

Steps Taken for Its Organization in Denver.

Denver, Col., Jan. 4.-Preliminary steps have been taken in this city for the organization of the "United States Sixteen to One Money League." The object of the organization is to assist in organization of political parties on the basis of bi-metallism. It is expected the league will take a prominent part in licans.

MORMONS CENSURE ROBERTS Declare Him a Violator of Law and Practical Polygamist.

Lamoni, Iowa, Jan. 4.-The Lamo branch of the Josephite Church of Lat ter-Day Saints in its regular annual session adopted a resolution censuring Congressman-elect Roberts, of Utah, "as a violator of law and a practical polyga mist" and objecting to his being seated in Congress. The resolution was carried by a vote of 17 to 14, regardless of the advice of the Apostle Wight, of the Utah mission, on the ground that no evidence had been submitted that Roberts is a violator of law.

A lumber dealer may be in his office and out of doors simultaneously.

A WEIRD WHISTLING CASE. Man With Fractured Skull, Lying Un THE CURTAIN RISES

General Assembly Organizes for Business.

JUDGE CONNOR SPEAKER

AND THE OTHER CAUCUS NOMI-NEES ARE ELECTED.

THE REDUCTION OF EXPENSES BEGINS

A Cut in Salaries the First Bill Passed. Reading of Gcv-rnor's Message Takes Place To day. A Bill to Cust Public Frinter Barnes Introduced.

The curtain was rung up at noon yesterday upon the opening scene of the first Democratic Legislature since 1893. Again the halls of North Carolina's capitol are filled with men who have the interest of the State at heart, and who have sacrificed much to come here.

sun was shining brightly upon the white dome of the capitol when the States military and naval forces. What the aggregate amount of these claims order. It was an auspicious day. The hal's hummed with life and the staircases were crowded with people, hurrying to lobbies and galleries to wit-

/ he air was crisp yesterday, and the

ness the assembling of another Demotransacted in cerresponding periods in cratic Legislature—the first for many former years. The State Department is puzzled in dealing with these claims. Judge Connor spoke truly when he said, in his speech accepting the Speak-ership, it will be a history-making ses-

The elimination of the ignorant negro ote is one of them any problems that the Senators and Representatives now in Raleigh must solve.

This is only one of the many important items of legislation which the people of the State expect to see enacted at this session. The Democratic leaders at both cards

of the capitol realize the grave respon-bility that is upon them, as was denced yesterday in their spec-in the business-like methods in which the work of the session was begun. The Republican members have not dis-

closed their positions, but it k not believed they will seek to obstruct legislation, which they know must and will come. Should there be a disposition to do this, it is safe to say that such tactics will result only to the hurt of the obstruc-

Much interest is manifested in the Governor's message which will be read to-day. It has been many a day in North Carolina since a Democratic Legislature listened to a message from a Republican Governor. It is therefore safe to say that the message to-day will be listened to with great interest and curiosity. The message is much shorter than us-

al, and its reading will occupy only a Immediately after the reading of the message, both House and Senate will plunge into the work of the session, hough it is impossible to say what mat-

ters of legislation will occupy the at-

tention of the two branches of the Leg-

islature first. For these reasons the opening session resterday was of unusual interest and importance. And yet, if truth be told, this pening day lacked in dramatic features. Of course there was the element of in terest in the swearing in of the election of a Speaker, and the choice of new officials. But the first was raththe two last had been us the night before er tiresome inst who the offiand every

There was in picturesqueness, though. There as the new member from a back-country section making his first essay in public life; there were distinguished men from all over the State; candidates defeated and successful, their faces long or short, accordingly; there were gaily dressed women in the galleries lifting the occasion out of the dull level of ordinary days.

Among the members there was general good nature, so ill-feeling over the result of the election being anywhere discernible. This was especially notice-

able in the House.

As an instance of it several of the Republican members always voted for the Democratic nominee as against their own caucus nominee, and in one case they did not even put their man in nomi-

This was commenced by Isaac Smith, the negro representative from Craven county. He cast his vote for Judge Connor for Speaker, and was loudly applauded both by Democrats and Repub-

OPENING OF THE HOUSE.

Officers Elected and Members Sworn in by Judge Connor. As the steel-blue hands on the white

faced clock in the hall of the House of Representatives pointed to the hour of noon, Mr. E. O. Masten, the principal clerk of the House of 1897, on whom devolved the duty or organizing the present House, rapped for order. He announced that Rev. Jesse H.

Page would offer prayer. All the Representatives, as well as visitors in the lobbies, rose in devout manner while the vine blessing was invoked: "O Lord, our God, on this bright and

auspicious day we come into Thy presence with glad and grateful hearts. Thou art, worthy to receive the adora-(Continued on Second Page.)