

After a prolonged session of seven weeks Congress adjourned to the 1st day of this month, and its acts and doings have become a part of the history of the country and are open to the criticism of the sovereign people.

At the beginning of the session the democratic party declared three propositions, viz: 1st that the Army should be kept away from the polls; 2nd, that the juries' test oath should be repealed; and 3rd, that the Federal Government should not control elections within the States by supervisors and deputy marshals.

The first movement of the democrats was to attach to the Army Appropriation Bill a clause repealing the law authorizing the use of troops at the polls. This they passed, but it was vetoed by the President.

The measure which will afford more practical relief to the South is the repeal of the Juries' Test Oath. Too much praise cannot be awarded the democrats for their successful efforts in providing a more impartial method of obtaining juries in our Federal Courts.

Correspondence.

WE WILL BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS ON ANY SUBJECT THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST, BUT WE MUST INSURE ON A RESPONSIBLE NAME ACCOMPANYING EVERY ARTICLE, AND ALSO THAT IT BE WRITTEN PLAINLY AND ONLY ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER.

FOR THE RECORD. SANDY GROVE, N. C., July 1st, 1879.

EDITOR OF RECORD:—The bridge subject one time more and I think I will be done. The tax payers in this part of the county are all honestly opposed to building so many bridges by taxation, and as it is a public matter, about which we are all concerned, I think they have a perfect and undoubted right to express themselves through the columns of our most noble county paper, the Record, or privately as they see proper.

In what I have to say I shall try to speak to the point, declining the honor of accusing any portion of the citizens of our good old county as being "biggame," and having no county pride at all, and talk about paying taxes in old clothes, bad eggs, onion sets, swapping barrows, secretarieships etc., as all such stuff, and being, has nothing to do at all with the finances of the county.

The question to decide is, can the hard working common class, or in other words the farming class who have to toil from sun to sun, the year round, at the rates of 30 or 40 cents per day, (if not lived at that price they are doing that which they can't afford to pay others any better to do for them), pay all their expenses and have meat and bread for their wives, and little ones to eat?

Borrowing the language of "R. L. S." I will notice his very unkind insinuations about the Albright Township where he speaks of it as a barren poverty-stricken, God forsaken spot, too poor to build bridges, no high ways but mill paths &c., and as having made money during the war, while the people in his part of the county lost all.

portant item with a large majority of those who have them to pay, and I was not "boasting" when I said our people in this township paid their punctually and in cash, as I got my information from the Sheriff who ought to know, and only meant that we managed, so as to be able to pay our taxes when due, without paying them in county orders, given for little, and big jobs done for the county at two prices.

"R. L. S." says that only 3 out of 23 magistrates voted against the \$5000 appropriation for the Bynum bridge; exactly, just so, all correct, and very nice, but is that all he knows about it? I have been credibly informed that there were 5 or 6 other magistrates present who were bitterly opposed to the appropriation, who declined to vote yea or nay, because they were in a minority of the magistrates present.

Railroads and bridges are two different things, especially, and particularly, when the railroad is built without directly taxing the county, and the bridges built by county taxation; under the circumstances of course no one ought, could or would object to the railroad passing through the County or kick up, or make any fuss about it, as we are all in favor of railroads, and bridges, provided, somebody else will build them, and whenever any of these appropriations are put to a vote of the people, nine times out of ten, they will be killed as dead as Julius Caesar, as the masses of the people are afraid of high taxes and will they may be.

In reply to the charge that myself, or the people in this part of the county have no county pride at all, I will only say that we have too much County pride about us to have our county business managed so as to have the county bankrupted, and again disgraced by the reputation of its just debts, while other sister and adjoining counties paid their county debt. And now, Mr. Editor, as I am done with this bridge subject for the present, or until some one wants another bridge that I don't think ought to be built I will say in conclusion that what I have said was said in good faith, and with the kindest feelings towards all who differ with me, and the people in my part of the county on the bridge question, and to the little farmer boy, I will say, that as I got such a lash in reply to his article some time ago, that I am afraid to say much this time for fear of another drubbing. By way of an explanation, I will say to my friend "R. L. S." and the little farmer boy, that my apology for not noticing their last communications sooner is that I was very busy attending to my own private business about that time; hoping they will excuse me for seeming neglect, in not attending to our friendly quarrel sooner, and trusting that we are all right at heart, and that our errors are all crosses of the head and not of the heart.

FOR THE RECORD. PEPPER'S HILL, CHATHAM Co., N. C.

MR. EDITOR:—As you solicit communications for the Record, I write you my first, and it is a gratification to me, as well as others, to know that for the first time since my recollection, we have a paper published in our good old County of Chatham, though I learn from older citizens there have been other attempts at publishing a paper in the town of Pittsboro, in this county, and while I speak of older citizens, my imagination reverts to the olden times when peace, tranquility, and honesty, reigned in this broad land of ours; when the constitution of our fathers was loved and respected by every true American citizen, and our constitutional law was administered by the even hand of justice, and the liberty and rights of each and every citizen of this United Republic was held as sacred and dear as the very clauses of the constitution which guaranteed those rights.

common in the land, and that Anglo-Saxon love for liberty, which ought to burn in every American heart, seems to have turned into a greedy thirst for money. May the rising generation, those who are to direct the future of our country, look with horror and contempt upon such, and so direct the ship of State as a Nation, that generations yet unborn may call her blessed; when sectional strife and bitter partizan feeling shall cease, and man shall be honored, not for his ill gotten dollars, but for an honest heart, and an upright purpose.

In Memoriam.

The following address was delivered by Rev. T. J. Gattis, before Pleasant Hill Sabbath School, June 29th, 1879, on the occasion of the funeral decoration of the grave of Mrs. Emily A. Womble, and is now published by the unanimous request of the Sabbath School:

"From time immemorial it has been the custom in civilized nations, to pay respect to the virtuous dead in appropriate religious services, and other rites and ceremonies. It is also a custom among us, to keep their names and deeds fresh in our memories, by having those names and deeds, inscribed on the imperishable marble. Those who have been eminent in our country's service, as warriors, statesmen, or patriots, are kept fresh in the minds and hearts of their countrymen, by the granite monuments, erected over their graves, and in other sacred places, which have inscribed upon them, the noble deeds of noble and generous lives.

This is all right; just as it should be. The nation ought to make its heroes immortal. But better still in some respects, more sacred, beautiful, and just as lasting, is the unpretending tombstone, such as the one on which we now look, erected by the gentle hands of husband and son, over the resting place of a devoted wife and mother. These memorials of greatness, and these tributes to domestic virtue and love, ought to continue, and become universal among the good as well as the great. Equally appropriate and beautiful, is the practice of our churches in holding funeral services over the remains, or in memory of our sainted dead.

It is well that this vast assembly is here to-day. It is well that we have been permitted to hear the gospel from the lips of "the" man of God. That gospel which so purified the heart and beautified the character, of her whose memory we cherish, that her life on earth was only a little lower than the life of an angel. That gospel which made her steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. That gospel which enabled her to say in deep affliction, and as the gloom of death was settling about her, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." As you have been already told, she was faithful in all the relations of life. It was her meat and drink, to do and suffer the will of God in everything. She literally laid herself out for purposes of His glory. And she had the testimony that she pleased God, and that her labor was not in vain in the Lord. Sister Womble loved the Sabbath School with a peculiar love. From a child, to the close of her life, she was a member of the Sabbath School first as a scholar, and then teacher. It was her infant first feet learned to walk the heavenly road, her tongue to sing the praise of God, and her heart to know and love the Saviour. It was here in after years she loved so much to teach others the way of life, and here, doubtless some of you who are here first learned, through her instrumentality to tread the same path that she and her Saviour trod, the path to glory and to God. In the great Sunday school work, it may indeed be said of her, "she hath done what she could." The fact is, her whole life was beautiful, and to us, it ought to be a joy forever. And now as we look back and see it in the past, it is "like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Like Jesus, she went about doing good. Her death was glorious, made so, because she was faithful unto the end, and ready when the Master called, to enter into the joy of her Lord. I have said she loved the Sunday School and labored for its welfare, she loves it still, but her earthly labors for it, are ended, and now she is at rest. "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," must now be said of her mortal remains, but oh how sweetly she sleeps. And now, after friends and loved ones have wept over her grave for six long months, and caused even strangers to say, behold how they loved her, and after the minister who knew her longest, and best, has told us of her consecrated life, it is certainly right and proper for the Sunday School, which was so dear to her heart, to bear its testimony to her worth. And no tribute could be more suitable, than the one we now propose to offer. To gather here, pastor superintendent, teachers, and scholars to bring each of us, a wreath or bouquet of flowers and lay them tenderly and lovingly on this mound under which her body sleeps, and then sing us of those songs she loved so much to hear. The song will remind us of the fact that to-day she is singing with the angels. The fragrance of these flowers so sweet, fills all the air about us and reminds us of her precepts and example, her love and

deeds of love which have left such a rich perfume, in her own household, and in all this community. These white roses are beautiful emblems of her pure heart and holy life. These evergreens which will remain as they now are, when other flowers are nipped by the untimely frost, which will be fresh and green amid the ice and snows of winter, and only more lovely in the opening spring, are striking emblems of the immortality of the human soul and the resurrection to immortal youth, life and happiness. May we ever cherish her memory, imitate her virtues, and come at last to share her happiness in heaven."

FOR THE RECORD. PEPPER'S HILL, N. C., June 28th, '79.

MR. EDITOR:—As we are about through with our harvesting, and feeling entitled to some rest, I concluded I would write a few lines for the Record. Our small grain crops are poor; not hardly an average; oats about one-half the usual crop. I suppose this failure is attributable to the unfavorable winter. Oats were badly winter-killed; then we had no snow the past winter, which was very much against small grain. There was a marked difference this season between manured or fresh land and old land. We should profit by this evidence; and sow less poor land especially in wheat; make more manure; prepare our lands better; turn under green crops; save labor in sowing less, and making more grain. Corn and cotton are small and backward, but is looking vigorous and healthy, and generally in good condition. Irish potatoes very good, as usual. Sweet potatoes poor. We are experimenting with chufas to some extent in this neighborhood, and find them slow to come up. Upon the whole, the outlook for the farmer is encouraging, if we have good seasons.

OUR RAIL ROAD.

I mean the Cape Fear and Yalrick Valley Road, which is being rapidly graded through this portion of our county, is looked to with pride and pleasure. We are greatly pleased with the prospect of so soon to hear the iron horse snorting through this portion of old Chatham. It will certainly be a great blessing to this country. The work is progressing rapidly; the grading to Bear Creek will be completed in a few days; two or three miles of grading done from One Hill in this direction. All hands connected with the work are doing well their part, and seem anxious to push the road through; even the poor unfortunate convicts are working well. By the way, I fear they are not so well fed as they ought to be; I have been about the stockade but very little myself, therefore cannot speak from my own knowledge, but I hear others say they are poorly fed, especially for supper. If this be so, it should be corrected by our authorities; they should have sufficient of good strong food, as their work is hard, and then made to work.

THE BYNUM BRIDGE.

I see some of your correspondents are giving it to the magistrates for agreeing to build this bridge. Now, as one of them who was present at the meeting of the magistrates and commissioners when this bridge matter was considered and agreed on, and who voted for the bridge, I have this to say in justification of that action: It was in evidence before us by a committee of good men previously appointed by the commissioners to make examination that the bridge was in very bad condition; that the timbers were badly decayed, and was really dangerous. The question was then discussed whether it would be best to repair or build a new bridge; it was the opinion of a majority of the magistrates that it would be the cheapest in the end to put up a new bridge, and while it would cost much more, it would be best to put a substantial covered bridge upon brick piers. I, as one of the magistrates, was influenced to favor it from the following considerations: I considered it as the settled policy of the people of our county, to bridge our large water courses at the expense of the public; and I remembered that we of the southern and western portion of the county had been favored with five substantial covered bridges; one at Lockville costing over \$10,000; one at Egypt and the Gut on Deep River; one at White's and another at Alston's on Rocky River; while there was but one covered over Haw River, and that, at Haywood. The policy heretofore pursued of having poor trestle bridges over Haw River, which are being constantly washed away or under repairs, should be changed and three substantial covered ones at suitable places and times be put over that river. I considered Bynum as one of those suitable places. In addition to its being a considerable thoroughfare, we have there the only cotton factory in the county, and I felt that that was an additional inducement.

OUR INTERIOR COURT.

will soon be here, the 3rd Monday of July, being the 21st day, as late as it can come. By the way, the question is being asked frequently, is there a necessity for the continuance of this court? As one of the Justices of the county, I have given this matter some thought. In view of the enlarged jurisdiction of our magistrates by the last legislature, and in view of the number of offences over which this court has no jurisdiction, I am inclined to the opinion that we can, with propriety, dispense with it, after the next term. I suppose the magistrates, at their next meeting, the 1st Monday in August next, will consider and decide that matter. JAMES F. RIVES.

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