

The Election of all Federal officers by the people is being discussed and finds many advocates. Senator Sumners, of Nebraska, has introduced into the United States Senate a joint resolution providing for an amendment to the Constitution giving to the people the election of postmasters, United States marshals, district attorneys, collectors of internal revenue and other officers whose duties are to be performed within the limits of any State or part of a State, except judges of the Supreme and Inferior Courts. We do not suppose that such an amendment will be adopted; it certainly will not be at the present time, while the Republican party controls every department of the general government, and yet there are some good reasons why such an amendment should be adopted. The immense patronage now wielded by the President is calculated to subvert any republican government. The power of appointing one hundred thousand office-holders is too great for one man. It is exalting too much the one-man power. The President of the United States has more authority and power than the Queen of England!

In addition to this dangerous power entrusted to one man, is the present system of appointing Federal officers calculated to have better and more efficient officers than the election of them by the people? Is the President better acquainted with the qualifications of an applicant for office (who is usually an utter stranger to him) than the people among whom he lives?

And again, there would not be so much partisanship in Federal officers if they were elected by the people. As long as the President appoints them every officer is of the same political party, and is usually appointed because of his services as a partisan. If the people of the several localities elected these officers, the offices would be divided between the political parties, and not all held by men of the same party.

The people are much more interested in the election of these Federal officers than in the election of magistrates and county commissioners.

We have received and read the annual report of Dr. Eugene Grissom, the very efficient Superintendent of the State's Insane Asylum, from which we learn some interesting facts as to that unfortunate class of our fellow-citizens. The total number of admissions since the beginning of the operations of the Asylum, February 22d, 1856, amounts to 1,417. Of these, 804 were males, and 613 females; the total number of discharges for the same time is 1,133, of which 655 were males and 478 females. Of these, 369 were discharged as cured; 146 were improved; 206 unimproved; and 412 died. There are now under treatment 149 males and 195 females, a total of 344—7 males and 7 females of whom are at home on probation or trial. Eighty new applications, besides those already were filed during the year 1881, but the crowded condition of the Asylum prevented their admission. It is much to be regretted that the State cannot properly care for all the insane. If persons could be admitted to an Asylum as soon as they become insane, the great bulk of them would be cured and they would again become useful citizens, but as it is they usually become permanently insane before their admission, and our Asylum becomes a place for their custody instead of a hospital for their cure. We hope that the Asylum at Morganton will soon be completed, so that all our insane may be cared for. And by the way it seems to take a long time to finish that building, for it was begun about ten years ago!

The tax on whiskey and tobacco will not be reduced by the present Congress. An effort had been made at the present session to reduce the tax on whiskey from ninety to fifty cents a gallon and on tobacco from sixteen to ten cents on the pound, and the Appropriations Committee had agreed to these reductions, but the Republican Congressmen held a caucus, on last Wednesday night, and decided to retain the present taxes. As they have a majority this decision prevents the passage of any bill favoring a reduction. The Democrats are advocates of the proposed reduction, but being in the minority their efforts are unavailing. The great bulk of the tobacco raised in the United States is grown at the South, and is one of our most important agricultural staples. The Southern tobacco planter must continue to have the product of his farm thus heavily taxed, while the products of the Northern farmer pay no tax.

The Council of State met last Friday and determined not to advise the Governor to convene the legislature in extra session, so that contrary to general expectation there will be no extra session, as the Constitution authorizes him to call an extra session only "by and with their advice." We understand that the Governor thought that an extra session was necessary, but of course he is powerless to act alone, and no blame can be attached to him if we are deprived of the additional Congressmen given our State by the new Apportionment. But a majority of the Council thought the new Congressmen could be elected by the State at large without incurring the expense of an extra session.

Our Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 18, 1882

With the passage of the anti-Chinese bill and the anti-polygamy bill two very important and exceedingly troublesome questions have been solved out of the way, for a time at least, so far as Congress is concerned. The Chinese bill was really a Democratic measure, and had the support of nearly every Democratic Senator and Representative, though one of the most effective speeches in its favor was made by a Republican Senator, Jones, of Nevada. Difficult as the question is to deal with, there is no doubt that the present measure is approved by a vast majority of the American people, and that it is not a real infraction of the spirit of our institutions. It is certainly hard to reconcile the position of the ultra protectionists who insist upon a high tariff to "protect American labor" and still vote to admit to our shores swarms of Chinese who are the most skillful and cunning of all laborers. But as Mr. Jones put it, "It is not the American laborer but the American capitalist who is to be protected as against the European capitalist, and who is to sell everything he has to sell in an American market where other capitalists are driven out from competition with him, while he buys that which he has to buy—the labor of men—in the open market, and demands for himself the broadest 'free trade'." The laborer, however, is compelled to buy from his capitalist employer in a protective market.

On the anti-polygamy bill the Democrats were placed in a somewhat false position, for while they appeared to be fighting the bill they were almost to a man heartily opposed to Mormonism, but fighting for certain underlying principles which the bill as it stood seemed to violate. There was no question on either side of the House about the propriety of a bill for crushing out polygamy. The only question was whether the bill as passed by the Senate would accomplish that object, and whether certain provisions of this bill did not provide a remedy which was worse than the disease. Many Democrats thought that the precedent of interfering with the right of suffrage at the polls, when the voter had not been tried and convicted of any crime, was so dangerous that they could not bring themselves to vote for the measure. Among the Democrats were B. Inant and Hewitt, of New York, and a number of others equally prominent. But they all stood ready to vote for any measure which would effect the abolition of polygamy, without impairing the fundamental rights of citizens in other parts of the country. The majority of them did finally vote for this measure rather than be misrepresented on the question.

Every observer at the Capitol can not fail to notice that there is something touching and almost awe-inspiring in the sudden hush that falls on the representative disorderly House of Representatives when the venerable Alexander H. Stevens makes one of his rare and powerful addresses to it. Such a tribute of deep and respectful attention is perhaps never accorded to any other member. When that shrill, strange voice is heard, the laugh and jest die away even to the remote corners where small knots of members are having their little jokes, cigars go out, while the abstracted smokers are intent on listening, and one by one gentlemen in the rear rows come tipping down the aisles to get nearer to that invalid chair which is wheeling nervously first to one side and then to the other in the little semicircular space before the Speaker's desk, and before the fiery-eyed little gray-haired senator has finished a crowd has gathered about him respectfully attentive, and silent as they never are at any other time. It is plain from the aspect of the House at such times that the big soul within its little frail body is impressing itself more strongly on every hearer than a whole session of talk from almost any other.

General News.

The Pacific bank of Boston, Mass., reopened its doors last Monday and resumed business. An inmate of an Indiana asylum for the insane died after refusing to take food for sixty-three days and twelve hours. Two boys quarreled about a girl in Wheeling, West Virginia. One shot the other through the heart, killing him. The murderer was arrested. The New York State Senate has adopted a resolution asking President Arthur to commute Sergeant Mason's sentence to dismissal from the regular army. Letters, petitions and applications of all sorts bearing upon the case of Sergeant Mason came to the President in every mail from all parts of the country. The crew of the abandoned British brig, Alexandria, were picked up at sea and landed at Falmouth, England. They were eight days in an open boat, with only a half wine glass of water each daily. Judge Freeman, Attorney General for the Postoffice Department, has decided that toll gate and ferry keepers cannot lawfully detain the United States mails, even if the mail carrier refuses to pay the charges. Mr. Seville has firmly expressed his determination to retire from the Cabinet case immediately after the bill of expunction is signed. He thinks the bill will not be completed and signed for several weeks. The trial of fifty-eight oyster pirates captured by Governor Cameron's military expedition off the mouth of the Rappahannock River, Virginia, was concluded in the County Court of Matthews county last week. The entire batch was sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the penitentiary and the list of seven d-pedrotry vessels was confiscated to the State. Mrs. Hattie Sprague, a widow, of Cherryfield, Maine, while leaving church last Sunday, was killed by Chester Cunningham, who cut her throat as she was walking with an escort. The deed was probably prompted by jealousy. Cunningham was arrested next morning. He approached Mrs. Sprague from behind and drew her head back with his left hand and cut with his right.

State News.

The Tarboro' Southern states that L. B. Pennington has been appointed postmaster at Rocky Mount. Asheville Citizen: Mr. Sturdy Ringdon, late of Raleigh, arrived here on Wednesday afternoon, on his way to Warm Springs, at which point he will act for the present as station agent. Rockingham Herald: Recently a daughter of Mr. E. J. Watson, who resides on Downing Creek in this county, killed three wild turkeys at one shot. Pretty good that, for a woman. Danbury Reporter: Max Arrington, of Haver, killed a wild turkey, killed a large wild turkey with rifle. This turkey shot at a dozen has been slain in the same way in the last twelve months. Townsboro' Review: W. D. Carter, of this place, the champion rat killer, slaughtered one hundred and forty full grown rats last Thursday, and says he would have killed many more but night came on. Wilmington Review: The German barque, Madara, drawing 18 feet of water, was towed to sea yesterday afternoon by the Re-spot. This is an unusual depth, the largest, in fact, ever carried to sea ever on our bar.

Wilmington Star.

A colored man by the name of Abraham Bradley, aged about forty years, was run over by a railroad train and killed near Lumberton a few days ago. He had been drinking and had only himself to blame for the unfortunate accident. Oxford Free Press: Since its foundation Wake Forest College has given diplomas to 219 young men, the first class being that of 1839. Of these 67 are or have been ministers of the gospel, 55 teachers, 37 lawyers, 25 farmers, 18 physicians, and 12 merchants. Newbernian: Hundreds and hundreds of barrels of oysters are now being shipped by every outgoing steamer; thousands of bushels of radishes are being constantly forwarded to Northern markets. It is thought the first shipment of peas will be made in about eight or ten days. Wilson Advance: We regret to learn that one night last week Mr. P. H. Bunn, of Rocky Mount, while trying to prevent Dr. Powell from shooting D. G. Armstrong, received the charge of Dr. Powell's pistol in his knee, from which it is feared his leg will have to be amputated. Raleigh News & Observer: The large and handsome dwelling of Mr. A. F. Page, at Cary, narrowly escaped destruction by fire Saturday night. Some wood left near a stove caught on fire. The neighbors, seeing the flames, lent a hand to put out the fire, and fortunately did so before much damage was done.

There are thirty-wo ice factories in the South.

Winston Sentinel: Last Saturday a negro boy at Lewisville put a loaded pistol in his pocket, and went out to cut wood. After a few ticks the axe-helve struck the hammer of the pistol, exploding the cap, and sending the lead into his abdomen, seriously if not fatally injuring him. Raleigh Visitor: The bid of Thos. H. Biggs for remodeling the court house was \$19,000. He contracts to do the work within 12 months, but for any good cause, such as having out expired orders for material at the expiration of one year will be allowed fifteen months. The maximum time will admit of the holding of the June term, 1883, of the court in the new building. Work is to commence at once. Greensboro' Eagle: A fire broke out last night in Winston, in the harness shop of Mr. S. A. Veach, next door to the residence of Mrs. H. Gray, and at one time it was feared the entire block south of the Court House square would be destroyed. Fortunately, however, the brick drug store next to the Gray residence, on the East, was not burned and the best part of Winston was saved. The buildings destroyed were all wood. Hickory Press: Pink Post, colored, robber and burglar, was this week declared to be outlawed by Judge Fare, under section 8 of chapter 33 of Battle's Revised, and any one who meets him may capture or slay him. A large reward is offered for him dead or alive. Seven colored turpentine hands were camping after their day's work in a turpentine forest, near Society Hill, on the night of the 28th of February. A thunder storm came up with terrific lightning, and the tree under which they had their tent was struck. Three of the seven were instantly killed. Winston Leader: About the first of the month a burglary was committed on the Ya-Kin River, near Bean Shoals. Joe Lemon and Jim Martin entered the dwelling house of William Martin in the night, and took about \$250 in gold and silver in coin. They were jailed on Sunday of last week about \$725 of the gold has been recovered. We never see the Astorville Courier now. Never thought Sam Bradshaw would quit publishing his paper so soon after his marriage. Some people can not stand too much glory. We have not seen the Courier since we met brother Bradshaw bringing on turkeys, and supposed that he had suspended publication for awhile in order to hunt up some turkeys to beat ours.—E. H. Rowson.

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Statesville Examiner: On Wednesday, March 8th, Mr. and Mrs. Hector McNeill celebrated their golden wedding at their residence on Rockhill. One of the pleasing incidents connected with the affair was the presence of six out of the eight attendants who were present at their nuptials and pronounced fifty years ago. A turkey gobbler belonging to a citizen of this town was found dead on the ground below where he had been roosting. His neck was broken, and the probability is that whilst asleep he lost his equilibrium and fell headlong from his perch, striking his head on the ground and breaking his neck. Goldsboro' Messenger: Mr. Dempsey Wood, Jr., of Lenoir county, informs us that the farmers of Felling Creek township are further advanced by two weeks than those of other sections. Mr. Wood attributes this to the "two fence law" in force in that township. While other farmers had to waste time in repairing fences our Felling Creek friends worked their lands. The financial condition of Greene county has for years been in a wretched condition. We now learn with more than ordinary pleasure that the county is about out of debt and will henceforth pay its indebtedness promptly. This has been brought about under the present system of county government. The present Board of Commissioners were chosen by the Board of Magistrates for their ability and worth and toady have they discharged the trust confided to them. When they took charge of the affairs of the county, they found an indebtedness of over \$12,000, with county orders selling at from 50 to 75 cents in the dollar. By proper exercise of vigilance and economy the debt has been paid and the county redeemed from her financial embarrassment, and yet there are democrats who find fault with the present system of county government. Statesville Examiner: Mrs. Frank Tucker, of Chambersburg township, has a turkey hen which laid an egg. She wanted to brood it in the snow, when necessary, and in a little over three months produced 90 eggs.—We are a little bit expert in our garden of this State, who did work before last, and whose death was announced in this paper, was rendered insane prior to his death, by the use of barbituric. Wednesday night of last week Mr. James Moore, of Alexander county, was riding horseback along the public road, when at a bend in the road, about 100 yds. from a gallop he fell down, the horse, instead of turning with the road, went straight ahead, the right being very dark and the rain falling, and with his rider was precipitated into the ravine. When, after the first shock, Mr. Moore was able to collect himself, he realized that the animal was on its back and he was under it, with his right arm doubled under his body. Fastened beyond the hope of extricating himself, he being across a portion of his body a large part of the weight of the horse, the young man was almost constricted to death and the prospect for relief was gloomy. The water was rushing down the gully and dashing over him, and the thick fog hid out no points of relief. With its feet in the air and its impulse as its master, the horse tossed his head and body from side to side, and Mr. Moore, while he called for help, protruded himself with his left hand, and being beaten to death by the animal. It fortunately happened that after about half an hour's time, and when, as the wife relates, he was completely exhausted and had called for help about the last time, his cries were heard in the neighborhood, and Mr. Henry Deal, Mr. James Miller, his son and a colored man hastened to the rescue. 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Buy a bottle of Hop Bitters in your family this month. Don't wait. —Burlington Hawkeye. A Word to Mothers. Mothers should remember it is a most important duty at this season to look after the health of their families and to secure the natural and nutritious food from their system, and that nothing will tone up the stomach and liver, regulate the bowels and purify the blood so perfectly as Parker's Ginger Food advertised in our columns.—Post. See other column. Always Refreshing. A delicious odor is imparted by Flourens' Cologne, which is always refreshing, no matter how freely used. W. E. ANDERSON, P. A. WILEY, President, Cashier. CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK, OF RALEIGH, N. C. February 23, 1882. J. F. THOMAS, President, Vice-President, &c. February 23, 1882. HALE & H. S. C.

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