

It is the duty as well as the right of the Press to expose the misdeeds of public officers, and the political newspapers may be justified in criticizing within the bounds of prudence and common sense, however, the acts and declarations of their party's committees and conventions.

Therefore the Wilmington Star, in its frequent and continuous criticisms upon the democratic State committee, should in all fairness base its criticisms upon facts.

Democratic conventions in this State, one after another, have publicly and solemnly declared, by unanimous votes, that the party in North Carolina favored and demanded the total repeal of the odious internal revenue laws.

Now, without questioning the Star's right or taste in doing this, we desire to correct some of its published statements about the committee's alleged wrongful act. In doing this we shall not attempt to enter into an argument upon the propriety or policy of repealing the internal revenue laws, nor attempt to correct the mistakes made in so many of the Star's recent editorials on that subject.

What are the facts? In the first place, the "State Committee" is not composed of "ten or twelve" men; but is composed of FIFTY-TWO men—consisting of sixteen men (appointed from no particular portion of the State and who constitute the central committee) and four men from every one of the nine Congressional Districts.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this democratic State executive committee that the internal revenue laws should be immediately repealed, and our democratic members of Congress are requested to use their influence, as they have heretofore done, to have said laws repealed, &c.

Now, it is "this and nothing more" that furnishes the Star a basis for its unjust innuendoes. We have personal knowledge, whereof we speak in regard to the committee's meeting, and defy the Star to prove its innuendo, above quoted.

Now, why the Star should have made such unfounded insinuations against the State committee, and by innuendo attempted to make its readers believe that the committee had desired to set itself up as "an oligarchy" in order "to stifle the voice of the sovereign people"—we know not.

The reading of the above resolution clearly proves that the committee merely expressed its opinion upon the question of repealing the revenue laws, and also only requested our members of Congress to continue to use their influence in that behalf.

The cost of elections in the city of New York is enormous, indeed almost beyond belief. It is said that the expenses of the late election in that city amounted to one million dollars.

The expenditure of such enormous sums of money at elections must have a very corrupting influence, and it is a state of affairs that is very disgraceful to America's metropolis.

Today has been set apart by the President of the United States and the Governors of the several States as our annual Thanksgiving Day.

The Baptist State Convention at Durham, last week, was probably the pleasantest and most successful convention ever held by our Baptist brethren in this State.

The President has appointed Mr. George L. Rives, of New York City, to the office of First Assistant Secretary of State, rendered vacant several months ago by the resignation of ex-Gov. Porter, of Tennessee.

Our Washington Letter.

[From our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19th, 1887.

An official of the next House of Representatives shows the complexion of that body, to be as follows: Democrats, 168; Republicans, 153; and Independents, 4.

The Virginia contempt cases are again before the United States Supreme Court for final adjudication, and it is announced that a decision will be rendered on next Monday week.

A recent decision of the Supreme Court adverse to the patentee of "driven nails" fills the hearts of millions of farmers with gladness.

The argument consumed a day and a half, all six of the counsel making speeches. The two last speeches were those of Col. Amfield, Saturday afternoon, and of Maj. Robbins, the same afternoon and evening.

As another striking instance of honest work and reform methods in the public service, it is worthy of mention that for the first time in the history of the Pension Office, the Board of Appeals is up with its business—having during this year disposed of four thousand cases.

The conflict of authority between Secretary Lamar and Mr. Sparks, Commissioner of the General Land Office, has resulted, as was generally anticipated, in the latter's resignation.

A Menagerie Burned.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., Nov. 21.—A fire which broke out last night in the winter quarters of Barnum & Bailey's menagerie and circus, destroyed the large main buildings in which were stored all the principal animals used in the great show, nearly all of which were destroyed.

A Forgery Case.

From the Stateville Landmark, 17th Inst. A deplorable case is that of Mr. W. T. Bailey, tried in the Superior Court last week and resulting in a verdict of guilty.

The taking of testimony occupied about a day. Mr. Walton, Gen. John A. Young, of Charlotte, (a life-long friend and correspondent of Dr. Gage), Mr. H. Redwood, of Asheville, (a former partner in business), and others, swore that the signature was not the signature of Dr. Gage.

The argument consumed a day and a half, all six of the counsel making speeches. The two last speeches were those of Col. Amfield, Saturday afternoon, and of Maj. Robbins, the same afternoon and evening.

Three C's—There are three c's that seize the children and carry them off. The three c's are colds, coughs, and croup. Mothers! Dr. Ball's Cough Syrup saves the little ones' lives.

A Turtle in Her Stomach.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—Miss Rendau, a French maiden, nineteen years old, who resided on Forger street, was buried on Wednesday.

Black as Night at 3.30 P. M.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 19.—A strange atmospheric phenomenon occurred at Maysville, Ky., and at Manchester, O., this afternoon.

A Steamer Burned.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM A STEAMER ABLAZE IN A HOWLING GALE.

MARQUETTE, Mich., Nov. 18.—The heaviest marine loss of the year occurred today, when the Anchor line steamer Arizona, with a valuable cargo of merchandise and fixed freight, was totally destroyed by fire at this port.

Everything went well until she was within three miles of this port, when a heavy sea struck her, upsetting several carboys containing mixed acids which ignited.

As the crew was huddled together it was discovered that the engineer was missing. It was thought that he was certainly suffocated; but not so.

The Arizona was built in 1865, at Cleveland. She measured 800 tons and was valued at \$30,000. She rated 22.

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April 7, 1887. 1y.

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THREE SPECIAL BARGAINS. 81 HANDSOME ROBES. Of Rich Novelty Plush and Camel's Hair at \$5.00, \$7.00, \$10.00, \$12.00 and \$16.00.

5,000 Yards. 40 inch all-wool suitings in stylish mixtures, 50 cents per yard, would be cheap at 66 cents.

4,500 Yards. 86-inch Drap Sangliersuiting, 23 cents per yard, real value 35 cents.

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W. L. LONDON'S, Pittsboro, N. C., October 27, 1887.