

Young men should take warning from the sad fate of a young lawyer, named Potts, who was convicted, last week, in the superior court of Beaufort county of the horrible crime of murder. The murderer is the son of highly respectable parents and is connected with many of the best citizens of that county: is well educated, and quite intelligent; and, a few years ago, having obtained his license to practise law, his family and friends proudly predicted a brilliant career for him. But the insatiable demon, that has ruined so many others, seized him as its victim, and now he is a murderer condemned to the gallows! What an impressive temperance lecture is furnished by his sad career, and what a fearful warning is given by his terrible end. Yes, his thirst for liquor was his ruin. He was its complete slave, and helpless captive, and finally murdered the man who had befriended him. On his trial he was examined as a witness in his own behalf, and the story of his life was pitiable indeed. He stated that he did not know what he was doing when he fired the fatal shot, and that his victim was his best friend. A sad, sad case!

The election of Dr. Herbert Battle as State Chemist by the State Board of Agriculture, at Raleigh last week, was not only a fitting recognition of his eminent fitness for the place, but it is a proof that the deserving young men of North Carolina can be appreciated in their native State. It is also a proof that North Carolina has a University, at which her sons can be thoroughly educated in all the arts and sciences. Dr. Battle is a young gentleman who graduated a few years ago at Chapel Hill, and soon thereafter, on account of his proficiency in chemistry, was appointed as an assistant to Dr. Dabney, the State Chemist. He applied himself diligently to his duties, and became so proficient that when Dr. Dabney resigned last summer, he was appointed his temporary successor, until the Board of Agriculture could select a permanent successor at their regular meeting in December. That meeting was held last week, and several very distinguished chemists were applicants for the place, but the Board, by a vote of seven to two, elected Dr. Battle.

A majority of the members of Congress appear to favor President Cleveland's views, as expressed in his last message to Congress. One of the enterprising newspapers of New York city sent a number of reporters to Washington last week, for the purpose of interviewing the Congressmen as to their opinions upon the President's message. Expressions of opinion were obtained from seventy-four out of the seventy-six Senators, and from 250 out of the 325 Representatives. There were 7 republicans and 123 democrats, who were in favor of the President's tariff ideas; and 6 democrats and 114 republicans opposed to them. There were 20 democrats and 20 republicans, who were non-committal. It is therefore possible that Congress will revise and reduce the tariff, but we fear that the internal revenue taxes will not be reduced, except possibly the tax on tobacco and brandy made from fruit.

The repeal of the internal revenue laws is as earnestly desired by the democrats of Virginia, as by the democrats of North Carolina. A few days ago a resolution was adopted in the House of Delegates, in the Virginia Legislature, by a vote of ninety to one, directing Virginia's Senators and requesting her Representatives in Congress to use their best efforts to secure the repeal at an early day of the entire revenue system of taxation, and, failing in that, to secure, if possible, the repeal of so much of the system as imposes a tax on tobacco in any of its forms, and upon spirits distilled from fruits.

The people of North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia are more opposed to the internal revenue laws, than the citizens of any other States, and the Congressmen from those three States will do their utmost to have some of those laws repealed or modified during the present session of Congress.

Raleigh is now a dry town, the Supreme Court having at last decided the much-talked-of Giesch case, holding that the local option law prohibits the sale of beer and wine. All the beer and wine saloons have accordingly been closed and prohibition has full sway. This decision will create a sensation not only in Raleigh, but in many other towns of the State, in which the local option law has been adopted.

Our Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1887.

The general drift of Democratic comment on the President's brief and practical message to Congress, betrays the highest praise on that document. Indeed, many of Mr. Cleveland's warmest admirers in Congress exultingly declare that it is the most pitiful and courageous State paper issued since the days of Jackson. There is naturally a chorus of discordant notes uttered in an undertone, but that the President's views are those of the Democratic masses, there is little cause for serious doubt. With the President at the Speaker of the House cordially concurring upon the absolute necessity of tariff reform, that question dwarfs all others and becomes the chief political issue of the times. Democrats differ as to the particular methods of reaching the desired result of reducing internal taxation, but all agree that a reduction is the country's only chance of financial redemption.

And here in Washington, it is the universal opinion of all the politicians that the tariff question will be the chief factor in the Presidential contest of 1888. The organization of the Fifth Congress was effected in a decorous manner, despite the anticipation of a deadlock in the Senate, which failed to materialize, although the public thronged the corridors of the Capitol in the hope of witnessing sensational scenes.

The Centennial Congress will certainly be memorable for the sweeping changes in the personnel of the House. Not since 1874, when the tidal wave of Democracy overwhelmed Republicanism, has there been such a revolution in the membership of that body, for of the 325 who were in the last Congress, 130 failed to return. Among those retired are many prominent men, a fully two-thirds of the chairmen of committees were numbered with the defeated. Of the familiar faces missing from the Senate are Camden, Jones, of Florida, Mahone, Harrison and Whitworth, and from the House, Morrison, Bragg, Barksdale, Warner, Brady, and O'Hara and Smalls, the two latter being colored and hailing from North and South Carolina. This leaves "our brothers in black" without a race representative in the present Congress.

Speaker Carlisle enters upon his third term as presiding officer of the House—a distinction only conferred upon five of his predecessors—the last of these being Mr. Blaine. There is much doubt as to whether or not Mr. Carlisle will be able to appoint his committees before the holiday adjournment, as, in addition to the usual pressure for desirable places, the Speaker has much new material with which to deal. Capital gossip has assigned the following members to chairmanship: Mills, Ways and Means; Raudall, Appropriations; Turner, Elections; Culbertson, Judiciary; Blood, Coinage, Weights and Measures; Blanchard, Rivers and Harbors; and Herbert, Naval Affairs. Rumor, apparently well founded, has it that these chairmanships are as good as settled. For once at least, the political prophets were correct in forecasting the late Cabinet changes. There is not the least doubt of Mr. Linn's prompt confirmation as Associate Justice when his nomination shall have been reported back from the Judiciary Committee. Many subdivisions in the Interior and Postoffice Departments are now somewhat concerned about their uncertain tenure of places, as it is known there will be a number of changes in the force.

The Supreme Court, in sustaining the position of Virginia in the coupon bond cases, has at once settled two important constitutional questions, and asserted the reserved rights of the States in a manner that doubtless delights the shade of the great Calhoun. The decision in the latter cases will have an important bearing politically, adverse to the Republicans, as it gives the Prohibition party a constitutional existence.

Washington is now crowded with visitors—churchmen, politicians, and statesmen, attracted by the meeting of the American Evangelical Alliance, the presence of Congress, and the session of the National Republican Executive Committee.

The Champion Glutton.

The Twenty-fifth Ward boasts of having within its bounds the champion pie eater and glutton of the State. This titled person is Coney Jackson, a negro boy, nineteen years of age, and a graduate of the House of Refuge. Friday night he devoured two large pies, 1 mince and 1 apple, in the short period of 2 minutes and 30 seconds. The feat was performed with his hands tied behind his back, his tongue performing the duties that would otherwise have been done by his hands. During the week he gained great notoriety and an enviable reputation among his class by three similar feats. He drank a half-gallon measure of water without once taking the vessel from his mouth. He also drank a quart measure of whiskey under the same conditions and ate six soda crackers in five minutes without dampening them in any manner.

An Editor Cowhided by Girls.

Hammond, Ind., Dec. 10.—A number of young women of this place claim to have been slandered by editor Fowle of the Echo of this place. The girls replied in kind by publishing an article in another paper scoring the editor. Yesterday seven of the girls met Fowle in the street and throwing red paper in his face, three attacked him with cowhides. The editor begged for mercy and threatened to shoot, but the girls only plied the whips faster. Fowle finally escaped.

Escape of Prisoners.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 10.—The train bound north over the St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railroad was stopped by train robbers ten miles north of Texarkana, Ark. late last night and the express car robbed. K. F. Johnson, the special clerk on duty at the time, says the train was suddenly stopped when moving out of Geneva station. He saw three rough looking men board the engine. He blew out the lights in his compartment and locked the doors. The express messenger did the same. The three robbers were armed with a Winchester rifle and a couple of pistols each. They ordered the doors opened, and fired several shots through the windows. They then used a pickaxe and Johnson fired one shot out through the window, which was answered by a volley. Finding resistance useless and the lives of the engineer and fireman at stake, the express messenger opened his doors, when a light was struck and search by the robbers began. Johnson does not know accurately, but thinks the robbers must have gotten \$10,000.

The leader of the robbers was much agitated and the mail clerk told him he was more scared than he (Johnson) was. Johnson says he would know one of the men anywhere. The leader weighs 200 pounds and is thick and heavy set, very rough big hands and feet and blue eyes. The conductor opened the door and was fired on. There was a panic among the passengers, who seemed paralyzed with fear. After robbing the express car they entered the mail car. Johnson expostulated that that was Uncle Sam's dominion and that they had already got a good deal of booty and if they disturbed the mails it would go hard with them. One replied, "That is so," and that they would not touch the mails. Great excitement prevails in the region of the robbery and mounted men are scouring the woods everywhere.

No Negroes in Congress.

(From a Washington Letter.) The negro has disappeared from Congress. O'Hara, of North Carolina (who was really only a mulatto), and Smalls, of South Carolina, the last of the Africans, dropped out at the last election, and all the men who stood up in awkward squads to be sworn in on Monday had white faces. The negro is not only out of Congress; he is practically out of politics. The one political fear he had, that the Democrats would enslave him again if they should get into power, has disappeared since the Democrats have been in power a dozen years in the South and three years in Washington. He has no political hopes. He has, therefore, dismissed politics from his mind and gone to making money. As former pianer, mechanic, he finds himself better off than he ever was as politician, and he has no banking to go back. This is the whole secret of the decrease in the negro vote. He is too busy to vote, like many an intelligent, educated, rich white man North and South.

Methodist Statistics.

The following statistics as to the Methodist Church in this State were reported to the recent Conference at Fayetteville: Total present membership in the Conference, \$6,202—a net gain of 3,380. Adults baptized, 3,520; infants baptized, 2,627; total baptisms, 6,147. Number of churches, 895—a gain of 15. Value of churches, \$917,446; increase in value, \$65,126. Number of parsonages, 108—a gain of 4. Value of parsonages, \$136,825—an increase in value of \$3,000. Amount of money paid to Pastors and Presiding Elders, \$128,000; to Domestic Missions, \$5,240; Church extension, \$2,395; to Trinity College Sustentation fund, \$2,572; Conference claimants, \$5,331 83; Bishops \$1,649; other purposes, \$10,872.90; for Sunday school literature, \$8,626.61; for Sunday school scholars, \$5,077—a gain of 4,097.

A Serenader Shot.

LYONS, N. Y., Dec. 8.—Two weeks ago Philip Badger and his young bride were serenaded at their home in Lyons, in this county, on their wedding night, by a party of men and boys, who beat tin pans, blew fish horns, pounded on brass kettles and fired revolvers about the house for over an hour. The bridegroom became intensely angry and fired both barrels of a gun loaded with fine bird-shot into the crowd. John Johnson fell wounded and was carried home. He died last night. What can be done with Badger is puzzling the brains of the rural lawyers in the locality. Badger has not been arrested for the shooting.

Return of the Waters.

A recent phenomenon in Central Illinois puzzles scientific and other people. After weeks of drought, the streams and wells becoming exhausted, abundant water suddenly appeared, without rain or other visible source of supply. Water flowed freely in the streams, and even the shallowest wells were replenished. Where this water came from and the cause of its sudden appearance are mysteries which no man can find out. Some religious people believe it was an answer to prayer. It is probable that the effect was produced by a subterranean disturbance similar to an earthquake shock.

A Teacher Stoned.

ATLANTA, Dec. 10.—Principal Kennebrow, of one of the public schools, was yesterday attacked by ten boy scholars while punishing one of their number. He was driven out of the building and chased some distance through the streets and stoned. The affair causes some excitement. Kennebrow is unpopular because of his frequent severe punishment of scholars.

A Much Married Pair.

Mr. Wesley Smithson of Camden, is thoroughly married to Miss Susan Garrett of this county. The knot was treble tied as follows: "On Thursday of last week Mr. Smithson applied to Mr. Wilcox, our efficient and accommodating registrar of deeds, for a marriage license. As his intended bride was under age, Mr. Wilcox told him that it would be necessary for him to get the written consent of her parents and a blank was furnished for that purpose. To be in readiness, and as he had partly filled out the license, Mr. Wilcox finished it all but his signature and put it in a drawer. On Saturday Mr. Smithson called for and got it, but Mr. Wilcox neglected signing it. In due time the happy couple appeared before C. L. Grandy, Esq., of Camden, who tied the nuptial knot. After their departure he discovered that the license was worthless, being unsigned, and hastened to overtake and inform them. The document was returned, signed and delivered, and the pair stood a second time before Esquire Grandy, who welded the broken link. The twice married pair again departed for home, but they were soon told by a messenger from the squire that as the license was issued in Pasquotank and they had been married in Camden, the law was not yet satisfied. On Monday they came to Elizabeth City in a buggy, and standing in it, in the presence of lawful witnesses, with legal license and everything "according to Hoyle," Squire M. B. Calpepper stood between the shafts and tied them so tight that we doubt if a Chicago lawyer could divorce them.

Andrew Jackson's Niece.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—A niece of Andrew Jackson had to beg for a night's lodging at a Washington hotel this week. Sixty years old and without a cent in her pocket, she arrived here from Washington Territory on her way to her friends at Staunton, Va. Her transportation from Chicago had been furnished by charity, and it was charity that gave her a night's rest here and sent her on her way South. She had three grandchildren with her and she was absolutely destitute. She has many friends at Staunton, and she seemed bright and cheerful in the midst of her trouble. The children were well dressed, and they showed no signs of the sorrow which seems to hang over the relatives and descendants of our Presidents.

A Sad Suicide.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 7.—Miss Ludie Nix, a handsome young woman very well known here, chloroformed herself to death at her home to night. She went to bed about dark from Newman's dry goods store, where she was employed as cashier. Some one hunting her about 7 o'clock found her dead in her bed with her clothes on, the bed clothes over her head and a handkerchief saturated with chloroform over her face. It is thought she drank a considerable quantity of the drug. Nothing has come to light to explain the suicide.

An Unfortunate Engine.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 10.—Two freight trains on the Cincinnati Southern Railroad collided yesterday at Darvin. Tenn. The engine of the rear train overturned, crushing the fireman, William Hutsel, to death, and maiming the engineer, David O'Donnell. Two weeks ago the engine and fireman on the same engine were killed in a wreck at Nemo. The superstition of the train men is so strong that new hands cannot be found tonight to man the train.

Encounter with Outlaws.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 12.—Three officers—Baxen, Griffith and Howell—made a raid this morning at Dayton, Tenn., on a gang of outlaws fortified in a cabin a mile from town. The gang opened fire on the officers as they approached. The desperadoes were armed with rifles and shot guns, but as soon as the first round was fired the officers charged the cabin, knocked down the door, and captured three prisoners, shooting one of them—J. Carbarn—through the heart.

Fatal Shooting Affair.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 12.—W. H. Grinter, a well known stockman, of Muncie, Kansas, and W. H. Roqua, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Fort Scott, were in the wilds of Ozark county Saturday. Roqua mistook Grinter's head for a wild turkey and sent a load of buckshot into him. Grinter supposing it had been done purposely, became enraged and returned the fire, killing Roqua instantly. Grinter died half an hour afterwards.

Accident at a Mine.

WILKESBARRE, PENN., Dec. 10.—A frightful accident occurred at the Luzerneborough Mines this morning, by which two men, named Johns and Monaghan, were killed and three others injured. The men were on their way up in a carriage when the bottom dropped out and they all fell to the bottom.

Norrell Hopkins.

The great popularity and success of Salvation Oil, the great pain-debroyer, have made it a target for counterfeiters. Buy the genuine. Price 25 cts. "Died of ammonia, poor fellow," said Mrs. Partington on learning of a friend's death from pneumonia. "I believe I should have died, too, but for Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup." Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup she meant, of course.

CHRISTMAS 1887.

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FANCY GOODS, HOUSEHOLD USEFUL PRESENTS,
CHINA AND GLASSWARE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION!
IN FACT, IF YOU WISH TO MAKE ANY ONE A PRESENT YOU CAN FIND JUST THE THING YOU WISH AT LONDON'S.
Special Prices to Sunday Schools and Christmas Trees.
A LARGE STOCK OF BOOKS AND CHRISTMAS CARDS.
Fruits and Confectioneries of all kinds,
BANANAS, ORANGES, APPLES, LEMONS, COCONUTS, NUTS, RAISINS, CITRONS, CURRANTS, CANNED GOODS, MINCE MEATS, all kinds of CANDIES, splendid stock of GROCERIES.
LONDON is offering special prices in Dress Goods and Ready-made Clothing. His stock is now complete again in every line.
LONDON will not be undersold by any one at any place! Bring the money and you can find anything you wish and at very bottom prices. Come and learn the prices at LONDON'S and bring the children to see Old Santa Claus. Come early and make your purchases before the rush.
Pittsboro', N. C., Dec 8, 1887. W. L. LONDON.

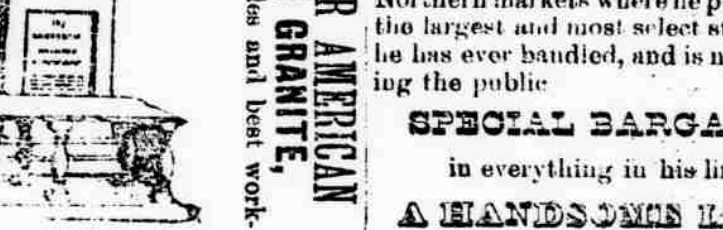
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SPECIAL BARGAINS
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April 7, 1887. 1c.

