

A COMMITTEE of prominent North Carolina democrats visited Washington last week for the purpose of urging Congress to relieve our people from some of the oppressions of the internal revenue laws, and we are pleased to learn that their visit had a good effect.

1. A modification of punishment, and the substitution of salaries for fees of marshals.
2. A reduction of the brandy tax to ten cents.
3. A repeal of the tobacco tax, except on cigars, cigarettes and cheroots.

It was ascertained that there would be no chance of repealing the entire revenue system, so it was thought best to agree upon the above, which it is believed can be carried through Congress, and, if it is, it will afford some relief and may be the entering wedge to break up finally the entire revenue system.

A BILL has been passed by the United States Senate (and will no doubt be passed by the House of Representatives) to refund the direct tax levied and collected under authority of an Act of Congress passed during the war.

A BILL has been introduced into the House of Representatives by Hon. F. M. Simmons of the second district, instructing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the State of North Carolina for certain cotton belonging to the State that was seized by the Federal authorities just after the war.

But this is not all the State's cotton that was illegally seized and sold by the Federal authorities. A large number of bales, belonging to the State, were seized in the counties of Union, Anson and Richmond, and Congress ought also to instruct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay for this cotton.

Important to Farmers.

We have received a copy of the first annual report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of this State, and in it is much valuable and interesting information.

"The mortgage and lien bond system gets more attention perhaps than any other topic, and very properly, because the facts gathered and presented show that more evils have come to the farmers of the State on account of the mortgage and lien bond system than from any other source.

It has proved a worse curse to North Carolina than droughts, floods, cyclones, storms, rust, caterpillars and every other evil that attends the farmer. Wherever they have depended upon this system to furnish them their supplies the farmers are in debt, and wherever it has been the custom of the farmers to raise their own supplies, there the people are free from debt and the community is thrifty.

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Another oriental nation has sent an embassy to Washington, and in the gorgeousness of their picturesque costumes, the Koreans surpass even the greatest efforts of the Chinese and Japanese ministerial and consular representatives.

WAR AGAINST TEMPERANCE PEOPLE. Kinston, Canada, Jan. 21.—In retaliation for the hard fight being made by the temperance people of Leeds county, eleven buildings have been burned at Irish Creek.

Our Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20th, 1888.

Mr. Justice Lamar, two days after his confirmation, appeared in a handsome new judicial robe, and was inducted into office with the simple but impressive ceremonies incident to the occasion.

Nothing could better show the narrow, short-sighted policy, and the sectional character and tendencies of the Republican party than its crusade against Mr. Lamar.

Secretary Vilas and Postmaster General Dickinson have settled down to work amid their new duties as if they were fully familiar with their responsibilities and surroundings.

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Railroads have been occupying a large share of popular attention this week. First in importance comes the President's message on the Pacific Railroad Commission, and his recommendation in favor of canceling the grants and in opposition to governmental control.

Next comes the Standard Oil Company litigation before the Interstate Commission, in which several railroads are charged with discriminating in favor of that gigantic monopoly.

Besides discussing the Blair Educational bill exhaustively, pro and con, the Senate has this week passed the bill regulating the writing and printing that may be permitted on the wrappers of other than first class mail matter.

It behooves every one, therefore, with any interest in North Carolina to be careful for, to bestir himself to the end that the economy and efficiency of Democratic control may be continued.

Every Democratic vote will be needed this year. Every Democratic voter should be got to the polls. Every patriotic citizen should exert himself to the end that the full Democratic strength may be carried into the coming contest.

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Fertilizer Analyses at the Experiment Station.

No. 1. Preliminary Report.

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 18, 1888.

It is deemed advisable to issue this preliminary report before any fertilizer analyses are sent out by the Experiment Station in order that every one who is interested in the forthcoming analyses will be able to recognize what difficulties have to be met in the varied requirements incident to the regulation of fertilizer control.

1. That owing to the late period at which the analyses have heretofore appeared, the benefits to the farmers who wish to consult these analyses before purchasing their fertilizers for the spring sowing have not been as great as could be the case were these analyses given to the public at an earlier date.

2. That if samples are taken early in the season and the analyses published, it may be believed by some that manufacturers might take advantage of this fact and ship a lower grade of goods into the State after the first examination has been made and the result published.

As to this last, while we do not believe that there are any fertilizer manufacturers now dealing in the State who would be guilty of such fraudulent schemes, yet to make our position perfectly secure, the official inspector will be on the road and will take samples of all brands found, not only in the early part of the season, but in the middle and latter part, so that by a comparison of the analyses of samples taken during the various stages of the season it can be made evident that no deterioration in grade can occur without such fact becoming known to us.

The fertilizer law is very strict in regard to this point and will be rigidly enforced. A variation in analysis showing a variation in grade will subject any brand to seizure by the inspector.

The farmers of the State may be sure that their interests will be protected by every official endeavor on our part.

It only remains then to see if the analysis cannot be published at the very earliest date as well as later on. The analysis of a fertilizer is a much more difficult work than is generally supposed, for much skill and no less than four days and sometimes more, are required to complete it.

Working now as is the case with a greatly decreased force, this promise-means heavy work and a strain both day and night for several months, but as it will redound to the interest of the people we feel that the endeavor to be of the most service to the people will be appreciated by them.

A word in regard to the sampling of fertilizers. The official inspector takes the sample in the presence of the agent selling the same, who testifies that the sample is a fair one and taken according to the inspector's instructions. A numbered tag is placed with the sample, which is hermetically sealed in a tin can in the agent's presence and forwarded by express to the laboratory.

With this system it is impossible for us to get other than fair and average samples, and for the analysis to be other than strictly impartial.

H. B. BATTLE, Director.

A Fight with Squatters.

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 20.—A year ago a ranchman in Moss Canyon, Lewis Stone, went East. During his absence a family named Goen, consisting of a widow, two sons and a daughter, took possession of his rancho and cabin.

He Fooled the Doctors. ALTON, Ill., Jan. 20.—About three weeks ago an inmate of the county jail at Edwardsville, C. L. Logan, awaiting trial on a charge of swindling, was attacked by a strange illness. He became suddenly blind and deaf, and apparently suffered excruciating agony.

Narrow Escape from Burning. CHICAGO, Jan. 22.—About forty persons barely escaped being burned to death this morning in a fire that destroyed the great part of the big apartment and store building at the southwest corner of Oakwood Boulevard and Cottage Grove Avenue.

The Brazos and Colorado rivers in Texas were frozen solid; last week something never known before.

Bold Bank Robbers.

LIMESTONE, ARIZONA, Ter., Jan. 21.—

At about 11 o'clock Saturday four masked men, heavily armed, rode up to the Citizens' Bank and dismounted. The leader entered, and, covering the cashier, W. T. Reynolds, with a pistol, demanded the cash on hand.

After an hour's hard pursuit a posse effected the capture of the trio and brought them back to Limestone. Judge Lynch found the leader guilty of murdering the cashier, and he was at once hanged.

Train Robbers Foiled. EAST ST. LOUIS, Jan. 19.—Train robbers were foiled last night in an attempt to rob an express train on the Wabash & Western road at Cooley's Lake, twenty-four miles east of Kansas City.

The county officials had been warned of the intended robbery and they sent an armed posse on the train and had another posse concealed in the woods close to Cooley's Lake.

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Drowned While Skating.

ENNIS, Tex., Jan. 19.—Seven children, four of them sisters, were out skating on Sand Lake, about ten miles east of here, yesterday afternoon, when two of the sisters, the daughters of Wm. Williams, and a young man named Babbitt, fell through the thin ice and were drowning.

Peculiar Case of Paralysis. GREENSBORO, Correspondent of News and Observer. Much interest has been felt in a remarkable case of paralysis experienced by a well known young merchant, Mr. E. M. Hendrix.

The Storm Sufferers. LINCOLN, Nebraska, January 24.—So much suffering and death have been reported among the teachers and pupils in this State, in the late storm, that prominent people and papers have advocated public contributions to the heroic teachers and to aid those who have been crippled through losing limbs by freezing.

Ex-Congressman James W. Reid is now permanently located at Lewistown, Idaho. He is practicing law, with Mr. Patrick Winston as a partner.

The best is the cheapest. Dr. Bull's Baby Syrup is acknowledged to be the safest and most reliable medicine for babies. Price only 25 cents.

If you feel that everything is going wrong, if you do not feel like getting up in the morning, if you have pain in the stomach, take a dose of Laxador, the golden remedy. Price only 25 cents.

PARRISH'S WAREHOUSE, Durham, N. C., WILL BE READY FOR YOUR TOBACCO AFTER JANUARY 16TH WHERE YOU WILL GET THE HIGHEST MARKET PRICES.

HEADQUARTERS FOR ALL GRADES! Best Warehouse, Best Light, AND BEST ACCOMMODATIONS, FOR MAN AND BEAST IN N. C. OR VIRGINIA. Stable Holds 200 Horses!

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS! IN BEGINNING THE NEW YEAR THE BEST RESOLUTION YOU CAN MAKE IS THAT YOU WILL BUY GOOD GOODS, AND WHERE YOU CAN GET THEM AT BOTTOM PRICES! W. L. LONDON'S IS THE PLACE! HIS MOTTO IS: "Lowest Prices Consistent with Good Quality and Honest Goods!"

JOHN W. MARKHAM, DURHAM, N. C., HEADQUARTERS OF GROCERIES! My old friends in Chatham are invited to call on me when they visit Durham and I will guarantee to satisfy them in everything in Staple and Fancy Groceries.

M. C. Herndon & Co., DURHAM, N. C., DEALERS IN Gents', Youths', BOYS and CHILDREN'S CLOTHING, GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, HATS, CAPS, TRUNKS, VALISES, UMBRELLAS, LADIES', MISSES', CHILDREN'S and GENTS' FINE SHOES A SPECIALTY.