The Chatham Record

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H. A. LONDON, Editor.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

How pleasantly does the greeting "Merry Christmas" fall upon the ear, and what joyful feelings does it awaken! Before another issue of the RECORD reaches its readers they will have exchanged the greetings and enjoyed the pleasures of the happy Christmas holidays. Yes, another Christmas will have come and gone, and don't they come rapidly and go quickly?

To all its readers the RECORD extends its cordial greetings and wishes for each and all a very MERRY CHRISTMAS! May old Santa Claus visit every household and fill every stocking, and may no body, we hope, in this country be empty!

Ex Gov. Holden has written to the newspapers of the State to publish the following letter:

"TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA:

Gentlemen:—On the 22nd day of March, 1871, the Senate of North Carolina sitting as a court of impeachment, pronounced judgment against me in six out of twenty articles of impeachment then presented to me by the House of Representatives. I was held by the Senate to be guilty of "high crime and misdemeanor." I deny the jurisdiction in any manner. I do not seek to have you or rescind the sentence, for it is being executed, and cannot not be repealed. [illegible] the same [illegible] ask you to declare that I was acquitted by [illegible] did, and that I did [illegible] best and [illegible] State.

I am not [illegible] parties [illegible] to you [illegible] I have given [illegible] State. On the [illegible] her well [illegible] loyal son, [illegible] banned.

The press [illegible] copy the above [illegible] ness to a [illegible] and send me a [illegible]

W. W. HOLDEN.

We gladly comply with the request but at the same time we say that the General Assembly not to do what is [illegible] now have very little [illegible] sonally to exercise. Holden proves think that he has a [illegible] viction was [illegible] our privilege and [illegible] present every [illegible] trial and to have [illegible] witness and [illegible] able counsel. [illegible] was clerk of the court of [illegible] the court of [illegible] were the [illegible] after the lapse of [illegible] when the [illegible] which may [illegible] have said [illegible] the respondent [illegible] was justly convicted.

That High Court of Impeachment was a notable body. Chief Justice Pearson was its presiding officer. The Senate was composed of 50 members, among them such men as Merrimon, Vance, Dockery, Graham, Moore, Scales, Settle, Jones, Long, Speaks, Grady, Bryan, Cobb, Bryson, Sloan, Ingram, Lewis, Bynum, Hyman, Speed, Boyd, Gilmer, Allen, Joyner, Bond, Cooper, Jones, Lassiter, Faulkner, W. M. Robbins, C. W. Robbins, Rogers, Holt, H. Brogden, and many other able and honorable gentlemen as members. The managers on the part of the House were John W. Graham, Gen. A. S. Merrimon, Col. Ham. C. Jones and J. A. Mitchell. The lawyers employed were on each side men of the highest character in the State. For the prosecution were ex-Governor Bragg and Hon. Thos. S. Ashe. For the defendant were Judge Merrimon, Gen. Lee, Hon. Geo. V. N. Batchelor, Hon. W. H. Smith, Judge Dick, Hon. Edward Conigland, R. O. Burton and Hon. John McCorkle. This trial lasted forty four days. There were 20 articles of impeachment and the respondent was convicted on six of them. On one of these articles four of the fourteen republican Senators voted for loyalty, and on another five of them voted guilty. So that Governor Holden was convicted by republicans and not by democrats.

THE DOGGER TAX BILL has at last been passed by both branches of Congress. The Senate passed it last year, and the House passed it last week by a vote of 176 to 96. It is supposed that the President will not veto it. The Representatives from this State all voted for it, except Messrs. Cowles and Johnston. This bill refunds to the several States the amounts of taxes paid by them respectively by the Act of Congress approved August 5th, 1861. The amount to be refunded is about twenty million dollars, and North Carolina's part is over three hundred thousand dollars. This will be very gladly received by those of our citizens who, just after the war, were forced to pay this tax.

THE LIBERTY of the press in New York is threatened by an Act of the Legislature of that State, passed at its last session, and which law goes into force on the 1st day of January. It forbids any person or newspaper to publish an account of any execution of a criminal in that State, except only a mere statement of the fact that such capital was duly executed on a certain day according to law. Any person who violates this law shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

While we have always disapproved of the disgusting and sensational details of executions as published by many newspapers, yet we still more disapprove of this New York law making such publication a misdemeanor. We think it an arbitrary and despotic act, and an attempt to restrain and abridge the liberty of the press. It is just as much a law as any other law, and it is just as much the duty of the press to disregard the one as the other. It is just as much the duty of the press to publish accounts of murders, treason or of Boston riots!

FEMALE suffrage was illustrated at a municipal election held at Boston last week. Women are allowed to vote in that city for the public school officers, and in the ward last week about twenty thousand of them registered, one fifteen hundred and voted. The polls were [illegible] presented an unusual spectacle. Early dressed women were to be seen standing in line for hours, just as men do, waiting their turn to get to the ballot box. It is said that they did not show any partisanship in their voting. We hope and trust that such scenes will not be witnessed in our southern city!

[illegible]

The National Alliance.

[illegible] the National Farmers Alliance held at Meridian, Miss., [illegible] information as to what was done.

[illegible] the Alliance [illegible] Mississippi [illegible] Mississippi [illegible] Mississippi