

THE RALEIGH SENTINEL is published on Tuesdays and Fridays by Smith, Batecher & Co., and mailed to subscribers, postage prepaid, at four dollars a year, two dollars for six months and one dollar for three months, in all cases payable in advance. City subscribers served by carriers at the above rates, or forty cents a month.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1877.**

Prof. Henry Elliot Shepherd is lecturing in Baltimore on the "Age of Queen Elizabeth;" and if this was the age of Queen Elizabeth she would not show the age of Prof. Shepherd for talking about the age of Queen Elizabeth.

The cow-hiding of James Gordon Bennett of which we have heretofore advised our readers has resulted in a duel in which May was wounded. And now the Herald reproduces the article it published in relation to the Mordecai-Bennett duel six years since.

The Virginia papers are busily and acrimoniously recommending candidates for the governorship of that state. We appreciate their anxiety and beg leave to suggest that if they want a monumental infamy and the best governor Virginia has ever had they had better concentrate on John W. Daniel, of Lynchburg.

It is worth noting as an indication of the times, that many of the leading savings banks in the Western cities begin the New Year with an announcement of reduced rates of interest. In Chicago, for instance, three of the strongest institutions there have led the way, and the signs are that others will soon follow. These banks heretofore have been paying depositors six per cent for their money. In future it will be five.

A representative of the North Carolina landholders has reached Raleigh and is moving in our legislature. We do not know how many of the bondholders this gentleman is authorized to represent nor what terms of settlement he is prepared to offer. Nor does he seem to be much better informed on the subject. We would like very much to see the state debt settled, but we think the bondholders must be more fully represented and offer fairer terms than at present before any very great headway can be made in the matter.

### The Situation in Louisiana.

In Louisiana each party has inaugurated its candidate for governor. Up to the present time no collision has taken place between the dual administrations, but we very much fear that it is inevitable. President Grant has refused to recognize either Nicholas or Eckhard, saying that the matter is the subject of investigation by Congress and that any action must be based on the report of the committee sent to investigate the subject. It is a very significant fact that Ex-Gov. Warmoth, General Geo. A. Sheridan, J. S. Clark Esq., E. E. Norton Esq., and General Joseph G. Longrest, all distinguished Republicans endorse the Nicholas government.

### The Eastern War Closed.

The state of affairs in Eastern Europe so far as we can gather from the conflicting reports which reach us from that quarter is such as to render war only a question of time. The conference of the European powers which was called to stand off this calamity, has been met at the outset by a determination on the part of the Porte not to yield one iota to any plan of settlement which threatens the integrity of the Turkish Empire. The plan of fighting Midhat Pacha by threatening to turn Turkey over to the mercies of Russia, has not worked at all. The Turk evidently gives full credence to the reported bad condition of the Russian armies and finances, and believing as he does that he could ultimately put into the field an army of 4,000,000, or 5,000,000 men, who spurred on by fanaticism and hate would be the finest fighting material in the world rather than to avoid an opportunity to try conclusions with his old enemy.

### County Government.

In a question so important as the one now before us it is proper that we should make haste slowly, and not finally adopt a plan which offers a mere consideration of every one proposed. This is and has been the position of the Sentinel and for this reason it has not as yet given any plan its final endorsement, but has contented itself with suggesting sound ideas relating to the settlement of the question and leaving them together with the arguments for and against them, for the consideration of others. One of the plans presented by the committee appointed by the county, the present one, is as follows: The Sentinel now wishes to submit for public discussion, still another plan

and one which although it has been spoken of has not yet received the amount of attention it deserves. We refer to a plan for county judges. With this idea we are not pleased at first sight but like all others it is entitled to a full consideration and a fair review of the various arguments for and against it.

The plan in few words is that some lawyer shall be appointed as judge for every county in the state. That to this judge shall be committed the bulk of the business now delegated to the Probate Judge. That he shall hold court once a month for the transaction of county business and that his court shall have a limited civil and criminal jurisdiction. The various justices of the peace are to render monthly reports to this judge; and appeals from his decisions will be to the superior court. These are as we understand it the main features of what we shall designate the county judge plan. It is in some respects a very good one, and our main objections to it are based upon the facts that it would place too much power in the hands of one man and that it would be too expensive. Something similar to this plan has however been tried and found to work very well in Virginia, and we will again refer to it when we have had time to digest more thoroughly the system as in operation in that state.

### The Bennett-May Duel.

We have heretofore informed our readers of the cow-hiding of James Gordon Bennett, the proprietor of the New York Herald, by Frederick May, and that a duel was anticipated between them. This duel has taken place and we have reported in the wounding of May. We deeply regret the publicity of the affair. We think it a duty which should have been done to keep his private character from being made public. But it has taken place and as public journals it becomes our duty to notice it and to counteract so far as we may be able the evil influences which such an affair most necessarily exert.

The first question to settle is: who was to blame in the matter? We think this question easy of solution. Mr. Bennett has from the beginning of the affair behaved with great coolness, dignity and propriety. With the causes which brought about the disruption of the engagement with Miss May, we have nothing to do. These causes are not known, but probably never be known, nor is a knowledge of them at all germane to the issue. This we are glad of. We think one of the worst features in the conduct of young May has been the fact that he pursued a course which would inevitably cause his sister's name to be bandied about in every part of the civilized world, while Mr. Bennett has in every way possible, tried to shield the lady from all blame, and to prevent her from being made the target of public criticism. Of Mr. Bennett's courage, we have never had a doubt. No man can be a coward who has his keen love for and excellence in athletic amusements. Our opinion is decidedly that May was greatly to blame for the course he pursued, and we are satisfied that Bennett has done more to strengthen the influence of his paper, and to popularize himself by his course in this matter than he had done in his whole former life.

But there is another question involved in this unfortunate affair. What means can be devised to stop dueling? The laws of New York, are as stringent against dueling as any which can be devised by the ingenuity of man, yet within the past few years many duels, some of them fatal have taken place between citizens of New York and no one has been punished therefor. In Virginia the laws are very stringent, yet on Virginia's soil was fought the most noted duel which has taken place since the war. The laws of North Carolina strictly forbid dueling, yet at one time our state challenges were handed about "thicker than autumn leaves in Valparaiso." From these examples we infer that dueling cannot be stopped by statute and that so long as public opinion says that a man is disgraced who being insulted does not shoot or try to shoot his insultor so long and just so long will duels continue.

### LEGISLATURE.

#### SENATE.

MONDAY, JAN. 8.  
The senate was called to order at 11 a. m., Lieutenant Governor Jarvis in the chair.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall, of the city.  
The Journal of Saturday was read, corrected and approved.

#### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Finger, from the committee on claims; Mr. Moore, of Mecklenburg, from the committee on enrolled bills, submitted reports.  
A message was received from the house announcing the passage of a bill to extend the charter of certain banks, Banks and currency.  
INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.  
By Mr. Wilson, a bill to amend the charter of the towns of Winston and Salem. Corporations.  
By Mr. Green, a bill for the protection of mooring birds. Propositions and grievances.  
By same, a bill to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors in North Carolina. Propositions and grievances.  
By Mr. Cobb, a bill to modify and regulate certain features of the constitution. Referred to the committee on county government.  
By same, in relation to justices of the peace. Referred to the committee on county government.

By same, a bill to establish certain courts in the state. Same reference.  
By Mr. Nicholson, a bill to be entitled an act to prohibit the sale of liquor in two miles of McKendrick's Chapel, Irrell county. Propositions and grievances.  
By Mr. Short, a bill to amend the charter of the Great Falls Manufacturing Company, in the county of Richmond. Corporations.  
By Mr. Nicholson, a bill to prohibit the sale of liquor within two miles of Morris Chapel, Irrell county. Propositions and grievances.  
Bill in relation to county government, presented by Mr. Latham, from committee, was selected to be printed.  
By Mr. Liles, a resolution concerning clerks of the general assembly. Propositions and grievances.

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Bunn, col., presented a petition from colored citizens of Nash county for colonization in some part of the United States. Placed on the calendar.  
Mr. Jarvis presented a petition for and against a fish law for the citizens of Beaufort county. Placed on the calendar.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Shackelford, from the committee on engrossed bills; Mr. Henderson, from the committee on corporations submitted reports.  
RESOLUTIONS AND BILLS.  
By Mr. Roberts: A resolution of inquiry relative to the impeachment of J. C. L. Harris, solicitor of the 6th judicial district. Placed on the calendar.  
By Mr. Wilson, of Burke: A bill to punish willful interference with water cocks, valves in the Western N. C. Inmate asylum. Judiciary committee.  
By Mr. Keenan: A bill in relation to larceny of money. Judiciary committee.

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Coming up on its third reading, the bill was supported by Mr. Bingham, and several supporters took part in the debate. The bill to amend section 215, laws of 1874-75, was postponed and the bill came up for consideration.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Informing the senate of its agreement to the senate proposition to print the report of the commissioners of the Western North Carolina railroad.  
By Mr. Justice, a bill to regulate the terms of the superior courts in the ninth judicial district. Judiciary committee.  
Upon motion of Senator Liles, the senate reconsidered the vote by which the consideration of the bond swapping case (bill to repeal chap. 215, laws of 1874-75), was postponed and the bill came up for consideration.

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The bill in relation to sections 1 and 3, article 7, in reference to municipal corporations, was taken up, and on motion of Mr. Carter, referred to the committee on county government.

#### SENATE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 9.  
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The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

#### PETITIONS.

By Mr. Stewart: A petition from certain citizens of Granville county. Propositions and grievances.  
By Mr. Cobb: A petition with accompanying bill to authorize the commissioners of Pasquotank county to lay a special tax. Propositions and grievances.  
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By Mr. Sandifer: A petition from citizens of Gastonia. Corporations.  
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#### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Graham, from the finance committee; Mr. Dortch, from the committee on propositions and grievances; Mr. Moore of Mecklenburg, from the committee on enrolled bills; Mr. Waddell, from the committee on engrossed bills, submitted reports.  
MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.  
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Prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall, of the city.  
The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

#### PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, &c.

Mr. Moore, of Mecklenburg, presented a petition from citizens of Davie county. Placed on the calendar.  
Mr. Wilson, of Burke, presented a

message from the National Board of Trade. Placed on the calendar.  
By Mr. Cobb, a bill to establish an additional township in Chowan county. Corporations.  
By Mr. Cobb: A bill to establish an additional township in Chowan county. Corporations.  
By Mr. Cobb: A bill to repeal chap. 137, acts of 1868-69, in relation to the town of Edenton. Calendar.  
By Mr. Sandifer: An act to incorporate the town of Gastonia in the county of Gaston. Corporations.  
By Mr. Bennett: An act requiring beef cattle carried to the town of Wilmington to be weighed. Propositions and grievances.  
By Mr. Short: A bill to protect fish in Wassaw Lake and adjacent waters. Propositions and grievances.  
By Mr. Dortch: A resolution in favor of the Petersburg railroad. Claims.  
By Mr. Justice: A resolution to purchase three stores for the senate chamber. Calendar.  
By Mr. Moore, of Mecklenburg: A bill to amend chap. 17, sec. 9, Battle's Revised Code. Judiciary.  
By Mr. Dortch: A bill to abolish the July term of the superior court of Wayne county. Calendar.  
By Mr. Stewart: A bill to prevent the sale of liquor within two miles of certain churches in Granville county. Calendar.  
By Mr. Thorne: A bill to be entitled an act to establish an industrial and educational school for the benefit of the colored children of both sexes in the state, to be known as the State Colored College of North Carolina. Ordered to be printed and referred to the committee on education.  
By Mr. Moore, of New Hanover: A bill to repeal chap. 82, sec. 182, Battle's Revised Code. Judiciary.  
By Mr. Robinson, by request: A resolution requesting congress to take the necessary steps to have a final settlement of the accounts of the eastern band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina with the United States government. Also asking for such appropriations for the establishment of educational and industrial schools for the benefit of other Indian tribes. Propositions and grievances.  
A message was received from the house announcing concurrence in senate bill 182.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

At 11 a. m. Mr. Speaker Price called the house to order.  
The Journal of Saturday read and approved.

#### PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, &c.