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The Sentinel

TUE-DAY, JANUARY 23, 1877.

The losing card in Louisiana was the packard.

Governor Stearns, of Florida, went just as far in the way of fraud as he could, and then drew out.

Louisiana don't care any more for gold and silver than Grant does for the supreme court, but she goes her length on Nicholls.

The Louisiana democrats have plenty of small change, and are dealing out Nicholls in a way that is awfully exacting to the radicals.

The question is? Is Fred May wounded, is he dead, or is he only playing possum? The ragged edge ought to be taken off this thing.

Since reading the life of Commodore Vanderbilt, Father Evans of the Miss. Chronicle has concluded that publishing a country newspaper is not the only road to wealth."

It wouldn't be any great disappointment to the republicans generally if Tilden should be installed president, but there can be no doubt but the office-holders would be very much "put out."

Mr. E. T. Doty, of Mt. Union Pa., sent to each poor family in that town a five dollar bill as a Xmas gift. We came pretty near doing the same thing here, but didn't have the money.

The aggregate circulation of the New York Sun, for the week ending Jan. 13, amounted to \$40,000 copies. Pretty high up in the figures that, but when we come to think about it, it's only a little ahead of the Sentinel.

The Vacant Judgeship.

It has been suggested, that, in view of the fact that the people of North Carolina have so recently and so emphatically said that, in their opinion, the number of judges of the superior court should be reduced to nine, it would be as well for Governor Vance not to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Wattis, to the end that the promised system of economy be at once initiated. This suggestion rather commends itself to us. If nine judges can do the work of the courts in 1879 it seems that eleven ought to do it in 1877.

There are however other questions involved which may render it impracticable to leave the judgeship vacant, but we call the attention of the legislative committee to re-district the state to this suggestion and remind them that if they act on the same they must do so at once, as the first court which the successor of Judge Wattis should be appointed must hold, before the work of the courts in 1879 it seems that eleven ought to do it in 1877.

We are disposed to accept the work of such men as these. While the plan they have proposed met with opposition and criticism at the hands of some of the ablest men and journals of both parties, we do not propose to throw any obstacle of caviling opinion in the way of a settlement of the presidential question. Wherein it is wrong or defective, let the members of both houses of congress discover and remedy it.

THE SUPERIOR COURT CLERK OF CRAVEN... HIS ACCOUNTING FOR FEES TO THE STATE TREASURER.

Mr. Hearne, of this paper, being on a visit to New Bern, last week, was requested by the clerk of the superior court of Craven, to examine the docket of the superior court of that county, the magistrates dockets and other records in the office of the clerk, respecting charges in the Raleigh News that Mr. West, the clerk, had never accounted to the state treasurer for but one dollar of all the fines imposed by the superior court and the magistrates of that county since the organization of the present system of courts in 1869.

In consequence of the failure of the News to publish the vindication Mr. West made for himself, based on the examination referred to, he has requested us to give the result of the examination made by Mr. Hearne, and the following is a statement thereof:

Amount of fines imposed and collected by superior court of Craven since first term 1869 to present time, \$307.06 Total amount magistrates fines, 558.17

Total fines from all sources, \$1,165.22 Amount paid state treasurer per receipt of Hon. D. A. Jenkins, 939.84

Balance, \$205.38

Fines collected since last spring term, not yet audited by register of deeds, 82.30

Leaving due on last settlement with treasurer, \$125.08

On inquiry at the office of the treasurer we find the record of amounts paid

in by the clerk of Craven, of dates and amounts as follows:

May 6, 1870, 1.00

March 5, 1874, 387.00

November 9, 1874, 36.00

December 21, 1875, 235.84

November 18, 1876, 300.00

\$959.84

While we have no doubt that the affairs of Craven county have been much mismanaged within the past eight years of radical rule; while the charges of extravagance and corruption in many cases remain unanswered, and although Mr. West may have rendered himself obnoxious to certain portions of that people through his political letters and otherwise, we fail to perceive the propriety or public policy of publishing false charges against him; nor can we imagine the ground of refusing him a hearing in his own behalf.

Insomuch, therefore, as he has been assailed, and not given a hearing, having laid the affairs of his office before one of us, to our entire satisfaction, at his request, we make publication of the above statement, with the single remark that these columns are always open to authentic vindication, whether we care anything about the party involved or not.

Upon motion of Mr. Sandifer, the report was ordered to be transmitted to the house with a proposition to print.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Cunningham: A bill allowing

the township of Milton to subscribe

\$15,000 to the Milton & Sutherlin Nar-

row gauge railroad. Placed on the

calendar.

By Mr. Dorch: A bill to be entitled

an act to incorporate the bank of Ridge-

way. Committee on corporations.

By Mr. Mehane, of Rockingham, a bill

to authorize the Dan River Navigation

Company to employ convict internal

improvements.

By Mr. Finger: A bill to be entitled

an act to extend the jurisdiction of im-

ages of the peace. Judiciary committee.

By Mr. Moore, col. of New Hanover: A

bill for the protection of buzzards

Propositions and grievances.

By Mr. Mehane, col. of Bertie: A bill

for the protection of benevolent societ-

ies. Corporations.

By Mr. Finger: A bill to incorporate

the town of Denver in the county of

Lincoln. Corporations.

By Mr. Williams: A bill to protect

the fishing interest in Continen-

tine and Black creeks. Propositions and grievances.

By Mr. Finger: A bill to regulate

the sale of live stock in the city of Wil-

mington. Propositions and grievances.

By Mr. Stewart: A petition in re-

lation to the sale of spirituous liquors near

Tally Ho, Granville county. Committee

on propositions and grievances.

By Mr. Richardson: A petition from a portion of the citizens of Colum-

bus county. Committee on propositions

and grievances.

By Mr. Folger: A bill to change the

time of holding the superior courts in

the 10th judicial district. Calendar.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE.

Mr. Robinson wrote to a question of

personal privilege regarding a petition

laid upon the desks of senators, this

morning, signed Josiah Turner, and

charging fraud upon the commission of

the last general assembly which pur-

chased the Western North Carolina

Railroad for the state.

THE SPECIAL ORDER.

The bill to repeal chap. 245, laws of

1874-'75. (the bond swapping act) came

up.

The vote was then taken on the third

and final reading of the bill proposing

to repeal, and stood as follows:

Ayes—Albright, Crawford, Cunningham,

Dorch, Dockery, Dunn, Johnston,

Nichelson, Robins, Roberts, Standford,

Seward, Troy, Waddell, Wynne, York,

Nays—Askev, Bennett, Bingham,

Boddie, Bryant, Cale, Coke, Ferguson,

Finger, Folk, Green, Graham, Helling,

Holt, Hughes, Justice, Latham, Liles,

Mabson, Mehane, of Bertie, Mehane of

Rockingham, Moore of Mecklenburg,

Moore of New Hanover, Robinson,

Sander, Scales, Stickney, Short,

Thorne, Williams, Wilson.

The clerk reported ayes 16, nays 31.

Mr. Robinson moved to reconsider the

vote by which the bill failed to pass and

moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table. Adopted.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

At 11 A. M., Mr. Speaker Price called

the house to order.

Journal of yesterday read and ap-

proved.

PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, &c.

Mr. Pinnix presented a petition from

certain citizens of New Hanover and

Pender counties. Referred to the com-

mittee on propositions and grievances.

Mr. Richardson presented a petition of

a portion of the citizens of Pender

county. Committee on propositions and

grievances.

Mr. Folger, of Ashe, presented a peti-

tion for the repeal of certain private

laws in regard to Ashe county. Re-

ferred to the committee on propositions

and grievances.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Folger and Albright, from the

committee on judiciary.

Mr. Folger: A resolution to make

provision for the printing of 500 copies of Gov.

Vance's inaugural address for the use of

members of the general assembly. Cal-

endar.

PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, &c.

Mr. Pinnix presented a petition from

certain citizens of Washington county.

Committee on Propositions and Griev-

ances.

Mr. Richardson presented a petition of

a portion of the citizens of Pender

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