THE OLD North State.

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The Old North State

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LEWIS HANES

Editor and Proprietor.

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25 Sorts of either for $1.00; prepaid by mail. Also small Fruits, Plants, Bulbs, all the new Potatoes, &c., prepaid, by mail. 4 lbs. Early Rose Potato, prepaid, for $1.00. Conover's Colossal Asparagus, $3 per 100; $25 per 1000, prepaid. New hardy fragrant everblooming Japan Honeysuckle, 50 cts. each, prepaid. True Cape Cod Cranberry, for upland or lowland culture, $1 per 100, prepaid, with directions. Priced Catalogue to any address, gratis; also trade list, Seeds on Commission.

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Something New and Very Desirable.

Each Box is filled with a new and assorted flavored candy, and every box will give you a SURPRISE. Gold and Silver Watches, Watch Chains, Ladies' and Gents' Breast Pins, Sleeve Buttons, Studs, Ear Rings, Charms, &c., &c.

THEY RETAIL AT 25 CENTS.

MANUFACTURED BY

GEORGE MILLER & SON,
419 Market Street, Philadelphia, Penn.

And sold by Confectioners and Storekeepers everywhere.

The demand for this new confectionery is so great that the trade are desired to forward their orders at once. We caution our friends to beware of worthless imitations the Bon Ton, being the original box, the standard of which shall always be maintained.

nov. 26—4tw

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ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW

SALISBURY, N. C.

☞ Will attend promptly to the Collection of Claims feb26—1y

FORTY THOUSAND CASES OF GOODS were shipped from our house in one Year, to families, clubs, and merchants, in every part of the country, from Maine to California, amounting in value to over

ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

Our facilities for transacting this immense business are better than ever before. We have agents in all the principal cities to purchase goods from all the Manufacturers, Importers, and others, for **Cash**, and often at an immense sacrifice from the original cost of production.

Our stock, consists, in part, of the following goods:—

Shawls, Blankets Quilts, Cottons, Ginghams, Dress Goods, Table Linen, Towels, Hosiery, Gloves, Skirts, Corsets, &c., &c.

Silver-Plated Ware, Spoons plated on Nickel Silver, Dessert Forks five bottle plated Castors, Britania Ware, Glass Ware, Table and Pocket Cutlery, in great variety.

Elegant French and German Fancy Goods Beautiful Photograph Albums the newest and choicest styles in Morocco and Velvet bindings.

Morocco Travelling Bags, Handkerchief and Glove Boxes, &c.

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We have also made arrangements with some of the leading Publishing Houses, that will enable us to sell the standard and latest works of popular authors at about one-half the regular price;—such as BYRON, MOORE, BURNS, MILTON, and TENNYSON'S WORKS, in full Gilt and Cloth Bindings,—and hundreds of others.

These and everything else for

One Dollar for each Article.

We do not offer a single article of merchandise, that can be sold by regular dealers at our price. We do not ask you to buy goods from us unless we can sell them cheaper than you can obtain them in any other way; while the greater part of our goods are sold at about

One-half the Regular Rates.

We want good reliable agents in every part of the Country. By employing your spare time to form clubs and sending us orders, you can obtain the most liberal commissions, either in **Cash** or **Merchandise**, and all goods sent by us will be as represented, and we guarantee satisfaction to every one dealing with our house.

As the Holidays are approaching we are making special arrangements to supply *every one* who reads our advertisement, with the most handsome and useful Holiday presents that can be thought of or wished for, and to enable them to procure them cheaply and expeditiously, we will give to any one who will become our Agent, *One Hundred Free Tickets*, enumerating some of the many different articles from which you make your selection of Holiday presents.

For returning full clubs from these Free Tickets, accompanied by the cash, we will give the same extra premiums that we now give, the same as if you had paid 10 cents for each one of your tickets. We wish you to understand that not any other firm in the business can compete with us in any way whatever.

As this free ticket is only good for the Holidays, you must send in your orders before the 20th of January, 1870.

"In every order amounting to over $50, accompanied by the cash, the Agent may retain $2.00, and in every order of over $190, $3.00 may be retained to

Pay the Express Charges.

This offer is more especially to assist Agents in the Western and Southern States, but is open to all customers.

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Agents will be paid ten per cent. in Cash or Merchandise, when they *fill up their entire club*, for which below we give a partial List of Commissions:

For an order of $30, from a club of Thirty, we will pay the Agent, as commission, 28 yds. Brown or Bleached Sheeting, Good Dress Pattern, Wool Square Shawl, French Cassimere Pants and Vest Pattern, Fine large White Counterpane, etc., etc., or $3.60 in cash

For an order of $50, from a Club of Fifty, we will pay the Agent, as Commission, 45 yds. sheeting, one pair of heavy wool blankets, poplin dress pattern, handsome wool square shawl silver-case watch, etc., etc., or $5.00 in cash.

For an order of $100, from a club of One Hundred, we will pay the agent, as commission, 100 yds. of good yard-wide Sheeting, Coin-Silver Hunting Case Watch, Rich Long Wool Shawl, Suit of all Wool French Cassimere, etc., etc., or $10 in cash.

We do not employ any travelling agents, and customers should not pay money to persons purporting to be our agents, *unless personally acquainted.*

Send Money always by Registered Letters.

For further particulars send for Catalogues.

PARKER & CO.,
98 & 100 *Sumner St., Boston, Mass.*

Oct. 15, 1869. 41-1y

THE EQUITABLE LIFE

Assurance Society

OF THE

UNITED STATES,

92 Broadway, New York.

THIS COMPANY has capital and assets against its liabilities that will compare with any Life Insurance Company on the Continent, which is the true test of responsibility.

Cash Assets	$6,000,000
Annual Premium Income	4,000,000
Increase over 1867	8,000,000

The undersigned is agent for the above Company.

A. A. HARBIN,
Agent.

Mocksville, March 19, 1869. 41—1y

Pure Rye and Corn Whiskies,

Distilled in the Old Style, Pure and Unadulterated at the

Old North State Distillery,

GROOT, KUCK, & CO., Prop's.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

ALSO, Want to purchase 500 or 1000 head of Cattle, and pay the highest Cash Prices for Corn and Rye. July 2—26:6m

WILLIAM VALENTINE,

THE BARBER,

RETURNS HIS THANKS to his *OLD FRIENDS* and the Public for the liberal patronage heretofore extended to him. He now informs them that he has fitted up a new and commodious

Shop, in Dr. Henderson's Brick Building, Room No. 2,

where he would be pleased to see them. He guarantees to give satisfaction in every case.—He has in his employ of the best Hair Dressers in Western North Carolina. He requests a call from all.

Salisbury, N. C., Dec. 17, 1869. 50—tf

Dr. GODDIN'S COMPOUND GENTIAN BITTERS,

The Great American Tonic and Diuretic!

Recommended and prescribed by physicians wherever known.

The "Compound Gentian Bitters" are made of the purest and best Vegetable Tonics and Aromatics known to the profession. They also contain twenty per cent of

☞ *B U C H U !* ☜

Which makes them, beyond all question, the best DIURETIC in existence; and for Distressed Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary Organs, have no superior, if any equal! Those who try these Bitters, for the following Diseases will in every case find them a safe, pleasant, speedy and effectual Remedy.

They are a sure preventive and cure for Chills and Fever, and all Malarial Diseases!

DYSPEPSIA,
INDIGESTION,
SICK-STOMACH,
COLIC,
SICK-HEADACHE,
BRONCHITIS,
ASTHMA,
COLDS & COUGH,
NEURALGIA,
GENERAL DEBILITY,

Diseases of Kidneys, Gravel, &c., and every Disease requiring a general Tonic impression.

☞ For Diseases peculiar to Females it is almost a specific.

☞ In convalescence from Typhoid and other low forms of Fever it is the very best Tonic that can be used.

The Compound Gentian Bitters meet with universal favor, and have received the strongest testimonials ever given to any medicine, a few of which we append below:

This is to certify that I have used Dr. Goddin's Compound Gentian Bitters and cheerfully recommend it as the very best Bitters that can be used for ordinary debility, sick stomach &c. E. M. HOLT, M. D.

Lipscomb, Orange co., N. C., May 15, '69.

I hereby certify that I have been using Dr. Goddin's "Compound Gentian Bitters," for Cough, General Debility &c., and I am fully satisfied that they are the best Bitters of which I have any knowledge, and the best Tonic offered to the American people.

ROBT. Y. SLATER.

Henrico county, Va., June 25, 1869.

DR. GODDIN:—Dear Sir: I have been suffering for twenty years with an affection of the kidneys, prostrate gland and stricture of the urethra; have been under the treatment of the best physicians in the country, one of whom is now a professor in a medical college. All failed to relieve me. I finally tried your Compound Gentian Bitters; the effect was like a charm—one bottle gave me complete relief. I believe it to be the best medicine I have ever used. Very respectfully,

JAS. A. FAULCON.

Littleton, N. C., Jan 7th, 1869.

Prepared only by Dr. Goddin.

JAMES T. WIGGINS,
Proprietary Wholesale Agent,
NORFOLK, VA.

☞ For sale by Dr. G. B. Poulson, Salisbury, N. C. 38—tf

40 YEARS BEFORE THE PUBLIC.

IF OTHER Remedies FAIL

FOR BRONCHIAL AND LIVER DISEASES read the following:

Thomas H. Rainey, Esq., Granville co., N. C., says: "I find your Pills to be the best family medicine I have ever used. They have proved very beneficial in my own case. I have been very much afflicted for fifteen years, and have tried every kind of medicine that I could get, but have found more relief from your Pills than all others. My disease is bronchial affliction, and a complete prostration of the nervous system. I have used them in ten or fifteen cases in my family, and find them to be the very medicine for nearly all family diseases."

The Cure is Thorough.

Kenneth Haynes, Esq., Clerk of Columbus county court, writes (April 2, 1863:) "During the latter part of the year 1862 I was severely afflicted with diseased liver and many nights while in bed the pain would become so excruciating that I was compelled to get out of bed and sit up until the pain would subside. I procured a few boxes of the SOUTHERN HEPATIC PILLS, and the first dose I took gave me great relief. I continued to use the Pills for two weeks, and have not suffered from liver disease since. I have recommended them accordingly, and several persons are in want of them.

All disease is an enemy to the human system, and is at war with it and will conquer it, unless nature, with all the assistance it can receive from strengthening medicines and suitable nourishments, can conquer the enemy; which would be best, to take medicine before you get sick, to prevent sickness or to take medicine after you get sick to cure sickness.

☞ A word to the wise is enough.☜

Exercise your own judgment in the means of defense, the enemy will come, be ye also ready with

The Southern Hepatic Pills,

That old, long known and well-tried remedy for all Bilious diseases, caused by a

DISEASED LIVER.

TO ALL EMIGRANTS.—You are about to make a home for yourself and family in a climate which you or they have not been accustomed to, you will, of course, be exposed to all the diseases peculiar to that climate, you should be careful to use such Medicines as are adapted to the diseases of that climate; you will find the greatest security in the use of DEMS' SOUTHERN HEPATIC PILLS.

They can be sent to any point in the United States by Express.

PRICE—For one box, 25 cents.—Dos. $2.50—Half Gross $15—One Gross, $18—Three Gross, $50—Five Gross, $75. The cash must either accompany the order for the Medicine or it will be sent C. O. D. Orders should be addressed to

DEMS,
No. 28, SOUTH CALHOUN STREET,
BALTIMORE MD.

where they will be promptly attended to.

For these Medicines call on all respectable Druggists everywhere and on

G. B. POULSON,
July 2—26:1y Salisbury, N. C.

Established 1855.

LEPAGE BROS. & Co.,

GENERAL

Commission Merchants

AND

COTTON FACTORS,

Commerce St., Norfolk, Va.

☞ Special attention paid to the sale of GRAIN, COTTON and all other kinds of COUNTRY PRODUCE.

☞ Liberal advances on consignment and prompt returns. July 9—y

THE LEGISLATURE OF N. CAROLINA.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, Dec 16 1869.

The Senate was called to order at 10 o'clock.

NOTICE OF BILLS.

Mr. Robbins, of a bill to protect the freedom of speech, and of the press.

Mr. Martindale, of a bill to organize the militia.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By Mr. Murphy, a bill to authorize the Superintendent of Public Works, to sell the State's interest in the Fayetteville and Warsaw Plank-Road. Referred.

By Mr. Robbins a resolution to amend the rules of the Senate, so that bills may be introduced without having to give previous notice, lies over.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Bill to incorporate the Painter's Railroad Company, was taken up. Mr. Sweet's amendment was adopted, and the bill passed its second reading.

A resolution was transmitted from the House against any further increase of the State debt, adopted.

THIRD READING OF BILLS.

Bill making an appropriation for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum $46,000, passed.

Bill making an appropriation for the support of the Insane Asylum of $48,000, and 12,000, in addition to be used in making improvements on said building, passed.

Bill to repeal an act amendatory of an act to incorporate the Western N. C. R. R. Co., ratified 15th of February, 1855, passed.

At this stage a message was received from the House conveying a communication from the Governor in reference to amending the militia law, with a proposition to print 20 copies for the use of each member of the General Assembly, which was concurred in.

Mr. Shaffner moved a suspension of the rules in order to allow him to introduce a bill in accordance with the recommendations contained in the message, upon which a considerable discussion arose.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THURSDAY, Dec. 16, 1869.

House met pursuant to adjournment.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Malone: A bill to declare valid the election of certain Township officers in certain counties.

Mr. Dixon, for the Committee on Claims, reported unfavorably upon the resolution in favor of Eonss and Henderson.

By Mr. Gunter: A bill requiring owners of toll bridges and ferries to give bond. Referred.

By — Crawford, col: A resolution in regard to the drawing of juros. Referred.

A message was received from the Governor, asking for amendments to the militia law to enable him to suppress outrages. Ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Wilkie, the rules were suspended, and the bill requiring the County Commissioners to meet once a month, was taken up.

The question recurred upon a substitute reported by the Judiciary Committee.

After a long debate the substitute was adopted (the substitute provides that Commissioners shall receive pay for 24 days in the year and shall receive no mileage.

Mr. Pearson offered an amendment that in those counties paying 15,000 dollars tax, the commissioners shall receive pay of 18 days in each year, those that pay over 15,000 dollars and under 25,000 dollars shall receive pay for 24 days, those over 25,000 and under 40,000 shall receive pay for thirty days, those over 40,000 dollars shall receive pay for 40 days and shall receive no mileage. Adopted.

Mr. Seymour offered a substitute embracing the provisions of Mr. Pearson's amendment which was adopted.

Mr. Smith, of Alleghany, moved to amend by saying that all counties paying under 8,000 dollars tax, the Commissioners shall receive pay for only 15 days.

The amendment was adopted by a vote of yeas 45, nays 31. The bill then passed its third reading.

On motion the House then adjourned.

SENATE.

Friday, Dec. 17, 1869.

The Senate was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Sweet arose to a question of privilege in regard to an article which appeared in the morning *Sentinel* of this city copied from the *Winston Sentinel* in which he (Sweet) is charged with being a party to a manipulation of the constitution so as to prolong the tenure of office of the members of the present General Assembly. Mr. S. denounced the article as a fabrication from beginning to end.

NOTICE OF BILLS.

By Mr. Faulkner: Of a bill to change the time of holding the Courts in the 8th judicial district.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS, &C.

By Mr. Martindale: A bill to amend an act to protect Sheriffs in the sale of lands for taxes; also a bill to amend an act in relation to the sale of lands under execution.

CALENDAR.

Resolution instructing the Treasurer to make no payment of interest on the coupons of the bonds issued in payment of a site for a Penitentiary, was adopted.

Bill to allow enterers of vacant land further time to obtain grants from the State, passed its third reading under a suspension of the rules.

Bill to enlarge the powers of the County Commissioners, passed its second reading.

Bill to amend an act to authorize the formation of corporations, passed its second reading.

On motion the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, Dec. 17, 1868.

House met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion the roll was called and 61 members answered to their names.

On motion of Mr. Vest, the rules were suspended and the Senate resolution authorizing the Auditor to move for judgment against delinquent Sheriffs in the special term of the Wake Superior Court, was taken up.

Mr. Justice moved to lay the resolution on the table.

A ballot being taken the vote stood yeas 33, nays 23, (no quorum.)

On motion of Mr. Seymour, a call of the House was had and 62 members responded to their names.

A message was received from the Senate concurring in the House bill in favor of enterers of lands.

The discussion upon the resolution in reference to delinquent Sheriffs was resumed.

After some debate the bill on motion, was postponed until the second Tuesday in January.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Various messages were received from the Senate transmitting several bills, among them the bill for the better protection of life and property, as follows:

An Act to secure the better protection of life and property.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact, That the Governor is hereby authorized and empowered whenever in his judgment the civil authorities in any county are unable to protect its citizens in the enjoyment of life and property, to declare such counties in a state of insurrection and to call into active service the militia of the State to such an extent as may become necessary to repress such insurrection.

Sec. 2. That the Governor is hereby authorized and empowered to request the President of the United States to suspend the writ of habeas corpus in any county or counties declared under authority of this act to be in a state of insurrection, and to afford such assistance as in his judgment may be necessary to enforce obedience to law.

Sec. 3. That upon motion of the Solicitor of the District it shall be the duty of the Judge thereof to remove the trial of any person indicted for murder, conspiracy, and in violation of an act ratified the 12th day of April, 1869 from the county where such offence may have been committed to such other county as the Solicitor may designate.

Sec. 4. That the expenses attending the calling of the militia into active service as herein provided shall be paid by the Treasurer of the State upon the warrant of the Governor and it shall be the duty of the Commissioners of the county declared to be in a state of insurrection and where such service was rendered to reimburse within one year the Treasurer of the State the expenses thus paid; Provided, That whenever a person or persons shall have been convicted of a violation of the act mentioned in section three of the act said expenses of the militia shall be taxed on the bill of cost against the person or persons convicted, and when collected the same shall be paid into the Treasury of such county.

Sec. 5. That all laws or clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

On motion of Mr. Seymour, the rules were suspended and the Senate bill for the better protection of life and property (for provisions of the bill see Senate proceedings) was taken up.

The bill was put on its second reading and failed for the want of a quorum.

The yeas and nays being called and resulted in the following ballot,

Yeas 46. Nays 2.

No quorum voting.

Mr. Seymour moved for a call of the House. In making the motion he recited various Ku Klux outrages in certain parts of the State.

The motion for a call was put to a vote adopted and 67 members responded to their names.

The question recurred upon the passage of the bill on its second reading.

Mr. Seymour called the previous question.

The call was sustained.

The yeas and nays were called and resulted in the following ballot:

Yeas 54. Nays, messrs. Ames, Gunter, Harris, of Franklin, Horney, Mendenhall, Snipes, White and Williams, of Sampson.—8.

Mr. Seymour called the previous question upon the bill on its third reading.

The call was sustained.

The yeas and nays were called and resulted in the following ballot: Ayes 54.

Nays—Messrs. Ellington, Gunter, Horney, Mendenhall, Snipes, White.—6.

No quorum voting.

Mr. Seymour moved to postpone the bill until the first Thursday after the recess.

The call was sustained and the motion to postpone was adopted.

After the transaction of unimportant business the House adjourned until Monday morning next at 5 o'clock.

REMARKS OF

W. H. Malone, Caldwell County,

In the House Representatives on the proposition to raise a Committee of investigation into alleged frauds. In the management of certain Railroad Companies, on 6th Dec. 1869.

MR. SPEAKER:—The last session of this General Assembly made extravagant appropriations to certains Railroad Companies, the faithful and honest application of which might have brought relief to our distressed people, in the development of the industrial resources of the State.

The report of the Treasurer submitted this session, shows the stock owned by the State in Railroads and other corporations to be the sum of $21,707,500. If this stock, was worth its nominal value the State would depend for the purpose of paying her debts. It would seem, that a State having such a stupendous amount of tock in Railroads would have such a basis for capital, that her credit would stand pre-eminently high, in all parts of the nation. But 12,600,000 of this stock were taken under the authority of the acts of this General Assembly, last winter; and Roads not being built, of course the stock is worthless.

In order to show the necessity of rigid economy and a strict investigation in all frauds upon our rights, let us for a moment look at the indebtedness of the State, which is made up as follows:

The "old debt,"	$17,215,045.
New debt (special tax bond) (issued)	12,600,000
Bonds (special tax) not issued.	4,280,000
Total,	$34,085,045.

Now let it be remembered that most of this enormous debt is the result of the State taking stocks in Railroads. This stock obtained by the issuance of bonds to be managed by a board of Directors, appointed by the Governor. Now, these Directors have extraordinary powers, and if they prove unfaithful in the management of these bonds, our stock may become worthless, and the Roads remain unfinished, while a still greater disaster befalls us, a *destroyed credit*, which, to a State, is as precious as virtue to a woman.

The interest on the special tax bonds now being collected, amounts to $756,000, a sum largely more than the present expenses of the State government. And of the 12, 600,000 tax bonds, $7,000,000 go into the hands of *one man with almost unlimited control*. The tax to be paid on the bonds controlled by *one man* is the sum of $420,000, which is more than two thirds of the expenses of the State government with all its abuses and extravagance. Surely this great interest, controlled by a few men, should be guarded with great vigilance by this General Assembly.

And while it is true, that the work is progressing to a limited extent, on some of the Roads, yet comparatively little has been done, although bonds have been issued sufficient to build every Road contemplated in the State. Our credit has gone down, down,—the fair name and fame of the old State of North Carolina have become a "reproach" and "by word" in the commercial centres of the world. Why is all this? The constitution adopted and ratified by the people, guaranteed the good faith in the payment of the public debt—legislative enactments—resolutions of all parties declaring the inviolability of the public debt, yet strange to say *our credit grows daily worse.*

I must say that much of this results from the unwise legislation of this General Assembly. Never before in the history of any State, was such *recklessness* found. Here are $7,000,000 of bonds issued to *one man, without security—without pledges and without a guarantee* that the Road will ever be built—to another, is authorized $4,000,000 with like objection. On the passage of these bills, I had the honor to offer certain *amendments* providing, that these bonds should issue in limited quantities, and at stated periods, when the progress of the work required their application.

But these amendments were repudiated and scouted by a majority or the House as a proposition nonsensical, and absurd. And parties on this floor threatened to kill every Road in which my people were interested if I insisted on such amendments.

True, I voted for most of these bills, but *under protest* of this kind—I did so, in order to obtain support for Roads in which my people felt great interest.

But of course, it was contemplated, these bonds should be thrown on the market in a prudent way—that the proceeds should be *honestly applied.*

Had this been done, the people would have cheerfully submmitted to the burden of taxation, in the hope of seeing the country rise from prostration and lethergy to activity and enterprise. We would gladly have paid the taxes in the hope of getting them back in the rapid growth and development of all the resources of the State. We could hope from the faithful application of this vast sum, to see the whole country roused to a spirit of industry and perserverance, and could flatter ourselves that we were on the high road to prosperity and greatness; and could anticipate some of the happy "victories of peace." But instead; *doubt, and distrust prevail the whole State.*

It is said that a mighty "Railroad Ring" has been organized for the purpose of speculating on the bonds of the State. Propositions have been introduced here to investigate the management of the Directors on these several Railroads.

Why not do it? Have we not the right to require these men to show to this House what they have done with these bonds—to whom they have been sold, and at what price? Shall we allow a confederation of speculators, to destroy the credit of the State, and bring poverty and prostration on the people? These Directors on the part of the State are but the agents of the State; and if they have transcended their power, or been guilty of fraud, we should hold them to a strict account.

It is a familiar rules of law, that an agent or trustee, cannot apply the means entrusted to his care to his personal benefit without impeachment for fraud and bad faith. The President of one of these Roads who should convert a single bond to his individual benefit, is guilty of fraud. And, especially, if he should enter into a combination to speculate on these bonds he should be considered guilty of the grossest conceivable fraud, and should be held up to the public gaze as unworthy of the trust reposed in him. In days gone by, if an honest public man was charged with the violation of any official trust, he would *demand* a Committee of investigation, in order to vindicate his innocence, *but very different now.* Look at these Railroad officials; beholding charges of fraud and mismanagement in almost every paper in the State, and from almost every citizen of the State, yet they publish no denial—they do not demand an investigation—they do not make an official report as required by law, in order that the condition of these Road could be fully known. I ask if this is not a circumstance of suspicion? Does it look like the conduct of the honest man who intends to vindicate himself?

The law requires the Presidents of these Roads to report to this General Assembly, through the Superintendent of Public Works, the exact condition of these corporations. Have they done so? Already this investigation has resulted in showing a failure in this respect; and the proof of this officer shows that they have even refused to allow him to inspect the Roads—that they have actually *concealed* from him all the transactions pertaining to these Roads. This, too, with the full knowledge of the law, and of the duties of the Superintendent of Public works.

Mr. Speaker, we hear of "whisky rings," "gold rings" and "penitentiary rings," but the grandest swindle of the age is the "railroad ring." The monstrous frauds of these corporations, have become one of the greatest evils of the times. Look at the stupendous frauds in the Great "Central Pacific Road" amounting to millions. But a few days ago, the Directors of the great "Erie Railroad" of New York were enjoined from proceeding on the application of a shareholder and creditor; the allegation being that forty millions of dollars were not accounted for, by this windling Directory. And in North Carolina, it seems that a *mania* has seized a *few*; who being dazzeled with the glittering prospect of gaining millions of dollars, are determined to disregard the vital interest of the people—who intend to revel in luxury and opulence at the expense of a people, already oppressed, downtrodden, and humiliated.

And now, when we propose in the "Committee of the Whole," to investigate these frauds, "is it not strange that members on this floor throw obstacles in the way—that they would resort to every species of tactics to defeat full, fair and honest investigation!"

But this investigation must be had.—We shall hold this Legislature, and the dominant party in this House, up to the scorn and condemnation of an indignant public opinion, if they fail to do their duty in the premises.

The interest involved is too vital and momentous to admit of dubious action. The bonds issued to these Railroad Companies belong to the people of the State,—they are paying over a half million dollars, annually to meet the interest on these bonds—this must continue from year to year, and finally the principal must be paid. *Now, will we submit to the manipulations, combinations, and speculations of a miserable, swindling, soulless "Ring?"*

Will we stand by, and behold the country bleeding at every pore? Shall we not catch, and throttle, the "Vampyres" who suck the life blood of the people?

If this investigation shall prove the falsity of the charges against these men, I should be among the first to proclaim their innocence; but if they are found guilty of this high breach of trust, I shal be willing to vote a resolution of condemnation which would hand their names to posterity, branded as the most ignominious ingrates of the present age.

If gentlemen are in good faith, when they say they favor investigation, why not throw open the doors? Why not give full scope this investigation? Why quibble about the technicalities of the law? Why refuse to send for a single witness, and continually proclaim that the investigation is a farce?

I tell gentlemen now, that this is but a committing Court, we intend to prefer articles of impeachment before the great tribunal of public opinion in August next.

This Republican party, which was (said by the gentleman from Johnston) to have been "born amid a halo of glory" si bound to totter and fall to pieces—the glories of its triumphs will fade into disgustful oblivion, an uprising and indignant people will hurl from power the miscreants who have sought to prey upon the vitals of a distressed and struggling people.

I am desirous to see our unfinished Roads completed—the destiny of the Western portion of the State depends upon the completion of these works. Yes, I long to see light pouring through the tunnel of Swannanoa Gap—and the grand line extended on to Duchtown and Paint Rock. I should delight to see the completion of the Atlantic, Tennessee & Ohio Road and all the others, in course, of construction. But except we get more than thirty-one cents on the dollar we cannot build the Roads.

We must check the abuses in the management of these bonds—we must curtail their issue, and thereby restore the credit of the State, and obtain the confidence of the people. Our citizens are languishing for relief—they cry to us for help—shall we diregard their interest—shall we become recreant to the high trust with which we were entrusted?

Our people are opposed to repudiation, they do not wish the odium attached to his dilemma, but gentlemen must recollect that we may *compel* repudiation—we may continue these burdens, and the people for want of substance, and ability, will break down, in spirit, and then, repudiation and financial disaster, will be welcomed as a pleasant, last resort. But all this may be averted by an honest determination to defeat the designs of those who intended to destroy us.

Let parties, caucus, and political combinations be given to the four winds, and let honesty, truth and patriotism rule the hour

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Tennessee has seventeen thousand Free Masons.

The Swiss laborers in Georgia give universal satisfaction.

Pere Hyacynthe sailed for France from New York on the 11th.