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1 Time	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	1 Year
1 Inch	2.00	5.00	7.00	10.00
1/2 "	1.25	3.00	4.00	6.00
3/4 "	1.75	4.00	5.00	7.00
1/4 Col.	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00
1/8 "	.60	1.20	1.80	2.40
1/16 "	.40	.80	1.20	1.60

# CENTRAL EXPRESS



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**SUPT. FINGER'S REPORT.**

**He Declares That the Tax for Public Schools is Insufficient.**

The biennial report of S. M. Finger, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, is an admirable document. Maj. Finger, in its very first paragraph, says: I desire to say, with as much emphasis as possible that our schools, save in a few of the cities, are not satisfactory to any class of our citizens. As everywhere we have in North Carolina people who either want no public schools or if any, only a sort of charity school for the poor. For such people we have already too much tax for public schools. We have also many people, and the number is rapidly increasing, who believe in liberal education for all the people for the people's benefit and for the safety of the State. To such people, many of whom are entirely dependent upon the public schools for the education of their children, the schools are unsatisfactory because of the small amount of money applied and the consequent shortness of annual terms and want of proper qualifications on the part of many teachers. It is not my purpose to understate the good the public schools are doing. I wish to bear testimony to the fact that they are doing much good; that there is continued improvement in the teachers and public sentiment, but it is simply idle to expect satisfactory schools with our average annual terms of sixty days, and with an expenditure of money amounting to 44 cents on each of the Federal population (each man, woman and child) and only \$1.22 on each of the school population, from six to twelve years of age.

**The Latest Radical Dodge.**

The great power of the Farmers' Alliance which influential organization is fighting along Democratic lines has alarmed the Republicans and they see that unless they act quickly and decisively they will be driven from power by an overwhelming majority. They have hit upon a new organization of farmers which they vainly hope will eclipse the Farmers' Alliance. The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*—a rampant Republican organ—thus outlines the plan by which it is hoped to save the Republican party: "The members are known as the Knights of Reciprocity, and the first lodge was organized a few weeks ago at Garden City, Kansas. It is understood that about a dozen lodges have since been instituted in Congressman Pittner's district, in Western Kansas and Colorado, and that the order is rapidly extending. Like the Farmers' Alliance, the meetings are held in secret session, and there is an initiatory ceremony. There is no political significance in the organization of the new order, nor is reciprocity adopted as the principle for any political purpose. The founders of the order, however, believe that in reciprocity lies the solution of the tariff dilemma. The members are not especially tariff reformers, but they believe in a wider extension of American trade, particularly in the Western continent. They not only favor reciprocity almost to the extent of free trade with the South American and Central American republics, but they believe in reciprocity within the United States. They believe that reciprocity should be observed between labor and capital, the miner and the mine owner, the people and the railroads, the borrower and the employer and the employee. They propose to avoid the money, treasury and other wild cat schemes of the Farmers' Alliance, but there are understood to be some points upon which they agree with the Farmers' Alliance. The new order will be introduced into the towns and cities as well as through the country districts, and if the rapid growth already observed during the three weeks of its existence is any indication for the fu-

ture, the outlook is most promising. A Grand Lodge of Kansas will be established within a few weeks, probably during the holidays, and it is expected that later a Grand Lodge will be organized in Colorado.

**An Incident in the Proceedings of the National Alliance at Ocala.**

At the conclusion of President Polk's address the Alliance resolved itself into a sort of "love feast," during which C. A. Power, an old ex-Union soldier from Indiana, moved that all ex-Union soldiers in the hall who endorsed the sentiments expressed in the speech of President Foulks, of South Dakota, with reference to the burial of sectionalism, rise up to be counted. The motion prevailed, and between forty and fifty stood up amid the wildest enthusiasm. Under the inspiration of this good feeling an ex-Union soldier from Wisconsin stood up in his seat and called upon all Union soldiers present to give three cheers for the old Confederates in the Alliance. They were given with a will. Then it was the Confederates' turn, and they cheered the old soldiers of the Union with a volume of heartiness that raised no doubt as to the genuineness of their feeling. The cheers ended with a wild, old-fashioned "rebel yell," and as its echoes died away one aged veteran of the Confederacy shouted, in a voice that rang out clearly through the hall: "That's a genuine article. I've heard it before."

**The National Finances.**

Secretary Windom's report upon the operations of the Treasury Department in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1890, and remarks upon the financial prospects of the Treasury, in an interesting document. It is of special interest as making the transition from a long period of big surpluses to a period in which Secretaries of the Treasury will have difficulty to make ends meet. The new tariff, by putting very high the rates on articles sent us by foreigners in exchange for our agricultural products, must check imports and diminish the revenue from custom duties. The removal of the duty from unrefined sugars and the reduction of the internal tax on tobacco must have a like effect. At the same time the vastly increased expenditure for pensions will make increased demands upon income. The nature of the change we are about to see is illustrated in the fact that Secretary Windom reports the surplus of the fiscal year ended with last June to have been \$105,344,496, while he estimates the surplus ending with June, 1892, at only \$15,147,790. This is probably a better showing for 1892 than the situation warrants. Mr. Windom has every reason to wish to take an optimistic view, his party being responsible for the pinch to which recent legislation is bringing us. It will be observed that he asks Congress at its present session to appropriate but \$135,203,085 for pensions in the year ending June 30, 1892, while persons well qualified to form an opinion on the subject are positive that the expenditure for pensions in 1892 cannot be less than \$150,000,000. Such an expenditure would extinguish Mr. Windom's estimated surplus of \$15,000,000 for that year at one whiff. Other expensive measures proposed to be passed by the present Congress—such as the Force bill and the subsidies bills—must tend to convert the small estimated surplus into a deficit. This is the legacy, it appears, which the Fifty-first Congress is ambitious of leaving to the Fifty-second. Apart from the financial question, Mr. Windom has several interesting facts to note. He calls attention to the fact that the silver law recently passed by the Congress is a failure—silver, after touching \$1.21, declined to 97 cents per ounce. The situation is such, he adds, that a continuance of the present low

price is to be expected. So far the law has added not over \$20,000,000 to the circulating medium. The Secretary is at pains, however, to show that there is abundance of money in the country. The amount in circulation October 1, 1890, was \$1,498,072,709, as against \$770,312,000 on October 1, 1870. The circulation per capita is now about \$24, as against \$30 then. Moreover, bank checks, he shows, are used over ten times as much in payments as gold, silver and paper money all put together—a fact which our friends of the Alliance will observe with interest. The national bank circulation is rapidly decreasing, though the number of national banks is rapidly increasing, especially in the South and West. Our foreign commerce has continued to increase in volume, England being our best customer. Of our total exports England took one-half. As 74.51 per cent of our exports in the fiscal year 1890 were agricultural products, it is clear that England is a country reciprocity with which our farmers might prefer to reciprocity with South America. Our share in the carrying trade, Mr. Windom shows, is still decreasing. In 1890 American ships carried a smaller proportion of our freight traffic than ever before.

**More Latitude for Officers.**

*Statesville Landmark.*

A clipping in this paper two or three weeks ago pointed out how difficult it is these times for a man to commit a murder in the first degree unless he has previously taken legal advice on the subject, and the following will show how nearly impossible it is for a public official to break into the penitentiary. The clipping is from the *North Carolina Intelligencer* and is a digest of a recent decision of the Supreme Court of North Carolina in the case of State vs. Pritchard—county not stated.

1. On the trial of an officer for extortion in taking fees it is necessary to prove that the fees were taken with a corrupt intent, and a charge which withdraws the consideration of that question from the jury is erroneous.
2. On the trial of an officer for a corrupt violation of his oath of office, under the Code of North Carolina, section 1090, by wrongfully taking fees, it is necessary to prove a corrupt intent, and it is error to withdraw the consideration of that question from the jury.
3. On the trial of an officer for bribery in taking unlawful fees, it is necessary to prove a corrupt intent.
4. An indictment for extortion which fails to charge that the money was taken "under color of office" is insufficient.

This is *carte blanche* to public officers. Under this decision they can stuff their pockets with illegal fees, deny, when brought to trial, that they did so with "corrupt intent," and that is the end of the prosecution.

At the recent election Republican county officers, excepting clerk, were elected in Washington county, but the *Tarboro Banner* says that those elected as sheriff, treasurer and register either presented no bonds or unsatisfactory ones on the first Monday, and the men who had been the Democratic candidates for these offices were elected to them by the commissioners.

The *New Berne Journal* says that during the recent campaign the cry in Craven was that Democrats must keep off Republicans' bonds. In consequence, the Republican sheriff, clerk, treasurer and register-elect failed, last Monday week, to present satisfactory bonds to the county commissioners and Democrats were appointed to all these offices.

**WORK FOR THE LEGISLATURE.**

*Express Correspondence.*

The State Legislature recently elected will have some very important work before it. There come always crises in nearly everything. Occasionally we have a body of lawmakers who make wonderful and radical changes, adopt untried and impractical measures. These laws are made by men who are restless and anxious to do something—rather than nothing. Following this, we are apt to have two or three sessions of conservative workers, whose greatest accomplishments are not to make good laws, but to prevent the passage of bad ones. All that they really do is to repeal some of the obnoxious laws previously enacted. The history of our laws and of governments generally, is a record of laws passed at one session to be repealed at the following one.

In view of these facts and also that much inconvenience and evil has to be endured frequently before such laws can be repealed, the cautious legislator feels great reluctance in adopting any laws very greatly effecting, either for good or evil, the prosperity of the country. On the other hand, the ambitious and aspiring patriotic assemblyman, who sees the injustice and inequality existing among his constituents; who feels, in his heart, a deep, abiding sympathy for suffering humanity, and longs for the common brotherhood of the race—such a man, feeling it his duty to make his life work as serviceable as possible to his fellow-men, will count it rare fortune to meet with the present Legislature and help enact some long-wished reforms.

In addition to the many perplexing questions of a nature which shall come up for personal adjustment, as is always the case, this legislature will be no doubt, called upon to adjust or equalize the rate of interest. This is a question with at least two sides to it and yet many of them will think their legislative work incomplete unless some change be made in rates of interest.

The indignation of the people at the last legislature for rejecting their petitions for a railroad commission, and the increasing demand for it will come up as additional evidence that something must be done about this matter this time or legislators can never expect to meet their constituents in peace again. These and other such matters as will in all probability come up affect the material interests of the country.

But a question which not only affects the material prosperity of the country in a far greater and far higher sense than any of these, but also tends to elevate and ennoble mankind, to develop into that sphere of useful citizenship and manhood which an all-wise creator has designed he should attain, is the question of education.

This question vitally affects all others and all the more so on account of the neglect it has suffered at the hands of previous legislatures. This subject has been handled again and again but I only want to emphasize its growing importance, for as the country grows and other States and other people advance, the importance of attending to this great matter increases. If you are educated yourself and educate your children, it is still your duty and privilege to help educate your neighbors for the sake of their society and citizenship. As Edward Bellamy says, our education at the present is only like an occasional oasis in a vast dreary desert.

We do not spend money enough, we do not spend time enough in order to procure education. We are too eager to make money as if that was the highest aim for which we are to live. In talk a few days since with a foreigner he referred to the fact that we get prepared for anything so quick. For instance he says: "I heard a young man speak of taking a three months' course preparing himself to be a druggist. Why

in my country he would study nine or eleven years."

This is only one instance. The ratio will hold for almost all other departments of learning.

By all means, legislators, do something to rid your State of its present ignorance and if the present generation does not give you the praise you deserve, rest assured that unborn generations will be monuments to the work you have done.

**The Alliance and the Dollar.**

*New York Sun.*

President Polk of the Farmers' Alliance thus announces the issue by which that body will live or die:

"The farmer and laborer must have a chance to get what money they need upon the security of their real property, a privilege which is denied them today. The issue from now on is to be a square one between American manhood on one side and the great American dollar on the other."

President Polk's rhetoric is a little cloudy. The issue is not between American manhood and the great American dollar, but between the great American Farmers' Alliance and the rest of the American people. The laborer may be left out of consideration. Col. Polk's organization is called the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, and its managers are willing to attract labor associations to the support of its programme, but as long as the Alliance remains essentially an agricultural body, agricultural laborers at least will not get much benefit from it. An increase in the wages of agricultural laborers is not one of the magic prosperity restorers which the Alliance demands from the Congress. Between the farmers and the strong and successful labor organizations is no special bond of common interest, and the help of Powderly's decayed order is not likely to be of much use to the Alliance. Whatever political unions it may form, the Alliance is at present a body of farmers who want to get from the government "what money they need upon the security of their real property."

Now, the Alliance farmers cannot expect to enjoy the privilege of borrowing money from the United States at a nominal rate of interest, and giving their farms as security, unless they give persons in other occupations some equal privilege. It would be a great scheme for the Alliance mortgagee to get a pot of money at one per cent from the Government and lend it at eight or ten to persons standing in need of financial assistance, and unable to obtain it easily and cheaply on account of not being farmers. The farmers are worthy and thrifty people, but they cannot be allowed to become a privileged class a sort of landed aristocracy, borrowing money cheap and lending it dear. They do not absolutely own the earth, although they cultivate it. There are several millions of persons in these United States who are not farmers, and yet are as ready as the horniest handed to borrow money from the Government. They know a pudding when they see it, and they will insist on being helped to some of it.

If Brodter Hawbuck is to get from the Government what money he needs, Brothers Butcher, Baker, and Candle-stickmaker must get what money they want from the same benevolent banker on the same term. They can give them stock, the good will of their business, their skill and industry and shrewdness as security. A laborer with his hands can pledge them as security for a Government loan. We can't all have farms, but if the Government is going to run a pawn shop it must take every thing offered as a pledge for its advances. "American manhood," as Mr. Polk says, must be regarded as sufficient as security as a quarterly section. The whole American people must come in on equal terms. Does Mr. Polk think that the rest of the American

people are going to be content with putting their hands into their pockets for the benefit of the Alliance and never taking anything for themselves?

The way to the nationalization of the land can be found in this scheme to lend money to farmers. The way to national bankruptcy can be found in its inevitable corollaries. But what does the Alliance care if it can get the dollars?

**How the Pension Iniquity Grows!—A Baiting for Commissioner Raum.**

*Extracts from the Proceedings of the House on 4th.*

At the expiration of the morning hour the House went into a committee of the whole on the pension appropriation bill. Mr. Morrow explained that the bill appropriated for the payment of pensions the sum of \$133,173,000. He believed that there would be no deficiency next year.

Mr. Sawyer, of Texas, argued that the estimate of the Commissioner of Pensions was totally unreliable and that the amount of money required to pay pensions would be largely in excess of the amount appropriated by the pending bill. He ventured to say that the Fifty-second Congress will be compelled to meet a deficiency of not less than \$15,000,000. No man, however honest, could fix within ten millions the amount actually to be expended under this bill. The Commissioner had failed to tell the House what would be expended in 1890; he had made a similar failure in 1891, and he would make a greater failure in 1892; and the Democratic Congress would have to pay the penalty. His conclusion, after careful investigation of the matter, was that instead of the government expenditures for pensions being confined to \$133,000,000, they would be nearer \$175,000,000. In conclusion, he gave it as his deliberate judgement from a full investigation of the facts and figures, together with the experience of the House as to the workings of the Pension Office, that if the Commissioner would work faithfully and energetically, issuing certificates as fast as they were prepared for issue, there would inevitably be a deficiency in 1892 of not less than \$35,000,000, which the Democratic House would have to meet.

Mr. Cooper, of Indiana, renewed his attack of last session upon Pension Commissioner Raum. Referring to the large force of employes in the Pension Bureau, and to the vast expenditure of money for pensions, he said he proposed to show why this force of men should be presided over by a man of high character, and why this vast sum of money should be disbursed by a man above criticism and above reproach. It was his purpose to call the attention of the country to the fact that the present Commissioner of Pensions was not such a person. Carrying out his purpose he quoted liberally from the testimony given before a special committee, which, near the close of last session, had under investigation his (Cooper's) charges against Raum of favoritism towards one prominent pension claim agent, of borrowing money from an attorney who practiced before the bureau, and of floating the stock of a fraudulent corporation among the employes of that bureau. He commented sharply upon this testimony and paid no attention to the objections of Mr. Cannon and Mr. Sawyer that no report had been made to the House by the investigating committee and the testimony was not a proper subject of discussion in the absence of such a report.

**A Campaign Incident.**

*Mecklenburg Times.*

In an interior county in this State there were three Democrats all duly nominated for the Legislature. Each had strong opposition and the vote is close in this county between the Democrats and Republicans. Hence very great caution

was deemed necessary as to what should be said about the senatorship, Alliance matters, &c., &c.

When the campaign opened one of the candidates, a lawyer of ability and conservatism, lead off in a speech saying he did not think it wise to commit himself as to the senatorship, but should wait and see who all would be in the field and then try to select the best man. The second candidate, an intelligent farmer, followed in about the same strain. The third candidate was a little Dutch merchant and farmer from a remote part of the county and simple-minded and honest enough to suppose that speech was expected to express and not conceal a man's real opinions and purposes. His speech was as follows: "Gentlemen, I am not afraid nor ashamed to tell you who I am for for Senator. I am for old Zeb Vance. I am not going to call him Colonel Vance, nor Governor Vance, nor Senator Vance, because I am acquainted with him, but just plain Zeb Vance. If I am elected I shall vote for him first, last and all the time, and don't you forget it. Thank you for your attention."

This was his speech and the whole of it all round he campaign, while the other two candidates followed up the non-committal course they started out with.

When the vote was counted the little Vance man was elected and the other two defeated.

**POLITICS, &C.**

The bank of England has reduced its discount rate from 6 to 5 per cent.

It is stated that it cost Senator Ingalls \$3,200 to get his son Bill elected to the Kansas Legislature.

The Democratic majority in New York State upon the Congressional vote in the recent election was 88,000.

The Democrats last week carried Now Haven, Conn., for the first time in four years. The Democrats had general victories in the town elections all through Massachusetts.

E. H. Ammidown, the President of the National Protestant League, and a big New York dry goods jobber, failed last Saturday for a million.

It takes all sorts of people to make up this American world. In Detroit the other day, a Hebrew, an African and an Arab were all three arrested on complaint of a Chinaman.

The Georgia Legislature has inaugurated a war on bucket shops. The general tax bill recently passed contains a clause fixing the tax on bucket shops and all similar institutions at \$10,000 per year.

The will of Daniel B. Fayerweather, the millionaire leather dealer of New York, gives \$10,000 to the University of Virginia, \$2,000,000 to other colleges and \$95,000 to hospitals in New York.

The Democratic majority in Virginia at the recent election was even greater than in North Carolina: 64,672 are the figures. The Democratic majority was 3,000 more than the whole Republican vote.

The Democratic majority in Texas at the recent election was 175,000, and the Hon. Daniel Webster Flanigan, the Republican candidate for Governor, is doubtless asking himself, "What did we run for?"

Clerk McPherson of the House of Representatives, has just had printed an official list of members elected to the next House, showing 88 Republicans, 234 Democrats and 8 Farmers' Alliance. One district (28th New York) is set down as uncertain and one (2nd Rhode Island) is marked vacant.

Delemater & Co., bankers, of Meadville, Pa., made an assignment last Friday and suspended business with liabilities estimated at \$200,000. Assets not known. Politics is supposed to be responsible for the failure. G. W. Delemater was the Republican candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania in the recent contest.