

THE DAILY CITIZEN. By RANDOLPH-KERR PRINTING CO. THE DAILY CITIZEN, Democratic, is published every afternoon (except Sunday) at the following rates—strictly cash:

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TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1891.

No Other Board Needed.

THE CITIZEN hears that an amendment is proposed to the amendment to the charter allowing the people to vote on the improvement of the city to the extent of \$640,000 worth. The new amendment, as we understand it, provides for a board of auditors or something of that kind—the name doesn't matter—to have charge of the disbursement of the \$640,000.

THE CITIZEN, as it intimated some days ago, is opposed to the new amendment. There is already a body qualified to take charge of and expend the sum named—the aldermen and the mayor. If part of their duties is to be assumed by a new board, why not all of them, if you pay a man or set of men to do a piece of work, why not hire other men to do part of it? The answer is that such a move would not be business like. Neither is the present move; moreover, at this particular time, in view of the coming election, it is unnecessary. Further, if it is understood that the one factor that ought most to influence the voters in making a careful selection of mayor and aldermen be taken away there will be all too little incentive to make the issue that should be made on that very point. We shall hear it said: "Oh, the mayor and aldermen don't matter; let them go to whomsoever will work for those offices, all we care about is the board of auditors."

But the mayor and aldermen, in every and all views of the present situation, do matter. It is part of their business, and should continue to be, to expend money for city improvements, and we must elect men with that understanding. The issue is precisely there. Let those citizens who are anxious for a board of auditors turn out at the primaries and elect a mayor and board of aldermen eminently qualified to take charge of the city's affairs, including the expenditure of this proposed \$640,000.

If the city is in such a condition politically that it is not possible to elect officials to be trusted with the expenditure of \$640,000, then let's quit right where we are.

But let no man go down to Raleigh with a confession that Asheville's democratic voters cannot be trusted to elect a democratic mayor and democratic board of aldermen of the kind necessary in this emergency. No one has been authorized to undertake such an errand.

AMOS J. CUMMINGS, one of New York's representatives in congress, broke away from all democratic traditions last week by voting for the subsidy bill which will take no one knows how many millions from the treasury. We are not greatly interested in Mr. Cummings, but it is interesting to note that the New York Sun commends his performance after this fashion:

"Such independence is not frequent, but it is none the less worthy of honor on that account. The man who will not oppose his party when his own convictions require it, is but a poor servant of the public."

An ex-servant of the public named Grover Cleveland, had the independence to say that he was in favor of free coinage and the Sun has had nothing but abuse for him ever since, as, indeed, it had before. The fact is, that if Mr. Cleveland continues in the public mind the Sun will have to be taken to the asylum for the hopelessly insane.

The cause of Queen Victoria's display of temper at the launching of the warships at Portsmouth, England, was the statement to her by the Prince of Wales that he had cabled his sister, Empress Frederick, of Germany, to leave Paris in order to prevent any hostile demonstration. It appears that the Queen and the Prince had what it is charity to call a "few words." The royal lady became greatly enraged and remonstrated with the royal Prince in a loud voice. He finally, however, carried his point, the Queen joining with him in warning the Empress to leave Paris. All of which is of the least possible importance and is set down here simply to gratify a perhaps pardonable desire that all of us have to know that people of uncommon station in life nevertheless have all the common frailties poor humanity is afflicted with.

The Wind Blew a Gate.

From the Wilson Advance. News reaches us that a most disastrous windstorm visited a part of Wilson county last Saturday night. It was particularly severe in Old Field's township in the vicinity of the farm of Mr. J. M. Barnett. We learn that his plantation and dwelling house were almost totally wrecked.

A new two-story tenant house was entirely demolished, and the rock foundation of the chimney scattered. The floor was torn from the sleepers as though it had not been nailed down. The old F. L. Burnett gin house was torn down and the fences of Mr. C. H. Glover lifted up and carried away. Not a house was left standing on Mrs. Theresa Hamilton's farm.

No one noticed that the wind blew here with unusual violence. The scene of destruction is only between seven and eight miles from Wilson.

Not in Asheville of Course. From the Raleigh Visitor. The man that gets mad at what the newspapers say about him should return thanks three times a day for what the newspapers know about him, but keep in the dark background.

For Malaria, Liver Trouble, or Indigestion, use BROWN'S IRON BITTERS

STREET IMPROVEMENT QUESTION.

EDITOR THE CITIZEN.—The half million proposition for street improvements seems to be a hard question for satisfactory adjustment in the minds of our people. And it is a hard problem.

Suppose that a majority of the people on Mud avenue shall decide to have paving done, then, as it is understood, the owners of the property will have to pay two-thirds of the cost and the city the other third. The city's third would have to be paid from the treasury, the fund in common of all. Then suppose that the people on Slush street shall not decide to have their street paved, they as taxpayers will have to pay their proportionate part of the city's third of the cost of paving Mud avenue. That being the case, we see that all the streets will have to be paved before an equal distribution of the money in the treasury, that comes from all, can be made. In other words, the property owners on each street will have to consent to have their streets paved before they can in any way have their part of the money raised by taxation expended for their immediate benefit. And in making a decision on Mud avenue, who shall decide? The owners of property, or they and the voters living in the houses? If the latter has the privilege under the law to vote on such a question, has he the right to exercise it where it will impose an additional tax on another's property? And suppose the owner desires the street paved in front of his property, is it right that the voter shall decide whether it shall be done or not?

In many cases it will be found that the owner of property on a certain street may not be living there, but the resident, a renter, and, in that case, who shall decide whether the street shall be paved or not? The owner, or the renter, or both? If the renter is not entitled justly to a vote in that case, is it right for him to vote on the original proposition?

The renter may justly conclude that if the street be paved the rental price of the property he occupies will be put higher, and for that reason he may vote against the improvement. Many men who are property owners think the renter is not justly entitled to a vote on this question, and to a man stuck in the mud who does not look at both sides, it appears they are right. But the paving of a street will increase the value of the property and cause the rents to go higher, and then who will actually pay for the improvement? Will it not be the renter? Then if the renter is the one to bear the burden—and he will have it to do—does it not look as if he should be the one to decide instead of the owner? Then suppose, because rents will go up when the streets are paved, that for that reason all the renters will decide to vote against any appropriation, and stop the growth of our city and cause property to depreciate in value, who, in that case, should decide? And further, suppose one of the streets to be improved there lives a widow with children, or a man who has a family, or both, and both too poor to pay their part for the improvement, would it be right to impose a tax that will force them out? Shall we stop improvements on that account and run business mixed with human sympathy, or is it better for all to run business straight on its own merits, and attend to charity outside?

If my lot with 100 feet front is worth \$5,000, must I be compelled to pay \$500 for pavements, while my neighbor, whose lot fronts 80 feet and is worth \$10,000, will have to pay but \$400 for improvement? Is anything right but the *ad valorem* principle?

But I have been seeing across this question till, no doubt, you begin to want to know which side I am on, and now I am going to tell you. I am decidedly in favor of raising money in some way for the improvement of our streets. If the plan proposed is the best thing we can do, and can be worked on a line of reasonable justice to all, I am for it, provided I am satisfied that the money will be sure to go into the hands of men who will disburse it fairly and economically. But, if at the coming conventions, where tickets have to be formed for mayor and aldermen, men are wired in by rings and factions in whom I have no confidence as to their ability, even if they are personal friends, I shall vote late, and if I shall see such men going in I shall vote against any and all measures to raise money to be wasted—and the "woods are full" of such men. T. C. W.

NORTH CAROLINA FOLKS.

Dr. Kingsbury, of the Wilmington Messenger, has been invited to take the chair of English in the Davis Military School, at Winston.

Jonesboro Leader: About the year 1847, triplets (girls) were born to Bradley C. Brady and wife, in Moore county, about 12 miles northwest of Carthage. The three sisters are the mothers of 24 children, all of whom are living, and all of whom are in North Carolina.

Capt. T. L. Seigle died at his home in Mecklenburg county Friday morning of heart disease. Captain Seigle was a native of Lincoln county, served in Breckinridge's Charlotte battery during the war, and was several times promoted. At the time of his death he was one of the largest dry-goods merchants of Charlotte.

Winston Republican: The oldest couple in Ashe county is probably Uncle Stephen Osborne and wife. The husband was born in Grayson county, Virginia, February 21, 1800, and his wife in the same county in 1801. They were married in 1819, are the parents of 12 children, 69 grand-children, more than 200 great-grand-children, and several great-great-grand-children. While the mother is blind, her hair remains jet black, and both are hale and hearty as could be expected for people at their time of life.

If They Can Afford It? From the Winston Sentinel. We want to see the railroads reduce their rates for carrying passengers.

LEMONT ELIXIR. Pleasant, Elegant, Reliable. For biliousness and constipation, take Lemont Elixir. For fevers, chills and malaria, take Lemont Elixir. For sleeplessness, nervousness and palpitation of the heart, take Lemont Elixir. For indigestion and foul stomach take Lemont Elixir. For all sick and nervous headaches take Lemont Elixir. Ladies, for natural and thorough organic regulation, take Lemont Elixir. Dr. Mozley's Lemont Elixir will not fail you in any of the above named diseases, all of which arise from a torpid or diseased liver, stomach, kidneys or bowels. Prepared only by Dr. MOZLEY, Atlanta, Ga., 50c and \$1.00 per bottle, at druggists.

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Did You Ever Hear Such Talk.

From the Concord Standard. The kissing business makes no money, and for that reason Al Fairbrother may throw his wild woolly western kiss to the (desert) air, and Red-Headed Ramsay may kill himself at it, but it ought to be stopped; the drummers, who engage in it, ought to stop; the departing friends ought to stop it—let only the babies continue.

Now You're Shouting. From the Franklin Times. If we allow the tariff issue to go to the rear and put the currency question in front we are plying into the hands of the enemy.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. A cream of tartar baking powder. Highest of all in leavening strength—U. S. Government Report, August 17, 1880. Sold everywhere.

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WINTER GOODS AT COST. Blankets, quilts, ladies' and misses' wraps of all kinds are now sold at cost and less. Call and see the best stock, and the most comfortable store for shopping in Asheville.

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