

THE REPORTER.

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THE SENATORSHIP.

Last Tuesday was the day upon which a United States Senator was to have been chosen by the Legislature of North Carolina, and we suppose Gov. Z. B. Vance has been selected for the position. Senator Merrimon and Governor Vance have for months been the most prominent competitors for this high honor, and the friends of the candidates have indulged in arguments, acrimony, crimination and recrimination, to an extent that threatened harm to the Democratic party. But Senator Merrimon proved his patriotism at the right moment by causing to be read before a called caucus of the Democratic party a letter, withdrawing himself from the Senatorial contest, in favor of unity and harmony. Gov. Vance was then unanimously nominated by the caucus, and his election last Tuesday we regard as a certainty.

Gov. Vance is well worthy of the highest honor that North Carolina can confer upon him. He is an able statesman, and a man to be relied upon by the people of his State. With Ransom and Vance in the Senate, our representation in that body could not be improved. Yet Senator Merrimon has reflected honor upon his constituency; his ability, zeal and fidelity has won him a legion of friends; and the withdrawal of his name from the late contest, "in favor of unity and harmony," will not soon be forgotten.

THE LIQUOR QUESTION AGAIN.

As was stated last week, the friends of order and morality in Danbury are opposed to the reopening of barrooms in the village. At present, the sale of liquor is prohibited by law within three miles of town, and the better class of people are opposed to having that prohibition repealed. They have prepared a petition asking the Legislature to refuse a repeal of the law, and that petition has been signed by four fifths of the white men, women and children of Danbury. All ages, sex and classes unite in an effort to prevent the infliction of an infamous disgrace upon community.

Months ago it became known that a certain element of our population intended to petition the General Assembly to remove the prohibition, so that they might profit by the liquor trade. We have never spoken plainly on this part of the subject before, and even now regret that an imperative duty makes it incumbent upon us. In favor of prohibition we find a large majority of the best citizens of the village. Opposed to prohibition, who do we find foremost? Last Tuesday morning a colored man applied to a county officer to draw up a petition for him to the Legislature, asking for the repeal of the prohibitory law. Of course, such a petition is to be signed mainly by negroes, and will be really a negroes' petition. The local color line may be almost drawn by it. It becomes, therefore, a question of negroes against whites in fixing the status of morals in our town. Their effrontery demands rebuke. They may be backed and urged on in this course by white friends; but it matters not who aids and abets them, when negroes set themselves up to degrade and overthrow society, they will find that they and their counselors have hatched trouble for themselves. No community will tamely submit to negro domination; no community should harbor its foes.

We have tried a negro barroom here, and know its evil. Not only was the most fearful kind of doctored liquors sold, but it was a perfect den of vice, in which gamblers held high carnival, and around the doors of which drunkards indulged in open obscenity. Disorder reigned supreme, and respectable citizens closed the doors of their dwellings to shut out the disgraceful sights and sounds. Do negroes and their friends think that the people of Danbury are as lost to decency as to again permit such a state of things? As long as the law against nuisances remain upon the statute books, there is protection. The reopening of a barroom will be contested strenuously by all those whose ideas of virtue, morality and social advancement do not center in a negro grogshop. If the degradationists should succeed, they will then be made to feel the law whenever opportunity presents itself.

But there are still a few white men in Danbury who have not signed the petition in favor of prohibition. Is it possible that they will maintain their apparent indifference, and permit a negro grogshop to be built up on a debauched negro supremacy, when the idols of their homes have petitioned for deliverance from it?

A CONTEST.

The Murfreesboro Enquirer says that Major Yeates has recently served a notice of contest on J. J. Martin for his seat in the House. He has evidence of fraud in his possession from several counties in the District, and is assured that if the same is brought to full light before the Congressional Committee, he will be granted the seat. It is said that Mr. Martin and his friends are some what afraid of the result.

CROAKERS.

Every now and then somebody dreams a dream, sees a supernatural omen, or makes a strange discovery, which, being interpreted, means that "something is going to happen." Judgment Day has been predicted a score of times within the last twenty years; and all sorts of lesser events are foretold almost every year. The last sensation originates in New York, and the Irish World has "seen a vision" this time. According to the prophecy of that journal, the year 1880 will witness the collapse of the American Republic, and that General Grant will be proclaimed Dictator—the Republican party aiding the overthrow of our present form of government.

There are several reasons why we regard this sensation as the veriest kind of humbug. One is, even if so inclined, the Republican party is not strong enough to hatch such monstrous treason and then maintain it. General Grant, whatever his ambition may be, has not so entirely forgotten the fate of old John Brown as to render him willing to take the risks. But there is a still better reason for taking no stock in the Irish World's prophecy. The Republican party would endorse no such a scheme. Whatever may be said of its leaders, the great masses of that party are not deficient in patriotism and love of liberty. They would be unwilling to sacrifice their rights as freemen to either Grant or party. If the existence of the Republic was threatened, thousands of them from every State in the Union would march to the defense of the government of our forefathers. In the war of disunion the Democratic party divided its forces; in a war to blot out government, the Republican party would not follow the leadership of Grant and his fellows.

Adventure with a Burglar.

CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 13.—Robert Murphy, a grocer, on Grand river avenue, Detroit, suspecting burglars had been attempting to enter his store, last night concealed himself and awaited developments. Soon he heard the burglars enter the rear door by means of a false key. A struggle ensued; Murphy seized an iron wedge and struck the burglar several blows upon the head, felling him to the floor, but the fellow regaining his feet and choking Murphy into insensibility, escaped. An hour later a man applied at the police station for medical attention, saying that he had been waylaid and beaten by robbers. Murphy regaining consciousness proceeded to the same station house, where he identified the party as the burglar. The latter admitted the facts, and said the fear he should die unless his wounds were attended to, prompted him to go to the station house.

The Dead Coming to Life.

CINCINNATI, January 14.—A funeral at Fort Wayne this morning was interrupted in a somewhat remarkable manner. Rose Miller, a girl of fifteen years of age, died, as was supposed, on Sunday morning, after a short illness. This morning an audience assembled at St. Paul's German Church to witness the obsequies. The services were nearly through and the relatives and friends had assembled about the coffin when the indications of life were noticed in the corpse. The face and lips moved considerably and the body was found to be warm. A scene of excitement followed. Father Koenig dismissed the audience, sent the hearse and carriages away and ordered the body removed to the school building adjoining.

A number of physicians were summoned, who, after the severest tests, pronounced the girl quite dead. They declared, however, that the appearance of the body was remarkable, and the relatives and Father Koenig would not permit the burial. This evening the body was removed to St. Joseph Hospital, where an effort is making to revive animation. It is firmly believed by the people who saw the remains this afternoon that the girl is not dead. She will be kept where she is until all possible doubt is removed. A report which obtained currency during the afternoon that she had come to life in church drew thousands of people to the spot, and throngs gazed curiously at the body until it was removed from the school house.

The Tobacco Tax.

A movement to have the oppressive tobacco tax reduced has been made at every Congress since the war. In this matter, because the boot is on the Southern leg, Congress seems incorrigibly unjust.

We see that the president of the Merchants Tobacco Company of New York and Boston has appeared before the Senate Committee on Finance in opposition to the reduction. There is a cat in this meal tub, or rather there are several felines, but their tails stick out and their mewings betrays their presence. These people represent a constituency of tobacco manufacturers who, either by evasions of the law or by their superior wealth, can afford to manufacture the article more cheaply than the Southern factories can. They know that if the tax is maintained the manufacture of tobacco in the South will be kept at a stand-still or be crippled. They hope for the worst with all the zest of self-interest. It is their desire to keep the tax high, they being better able to stand it than the impoverished Southern manufacturers. Then they know, further, that if the tax should be lowered, an impetus would be given at once to Southern production of the article, and the South could be correspondingly benefited as they would lose. These men look narrowly at the business of the present moment. If they would study the situation thoroughly they would see that as the South is built up in any industry the trade of the North is improved. True, they care not so much about their section as they do about their own personal interests. And just there is the rub. But why cannot these Boston and New York merchants see that it is to their personal advantage to encourage the manufacture of tobacco in the South? If the article can be manufactured more extensively in this region prices will be lower, more people will chew and smoke; the Northern merchant will thus share in the prosperity of his Southern neighbors.

It is the low, jealous, stupid, inch-from-your-nose policy which actuates many of our Northern friends that stands in the way of our country's prosperity as a whole. Whatever tends to the aggrandizement of one section at the expense of another is not a solid gain to the country. In the matter of internal revenue the South has too long borne the burden and heat of the day. We pay too large a proportion of the income of the government. It is unjust, it is oppressive, it is wicked that the States of the South should thus be made to stagger along under an intolerable load while the industries of the North are, comparatively speaking, exempt. Such injustice, such national sin, will be punished, or all the codes of morals known to civilized men will be demonstrated a stupendous failure. We prefer to believe in the vindication of our ethics and the vindication of our section, which must come, sooner or later.—Wilmington Sun.

The Democratic Candidate.

There is so much to happen between this time and the meeting of the nominating convention, that it is premature to be guessing who will be the next Democratic candidate for President. Still the politicians are working up the canvass for their respective favorites.

Shall the coming man be Thurman or Hendricks, from the West, or Hancock, Tilden or Bayard, from the East. For some time Thurman has been the most conspicuous figure in the public eye. The success of resumption, however, may give the prestige to the East, and we think we can discover even now the signs of a concerted movement for Tilden. Recently a knot of politicians met in Indianapolis and declared that while Mr. Hendricks is a reliable Democrat and favorite son of Indiana, Samuel J. Tilden is the only man who can carry New York, and that State is absolutely essential to victory. This will be the cue. The Democrats must carry New York, in order to elect. There are those however, who think that the Empire State could be carried by Bayard, or Hancock, or even Thurman. And then New Jersey, Connecticut, Oregon and California must be looked after; and might not Thurman carry his own State of Ohio and win the victory without New York? The gubernatorial election there this year will tell.

It would be a curious state of affairs, if Grant should, contrary to usage, become the Republican candidate for the third term, and Tilden, who was elected in 1876 be the Democratic nominee for the office, which he is now fraudulently kept out of.—Danville Register.

Mr. Edward Ketchum and Miss Lizzie Wason, of New York, were recently married, the groom aged 91 years, the lady 90. Miss Lizzie evidently thought it was never too late to Ketchu.

The Forged Title.

There never has been the least moral doubt that when Kellogg signed what is known as the second set of certificates for electors of Louisiana, to correct the errors which rendered the first set worthless, he knew that several names were forged to that paper, if he was not directly a party to the forgery.

Everybody knows now that the date of the certificates was fabricated to correspond with the rejected original, which Returning Board Anderson had carried to Washington, and which Mr. Ferry, President pro tempore of the Senate, had told him was irregular in form and therefore invalid. It has already been proven that Anderson opened this certificate in Washington, where he consulted with the Republican chiefs as to the exact form, and then hurried back to New Orleans to procure the paper upon which the Electoral Commission acted finally. A. B. Levisse swore before the Potter Committee that his signature to the second set was a palpable forgery, and Kelly, the colored man, who was Kellogg's messenger at the time, and had charge of the room where the forgeries were perpetrated, recently swore that to his knowledge the name of Oscar Joffrion was also forged.

When the Potter Committee were at New Orleans ten days ago, diligent inquiry was made for others of the Hayes electors about whose signatures there is also distrust. Yet additional testimony on this point is not necessary, and the case would not be strengthened if every name to the second set certificate was shown to have been forged. Levisse, who now holds the office of sub revenue agent in San Francisco, and was probably assigned to that remote service so as to be out of the way, has established one forgery in his own person, and Kelly has proved another.

The difference between the two certificates from Louisiana is that the first pretended to verify a fraudulent result of the election for President by genuine signatures, while the second repeats the fraudulent attestation by forged signatures; and this second paper was the one adopted by the Commission as the means of declaring Hayes President. So that the astounding fact will go into history that the eight electoral votes of Louisiana were in the first instance stolen by conspiracy and fraud; and in the second instance, that the certificate declaring this result, being vitiated by barefaced forgery, was yet solemnly adjudicated as valid, because the eight-by-seven Commission determined that they would not go behind the face of the forged paper!

Honest thinking men may be deluded or confused by a conflict of testimony in regard to the vote of Louisiana, based upon the stories of intimidation and violence, artfully constructed to mislead the unwary and to deceive the tens of thousands who accept at second hand the assurances of party managers and party papers. But putting all that entirely out of view, the astounding fact yet stands, that the whole administration of forty-five millions of people, the public policy, the treasury and its mighty operations, the vast patronage of the Government, and the hundred thousand offices at home and abroad, are to day in the hands of a man who was not elected at all; and that even the fraudulent title by which he claims to be President rests upon a forgery!—N. Y. Sun.

The Latest Thing in Dancing.

Society just now—that is, the progressive element of Washington society—is very much interested and just a shade shocked by a new waltz that is just brought in from New York. This waltz is called "The Wave," and it is expected will supplant the popular "Boston." The wave is a most ungraceful dance. It is made up of hops instead of slides, and the vigorous hops necessary to the successful rendition of this waltz produce an impression upon the minds of spectators that savors a little of indecency. "The Wave," with its violent exertions and eccentric motions, is constantly bringing the bodies of the dancers into contact, and if one can judge from the blazing red color of both partners at the end of several moments of this dance, the effect of the constant jostling into each other's arms is anything but moral. A dashing blonde young woman emissary from New York has introduced this dance, which promises only to be popular in the branch of society that is inclined to be fast. To hear the comments made by some of the spectators when this dance was first exhibited stamped its character. It is fashionable in New York, however, and it may have a run throughout the country.—Chicago Times.

A. D. Richardson, indicted at Kearney, Neb., for the murder of six persons, was tried at Mendon, yesterday, found guilty and sentenced to be hanged April 26th.

The Trial in Norwich.

The trial of Mrs. Cobb, now going on at Norwich, shows fully enough that there is in the life of New England now the same material for dark and tragical romance, the same "elements of pity and of fear" which were mixed with it in the seventeenth century, and which Hawthorne alone of New England writers has known how to use. It was not necessary for that purpose. Wherever men and women are, there are all the passions necessary to tragedy and romance. The crime of which Bishop and Mrs. Cobb were accused was as deliberate and atrocious as it is possible for human beings to conceive or to execute. But the development of the defense thus far has given a fresh interest to the trial, and made it more likely than ever to become a celebrated case.

The theory of the prosecution is that Bishop and Mrs. Cobb, being in love with each other, conspired to get rid of Bishop's wife and Mrs. Cobb's husband, and in pursuance of that conspiracy Mr. Bishop killed his wife and helped Mrs. Cobb to kill Cobb. This theory is supported mainly by the confession of Bishop himself. Bishop, it will be observed, is under no sort of compulsion to testify. He has turned State's evidence without any promise of immunity, nor with much prospect of any. For even if the State by using him as a witness in the trial for the murder of Cobb, in which he represents himself as an accessory, is debarred from prosecuting him for that crime, there remains the murder of his own wife, in which if he was concerned at all, he was undoubtedly concerned as a principal. His motive in testifying must therefore be either a desire to promote justice, which does not look altogether likely, or a personal desire to be revenged upon Mrs. Cobb.

This latter motive the defense in the case seems to be distinctly charging upon him. Their theory, so far as it has yet been developed, is that Bishop had a passion for Mrs. Cobb which she did not return, but which she may have permitted Bishop to believe, or Bishop may have induced himself to believe, that she would return if the obstacles in the way of their legal union were removed; and that Bishop thereupon proceeded on his own account to remove those obstacles. This necessitates the further hypothesis that after taking this trouble Bishop found that he was not only not thanked but that he was scorned by the object of his affections, and that he now seeks to have her declared guilty in order to feed his own grudge against her.

In stating these two theories we do not of course adopt either, but either is consistent with the character which Bishop has given of himself. It does not much matter, so far as he is concerned, whether he swears truly or falsely. If he swears truly his appearance as a voluntary witness for the prosecution in this case is an inexpressively dastardly act, while if he swears falsely it is even harder to characterize him properly. The Prince of Wales when a witness in a famous divorce case in London was said to have "perjured himself like a gentleman." What shall be said of Bishop if he has perjured himself? One thing should be said, that whereas if he has told the truth he is but a commonplace sneak and scoundrel; if he has perjured himself, and the defense is made out, he is entitled to be ranked with the most eminent villains of history, and entitled to a much more conspicuous stage than Norwich can afford him. It is to be hoped, however, in that case that Norwich may find itself equal to providing a scaffold which will supply his immediate needs and deserts.—N. Y. World.

Half-Price for a Wife.

Yesterday morning an able-bodied negro called at the Ordinary's office, on matrimony intent, and made, in cool earnest, a proposition that almost took that functionary's breath away. He said he had made up his mind to get married, and had two dusky charmers in view, but didn't know exactly which would suit him best. He proposed to obviate this difficulty by marrying both—wedding one first, and if he became dissatisfied with the partnership, to dissolve it and marry the other. Both women, he said, knew of this arrangement, and were perfectly satisfied with it. He wanted the Ordinary, therefore, to give him two licenses for half price, so as to be prepared, in case the first wife did not suit him. Judge Bothwell informed him that it was against the law to issue two licenses to one man. The colored citizen walked off with his license, and thinks law is a poor thing.—Augusta Chronicle and Constitutionalist.

Texas has one hundred and sixty-four organized counties, and all their sheriffs are to meet in Austin next week to tell the Legislature how to diminish crime.

Lewis and His Dead Wife's Niece.

PENN. YAN, N. Y., Jan. 16.—For many years Leon Lewis of Penn Yan was a story writer for the New York Ledger and other periodicals. His wife Harriet Lewis, was also a popular story writer. They acquired considerable property in Penn Yan, and took rank in social life. Their home was one of the finest in the place. A year or so ago Mrs. Lewis died and some months later Leon Lewis announced that he intended to begin the publication of a periodical in Penn Yan modelled after Robert Bonner's New York Ledger. He got a large subscription, and on the week before Christmas The Mystery appeared. Believing that his wife was still with him in the spirit, and was interested in the enterprise as much as though she were living, Lewis announced his dead wife as his co-editor and publisher. The initial number of The Mystery contained the opening chapter of a story purporting to have been written by Harriet Lewis. Leon's introductory editorial article was a feeling eulogy of his late wife. It declared that she was in constant spiritual companionship with him, and that the "blessed hope of eventually enfolding her in his arms in heaven" was all that reconciled him to her death.

Only one number of the Mystery was printed. Miss Julia Wheelock, a niece of Harriet Lewis's, had become a special favorite of Leon Lewis's. On the Monday previous to Christmas Lewis and Miss Wheelock started from Penn Yan, with the understanding among their friends that they were going to Rochester to do some Christmas shopping. But the baggage masters checked nine trunks for them, and since their departure they have not been seen in Penn Yan.

It has come out that Lewis and his sixteen year-old companion arrived in New York on the day previous to the sailing of the steamship Seythia, and that they took passage for Europe.—Lewis owes \$50,000 in Penn Yan. He leaves a property estimated to be worth \$20,000. This is a library and the Mystery establishment. His real estate is mortgaged for more than its worth. It is said that he collected about \$20,000 in subscriptions to the Mystery.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Twelve greenback papers have died in Iowa since the fall election.

The Legislature has repealed the merchants' privilege tax.

The Legislature has introduced a bill in reference to the Moffet Bell Patent tax.

The Governor of New York thinks the increase of lunacy in that State is largely due to the enormous burden of taxation.

Young Mr. Daniel Pittman, of Lenoir, accidentally killed himself at Snow Hill with a pistol supposed not to have been loaded.

By the death of Mr. Schleicher, of Texas, Mr. Cabell, of Virginia, becomes chairman of the House Committee on Railroads and Canals.

The women's rights convention met in Washington last week, and two colored men, Fred Douglas and Purvis, of Philadelphia, figured as speakers.

They have recently felt the shock of an earthquake in Florida, the first ever known. Buildings were violently shaken, crockery rattled and doors thrown open.

The Goldsboro Messenger condems the Board of Pardons project. Sensibly calls for the restoration of the whipping post. Unquestionably that is the best board of pardons.

A meeting of northern men residing in the South was held at Charlotte on the 15th inst. Resolutions were passed declaring that in no sections do all classes enjoy greater liberty. Five States were represented.

Rockingham Bee: It is reported that a negro was shot and killed while trying to steal horses from Mr. Henry Fairley's stables, near Laurel Hill, on the 3rd inst. The hand that pulled the trigger seems undiscovered.

Mr. Nathan H. Adams, an elderly citizen of Goldsboro, committed suicide last Thursday afternoon by taking laudanum, it is supposed because he was financially embarrassed. He was buried by the Masonic order of which he was a member at the time of his death.

Four members of the House of Representatives have died since the opening of the session in December; two just before the Christmas recess, and two more last week. The last were Mr. Hartridge, of Georgia, and Mr. Schleicher, of Texas.

Josiah Turner was received by the Democrats in full fellowship into the caucus at Raleigh Wednesday night. But he bolted the nominee for Speaker on the first jump, and was promptly expelled. Seized him right, for it is a bad bird that will foul its own nest.

George Wetness, a good-hearted citizen of Concord, being driven to desperation by drink, shot himself Wednesday night, with a pistol. The ball entered his abdomen and he died at three o'clock the following day.