

MR. CAIN'S STATEMENT.

Congressman Cain's recent assertion that in four of the Southern States there are more whites, according to population, who cannot read and write, than there are colored people, has surprised a great many people, and has excited considerable comment.

Having made the advancement of his race the great aim of his life; having eagerly watched the result of his labors from year to year, and having at his command all necessary statistics from which to compute the progress of his people, we are forced to accept his assertion as positively and strictly true, however discreditable it may be to the white race.

We congratulate colored people everywhere upon whatever educational progress they may have made, and hope their efforts in that direction will gather strength and prove continuous.

Here in Stokes there are hundreds of children who cannot read and write, and whose parents regard the matter with the utmost indifference.

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plish anything. Head-work has become a condition of success, and no head-work can be thorough unless assisted by at least a rudimentary education.

The Cipher Telegrams.

The investigation of the cipher telegrams by the Potter Committee is showing up some of the hightoned leaders of the Republican party in no enviable light.

While the despatches were in the hands of the Senate Committee, Republicans were allowed free access to where they were and were permitted to peruse and destroy such as were damaging to the Republicans.

Gov. Vance Resigns.

Gov. Vance turns over the Executive chair to the General Assembly in the following patriotic language:

"Having received official information of my election as a Senator in the Congress of the United States from the State of North Carolina for the term commencing on the 4th of March next, I hereby tender my resignation as Governor of this State to take effect on Wednesday, the 5th day of February, 1879.

With earnest wishes for the health and happiness of each individual member of your honorable bodies, and with fervent prayers for the prosperity and honor of our native land, I am, gentlemen, most respectfully and truly, Your friend and fellow-citizen, ZEBULON BAIRD VANCE.

The Lieutenant Governor.

The election of Governor Vance to the Senate of the United States, and the consequent promotion of Governor Jarvis to the position of Chief Executive officer of the State, devolved it upon the Senate to supply the place of Lieutenant-Governor for the balance of the Executive term.

Lieutenant Governor Robinson is a man firm and of the people. He is a North Carolinian in the most comprehensive sense of the term, and if the mantle of State should, in any contingency, fall upon his shoulders, he would most worthily wear it.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 5, 1879.

The quarrel over the New York Custom House is past. Senator Conkling is beaten, and the Administration is triumphant. Probably the new officials will not perform their duties much more or much less efficiently than the old ones.

Senator Morgan on Monday finished his speech on the Edmunds resolutions. Senator Bayard spoke on the same subject yesterday, and Senator Edmunds today.

The public business, by the way, ought to be nearly or quite all over by this time. As it is, the most important of it yet remains. There is much talk of a recess for an extra session.

Various propositions have been made for raising money to pay the fifty or sixty millions needed to carry out the "arrear" portion of the late pension bill.

In the House yesterday there were several suggestions made as to a reduction of the Army. None of them received a majority of votes.

Two reports have just been presented to the Senate from the Committee on Elections; one, by the majority, which declares Corbin entitled to a seat as Senator from South Carolina, and the other declaring that Gen. M. C. Butler is entitled to the seat he now occupies.

Wood and Pelton.

It is hard for Mr. Tilden to be associated in the public mind with such graceless fellows as his nephew Pelton and the trading politician Wood.

The Senate last week passed a pension bill that will take not less than twenty millions from the treasury, and may and probably will, require twice or thrice that amount.

There are some scenes almost too pure, and sacred to be viewed by the thoughtless world. One of them is a 200 pound woman, with a mole on her chin, "alk. log baby" to an ounce and a half canary bird in a brass cage.

Mr. Conkling Gets his Deserts.

Mr. Roscoe Conkling, in a controversy with the Administration, has been badly beaten. The defeat is in many ways disastrous to him.

But this is not all. Were it all, the case would not be so bad for Mr. Conkling. By whose hand has Mr. Conkling fallen? By what shame is he covered?

No obligation could be higher, none could be more imperative, than that which rested on Mr. Conkling to interpose his objections, when they would have been potent and effective, between Mr. Hayes and the great office at which he was clutching.

Honest and earnest patriots need waste no sympathy over the defeat of a public servant who was unfaithful in the great crisis. Mr. Conkling has received his deserts. That is all.

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The Charlotte Observer says three famous characters, named Alf Edmondson, Lige Church and Riley Tedder, had a shooting and cutting fracas in Wilkes county a few days since, in which Tedder was killed and Church and Edmondson dangerously wounded.

The Legislature have raised a joint committee of 13, to whom shall be submitted all nominations from the various counties, and who shall make choice of the respective Justices of the Peace.

More than half of the convicts in the Texas Penitentiary can not write their names.

Almost a Fatal Baptism.

READING, PA., Feb. 3.—A baptismal ceremony was performed at Palmyra yesterday, which caused much excitement in the neighborhood.

The mode of baptism is to immerse three times, and, notwithstanding the debilitated condition of the woman, the ceremony was gone through with.

Several other persons who were to be baptized have concluded to wait until warmer weather. Up to this afternoon the woman was improving rapidly.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Goldboro Mail: To enlarge the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace is to put the weak at the mercy of the strong.

The Atlanta Constitution estimates that during the past two seasons the farmers of Georgia have paid out \$3,000,000 for wules.

The New York Tribune has been figuring, and puts the present population of the United States and Territories at 48,035,000.

Mrs. Thos. Ritch, in Mecklenburg, came near losing her life by taking poison, by mistake. She was saved by the excess.

The Boston Post thinks the time will come when honest lawyers will hang out a single saying: "Attorney-at Law and Candidate for Congress."

Hon. B. F. Jonas, democrat, just elected United States Senator from Louisiana, to succeed Mr. Eastie, is a leading lawyer in New Orleans and a man of fine ability.

Wadesboro Herald: As Judge Borton received the Republican votes in the Legislature for U. S. Senator, we venture the prediction he will be the Republican candidate for Governor in 1880.

The press and the public generally regret the retirement from journalism of Col. W. L. Saunders, of the Raleigh Observer, in consequence of ill health, and upon the advice of his physician.

B. F. Jones, the newly elected United States Senator from Louisiana, will be the third Israelite who has occupied a seat in the forum. The others were David Yale, of Florida, and Judah P. Benjamin, of Louisiana.

Three dogs, with hydrophobia, have been killed in the neighborhood of Table Rock post-office, Burke county, during the past few weeks. Many others have been bitten. Also a child of Mr. Thomas Kincaid.

Conkling looks sad. Poor fellow, he begins to realize how it feels to have your feathers combed the wrong way. Hayes and Sherman are filled with great and exceeding joy. It will be Conkling's time next.

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Pittsburg, Pa., has a genuine case of Radical ballot-stuffing. Three Radical members of the election board have been tried and found guilty of conspiracy, changing and stealing ballots and ballot-box stuffing. Next.

Can it be possible that our legislators are going to adjourn without having made any provision for the more speedy, economical and effectual punishment of crime? The interest of the people, the protection of society and the public morals, imperatively demand the whipping post.

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The Senate Committee has at last acted upon the House Internal Revenue Bill, concurring in the reduction of the tax on tobacco to sixteen cents.

Let us have a law which will prevent any one from voting until he has produced his poll tax receipt. If a man can't afford to pay that much towards supporting the government he should not be allowed to have the privilege of any voice in framing the law.

Among the most important bills passed by the Legislature are these three: Bill cutting down the public printing to nearly one-half the price paid last year; bill to abolish the office of State Geologist; bill abolishing the special tax on merchants.

It is a little singular that though North Carolina has had but three Lieutenant Governors all three have become Governor. Caldwell by the impeachment of Holden. Brogden by the death of Caldwell. Jarvis by the election of Vance to the United States Senate.

A gentleman living on Mulberry, who is now past fifty years of age, is a grand old man, owner of a good farm and plenty of stock, and has always been well to do, never owned a lock and key of any description in his life; leaves his house, barns, stables, ertbs, etc., all unlocked, and never yet had one cent's worth of anything stolen from him.

Gonecord Register: A bill passed the Senate last week giving increased criminal jurisdiction to magistrates. It does not meet the approval of the people, and while it has some favorable features, that portion of it which relates to sexual debauchery, should condemn it in the House.

The condition of General Hampton, the Governor of, and United States Senator elect from South Carolina, is not as favorable as it has been.

The night blindness of the three children of Mr. James Howard, of Ocracoke Island, is accounted for in the Tarboro Southerner by a Louisville physician.

Tarboro Southerner: A little colored boy, son of Jim Armstrong, of Rocky Mount, was killed by having a large limb cut down on him Saturday. On the day before a little son of Ned Parker, colored, fell from a stringer of the bridge across Tar river at the Falls and came near being drowned.

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WILMINGTON SUN.

The Wilmington Sun will be furnished to subscribers at the following reasonable and uniform rates: For one week, 15 Cents.

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