

The House has transmitted to the Senate a Resolution fixing the 23th of this month as the time of adjournment.

We notice that the Standard has passed into other hands. The President of the N. C. R. R., W. A. Smith, & Co., are to run it in the future.

STILL ANOTHER.—R C Parker, a member of the House of Representatives is numbered with the dead. He died on the 6th inst., at his home in Northampton county.

The Morning Star—a ship of 290 tons built by the children and friends of Missions was wrecked on the 11th of October last, on Ibiango one of the Micronesian Islands.

THE NEW COUNTY.—Dare county has by a vote of its citizens in its territory been added to the counties of the State, which now numbers ninety. It is named so in honor of the first child born in the Colony of Carolina Virginia Dare.

A Chicago telegram, dated, February 24th says:

A special dispatch to The Tribune from St. Paul says the bill which recently passed the Minnesota House of Representatives, providing for submitting to the people of the State an amendment to the Constitution on the question of woman suffrage, on which question women should be allowed to vote, was to-day concurred in by the Senate, 19 to 12.

In a few days we shall know whether the people of Minnesota will accept this amendment to their Constitution, that allows women to vote. This seems to be a contagious disease, and we try to steer clear of it.

We learn from the newspapers that a few days since, Senator Johnson of Virginia, interviewed President Grant—as a matter of course the present and future of the recently reconstructed "Old Dominion" formed the staple of the talk.

"Virginia will do well if she keeps on as she has begun; but she must not slide back like Georgia and Louisiana. Her natural resources are great, and they will be developed if a liberal form of government is maintained. Look at some of the Eastern States and portions of Pennsylvania, where every river and creek is made use of for manufacturing purposes, Virginia can do likewise if she tries; if her people forget about chivalry and go to work."

Firmly and plain. It will suit the Meridian of North Carolina equally well. It would make our old State bloom as a garden and soon the noise and hurry of enterprise and business would penetrate into every valley. Go to work. Every man, woman and child, there is plenty for all to do in order to beautify and enrich our State. Yes, forget chivalry. A very large amount of the commodity so called, now on the market and treaded upon is a bogus article.

The planting season is now at hand, and we trust this season will be marked one in the history of North Carolina farming. Let every farmer make some experiment. Attempt something new in the way of farming. Something he has never done. Something that he has not seen his neighbors do. One of the most valuable and necessary implements on a farm is Brains. It is also necessary that it be used, used independently and with boldness. Good farming demands earnest thinking, and it is as little possible to farm without patient and intelligent thought, as it is to govern a State without it.

In accordance with the first resolution given, and in the spirit of that resolution, a Mass Convention of the Republicans of North Carolina is hereby called to be held in the city of Raleigh on Wednesday, the 11th day of May, 1870; and "all good citizens of the State who regard the reconstruction acts as a swindle, who are friendly to the administration of President Grant, and who are in favor of building up North Carolina and restoring good feeling among all her people without regard to party," are cordially invited to attend.

W. W. HOLDEN, Chairman Rep. State Committee. J. C. L. HARRIS, Sec'y.

We wish to keep the fact of a Republican Convention being called before the minds of the people of the State. There is a disposition to undervalue the importance of this Convention because no nominations by any number are to be made. We do not so esteem the event. The highest interests are at stake for the welfare and prosperity of the State. It is a matter of utmost concern, that the friends of the United States Government and of the Union of the States, should meet to consult on the completion and stability of their work. The frank, bold and bitter assurances that have been given on the floor of the General Assembly that it is the purpose of the Democratic party to undo all that has been done in the way of reorganization is no idle threat. It is the utterance of men whose hearts incite them to do all they dare do to show their hatred of the power that binds them in bonds to keep the nation's peace.

We now call upon every county of the State to represent itself in that Convention. Every county that has citizens who adhere "good faith" to the Union—who are friendly to the Government of the United States, who would ally partisan strife and bitterness, should send delegates to Raleigh on the 11th day of May 1870. Of such men, send the wisest and the best. Do not send wire-workers. Do not send party tools. Do not send bitter men. Do not send corrupt and unreliable men whom no one can trust. Send honest, frank men. Intelligent men. Men who will live and work for the elevation of North Carolina. Send them from every section of the State, they may counsel together. Leave prejudice behind. Make large and wise plans for the future. We take it for granted that the Convention is to be free, and not driven in prescribed ruts. If any good shall result of it, this must be the case. The public mind we know, is in no mood to be trifled with at this time. It will not do for trucksters to attempt to drive the people into the support of men or measures that they have no confidence in. They will go home and repudiate such action and such men. Whatever is done must be done by men that meet from all parts of the State on the 11th of May. It must not be attempted to palm on them what has been "cut and divided" by little party cliques. These little factions that are gotten up and worked in the interest of certain men and measures, will not be supposed to act for the Republican citizens of the whole State. It is the life element of Republicanism that the people in actuality, not in name, must rule. It is the enemy of Slavery, of oligarchies, of all parties. We respect it. Under this broad and liberal invitation, go to this Convention of the good and true people of North Carolina. Send up as your Representatives, your uncorrupted, your clear-headed, your straight-forward men.—Send them up to speak and act for you, for the people, for the State. Very grand interests are at stake, and no better time will ever be found to do North Carolina a great service.

LOUISVILLE, KY., March 9.—General Breckinridge, in a circular argument at Lexington, denounced the men who belonged to the Ku Klux as "other idiots or villains, and asserted that he was free from any fear of them, and would readily respond to a summons from the sheriff as one of a posse to bring these men to justice.

This telegram refreshes one as "good news from a far country." It is with unwonted pleasure that we reproduce these words of Gen. Breckinridge. They are worthy of the name in its better days. Here is the best assurance of the thorough and honest loyalty of the man. Such acts testify that his submission was an act of good faith, and that it is safe to trust him. How very different is the conduct of certain parties in our State when little souls jaundiced with petty spite are silent amid scenes of crime and folly that such words from them would stop. Some men are inherently noble and even great errors cannot obscure it. Others are so intrinsically mean and base born that no wrong of the helpless—no injury to the State can move them to a noble deed simply because they cannot hold office.

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THE MANIA.—Our General Assembly is said to be most dreadfully annoyed by certain members having a mania to go to Congress. This seems to be a periodical calamity that sadly afflicts the State as well as its poor victims. It is a pitiable sight to see grave, strong and intelligent men under its power. What long-winded and meaningless speeches it leads them to inflict on their helpless colleagues. What adroit maneuvers to find the popular side of questions that they may glide with the current. What button-holing to explain away mistakes. What changing of votes. What dodging. It is a sad sight, and all this to fail to get to Congress. This Congress-on-the-Brain disease has its strange hallucinations. It makes men who voted away millions the loudest preachers of economy. Those who lately could not learn to smell of the "dirty nigger" the most tender and respectful of attention to Africa's sons. It makes those who spurned from "white trash" as too ignorant to vote the most condescending and laudatory of the "Masses." It is sad to see men, high-minded men, get down on "all fours" to court the colored vote, or any other vote. It is a sight we have seen, but hope to see no more. We have seen the black man curl his lips in scorn at its sight. We hope that people will deem these exhibitions of mania as proof of unfitness for Congress. No surer cure than to allow such to stay at Home.

George W. Smalley, Esq., in a London letter to The Tribune, dated Feb 12th, writing of the health of John Bright, says:

"Mr. Bright is decidedly better. The Lancet, which is high medical authority, says that he is suffering from nervous exhaustion incurred by a too unsparring devotion to his many public cares. Complete, if only temporary, disengagement from work can alone insure the absolute rest of mind which is essential to his recovery. Such a stay is all the more imperative as this is the second occasion on which the honorable gentleman has been visited by collapse of nervous power."

"Meantime, Mr. Bright has gone again to Norwood for a few days, and will probably go thence to the coast. There is some expectation that he will return in season for the debates on the second reading of the Irish Land bill, but it is very doubtful."

Hon. John Bright is an English Liberal, an adherent of Republican Institutions, and was the past and active friend of the American Union all through the trials of the war, when so many prominent Englishmen proved that they had not freed themselves from the old hate of "the colonies." All that relates to such a man is of interest to the good people of our country.

PARIS, March 8.—At a political banquet last night, M. Ollivier made a remarkable speech. He urged all political parties to give the Ministry assistance and advice, and not to keep aloof because of errors which had been committed by the Ministry. He hoped that different parties would not be discouraged because mistakes had occurred, but that they would continue to point out improvements. He closed with a prediction that in spite of difficulties and accidents unforeseen, the Ministry would yet succeed.

We have not seen anything from France for many days that to us looked so hopeful as these words of Mr. Ollivier. It shows a proper respect for intelligent public opinion. It is conciliatory in the highest degree and has more of that arrogance that usually belongs to small men in office. No feeling of competent greatness, but a wish to amend and learn. We hope the better men in France now in the opposition will accede to this proposal, and thus reach all their just expectations without blood or revolution. It is plain to us that in our State, much could be learned from these words and it would greatly advantage the people of the State were they carried into practice.

In Wyoming Territory we see it stated that several ladies are on the grand jury—This should have a very happy effect on the court so as to secure decorum and decency in all its proceedings. Yet we can conceive that some rather unpleasant situations might be created by this "advance" in "civil procedure." It is possible some of these ladies may be mothers of young children. It is possible ladies may be chosen for the "traverse jury"—that such a jury might "hang"—would it not be a hard time on babe or a very inconvenient time to say the least for Ma.—We fear our progressive friends will get domestic and judicial affairs "rather mixed" if they should not already be in that State.—Without being unduly selfish or arrogant, we may be allowed this expression of preference that we are willing to part from this "innovation" in North Carolina, or at least in our domestic circle a few days.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—Believing in the inviolability of human life, that God is present and accessible in every human soul, of course Friends have been earnest and constant in opposition to the yet lingering relic of barbarism,—the gallows. Many who see no escape from war, in given contingencies, are quite prepared to believe that the time has fully arrived to dispense with the gallows. So too in prison reform the influence of Quakerism has been extensively felt in behalf of more humane, kindly and rational treatment of criminals. Elizabeth Fry is conspicuous in the calendar of saints. With Friends as with all others their action on these important matters is determined primarily by their estimate of human nature, its endowments and possibilities.

REPORT OF SENATE'S COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE R. R. MATTERS

We give below, extracts from the report of Messrs. Bragg, Phillips and Scott. We should give it entire, but for want of space. In a short time we will also give extracts from the testimony. The whole will be of interest to the people. We shall at a future date call attention to some of the particulars of the evidence.

REPORT.

To Lieut. Gen. Caldwell, President of the Senate. The Commission appointed under the Senate resolution for investigation, of January 24th, 1869, ask leave, under the instructions to that effect recently received from the Senate, to submit the following report:

In the course of their labors, the Commission have examined, at length, the following persons to-wit:

Messrs. E. Belo, Jesse R. Stubbs, William Johnston, Robert H. Cowan, I. F. Allen, William Sloan, J. J. Mott, Samuel M. P. Tate, R. F. Simonton, J. J. Cowles, A. J. Jones, Rufus Y. McAden, K. P. Battle, W. J. Hawkins, M. S. Littlefield, T. F. Lee, D. G. Fowle, H. C. Cowles, W. R. Richardson, J. H. Darr, W. F. Askew, T. S. Lutterloh, S. W. Watts, and B. S. Guion.

None of the persons summoned before them have failed to appear, except Mr. Geo. P. Swepson, for whom a summons, directing his appearance on the 3rd day of March, was placed in the hands of the Sheriff of Wake County upon the 22nd day of Feb. This was served upon him personally on the 1st day of March, as appears by the Sheriff's return. Other names of the same sort were served upon Messrs. Geo. M. Roberts, Treasurer of the Western N. C. R. R. Co., W. D. and R. W. Pulliam, but owing to their absence in New York, as appears from the return, they were not served.

The Senate will find most of the results summed up in three schedules, which are hereto attached. Of these:

The first contains a statement of the Bonds connected with the issue of State Bonds to the various R. R. Companies by the Treasurer, and was compiled by that officer in the use of the Commission.

The second gives an account of the Bonds of the R. R. Companies after they came into the hands of the Commission.

The third shows the amount in money for which the Bonds have been sold or hypothecated.

To complete, then, the general view of the following statements, obtained from the evidence herewith submitted, in regard to each one of the companies that have made appropriations from the State, since May 1st, 1869.

I. THE WESTERN N. C. R. R. COMPANY, & C.

To this issued between January 1st, 1869, and October 2nd, 1869, through Gen. R. S. Swepson, 6397 State Bonds, of the 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, and 100 dollar denominations, and of the amounts received of said bonds, our attention has been drawn to some \$180,000 which appears in the report submitted by Gen. Littlefield. No other company, except Messrs. Swepson and Littlefield, except Messrs. Swepson and Littlefield, with either the Bonds or their proceeds, in the evidence of Gen. Littlefield will be found certain papers, unverified in any way, which he reports as having come into his hands from either Mr. Swepson, or Samuel M. P. Tate, of New York. He could give no account of that time rendered to him an account of the transactions of President.

Gen. Littlefield charges himself with a certain sum of money as received from Mr. Swepson, and gives a statement of the manner in which that has been expended, but excepting certain Florida Railroad Bonds, turned over by Mr. Swepson, he could give no account of the manner in which the latter had disposed of either Bonds or proceeds. The papers and statements above referred to show that Mr. Swepson sold and hypothecated the 5055 Bonds mentioned above, part of their proceeds, returned over to Gen. Littlefield \$136,277 63, expended \$275,843 41, of which for contractors and the Treasurer of the company, 27,811 41, invested 99,533 39, in Bonds of the Pensacola and Florida R. R. Co., and otherwise, and leaves unaccounted for about \$440,000. The bona fide of the Florida investment is understood to be a question not settled between Mr. Swepson and the Company. It also appears that the figures submitted to the commission in this connection do not include the whole of the proceeds of that part of the Bonds which was hypothecated.

Gen. Littlefield's statements show that he received as President of this Company from his predecessor, Mr. Swepson, \$16,258 83 in cash and \$112,946 13 in an order upon the New York National Trust Company, which held certain Bonds hypothecated by Mr. Swepson, and that of this, he paid the engineer, contractors and the Treasurer of the Company \$127,471 96, and otherwise \$4,400 — in all \$131,871 96. He explained that the "protection" consisted in relieving these Bonds from certain legal difficulties by which they had been encumbered, previously to his taking office, in Florida. He believes, that within a few days, this property of the said Company will be entirely disentangled and available.

II. The Western N. C. R. R. Co. (E D)

It will be seen that all of the bonds issued to this company have been either sold or hypothecated, and the amount raised therefrom was \$1,234,760 42. It appears from the evidence that all of this has been expended in various matters connected with the construction of the Railroad. The evidence of Messrs. Tate, Simonton, Mott and H. Cowles will be found interesting in this connection. In addition thereto, there will be found exhibits, printed and in manuscript, containing official accounts rendered by the above persons to the Company, and to the commission.

III. The W. C. & R. R. Co.

The proceeds and hypothecation of the bonds issued to this company are \$1,029,548 67. Of this it appears that all excepting about \$10,000 now on hand has been spent in such matters as are ordinary connected with

the construction of Railroads. The facts connected with this road will be found in evidence and exhibits submitted by Messrs. Cowan, Sloan, Alderman, and C. J. Cowles. Upon reference to Schedule No. 1, it will be seen that twenty-three of the bonds issued to this company are charged to H. H. Robinson, and none delivered under the authority of the Act of 1866-67, chap. 56. On reference to that Act, it will be found that these items have no connection with the subject matter of this investigation, being merely an exchange of that number of Bonds for others then in his possession.

IV. The Wilmington and Tarboro R. R. Company.

All of the Bonds issued to this Company were sold to or by John F. Pickrell, of New York, for 150,948 57, and by the accounts rendered through the affairs of the Company, it appears to have been expended in the ordinary details of constructing Rail Roads. The evidence upon this item is the deposition of Gen. Stubbs and the exhibits filed therewith.

V. The N. W. N. C. R. R. Company.

All of the bonds issued to this Company have been returned to the State, "without prejudice," as is understood. Mr. Belo's deposition shows that no use whatever was made of them while in his possession.

VI. The Chatham R. R. Company.

Of the \$200 bonds issued to this Company, 1650 have been returned, "without prejudice," to the State. The proceeds from the 1602 that have been sold, are \$665,627 29. The 48 under pledge are bound for a running account to the purchase of iron, the amount of which is not ascertained. The money realized from the sale of bonds appears to have been applied to the ordinary expenses of constructing Rail Roads, as well as, in small sums, Geo. M. Roberts, Treasurer of the Western N. C. R. R. Co., W. D. and R. W. Pulliam, but owing to their absence in New York, as appears from the return, they were not served. The evidence upon this item is given by Dr. Hawkins, and accompanied by an exhibit from W. W. Vass as Treasurer.

VII. The Western Railroad Company.

The proceeds from the sale of 55 State Bonds and some coupons, are \$51,193 13. Some \$7,500 of this has been paid out for ordinary expenses, and the remainder, \$43,693 13, is deposited in the banking house of Messrs. Bragg, Phillips and Scott, in New York, and is held by that firm as trustee for the State. Certain sums were exhibited by the President, in the names of Uley A. Dougherty and L. P. Payne Co., of New York, acknowledging that which the bonds have been sold or hypothecated. 1235 bonds, and 12 other bonds were shown the Commission in the hands of the President and Treasurer. This evidence is furnished by Messrs. James Tate and Littlefield.

VIII. THE ATLANTA, TENS. AND OHIO R. R. COMPANY.

It will be seen that notice has been made of these bonds in connection with the evidence which they were issued, and no use whatever except in connection with the action brought in Wake County in the name of Robert C. Keating against the said Company and the State Treasurer, which a transcript is herewith made. The object of that suit apparently was to obtain the benefit of the bonds upon the suggestion that they were hypothecated, and thus void. An objection was taken upon that allegation. The suit, however, was compromised, and the Commission cannot bear any testimony in regard to the same, or by the Company's agreement to pay to the attorneys of the plaintiff seventy-five cents, after the same amount of bonds. In the event, it happened that 77 bonds were so paid, and besides, that 5000 were expended by the Company in some connection with the suit. It does not appear what their connection was, or that the plaintiff was interested therein. Apparently his claims were satisfied by the

The commission, in reference to the evidence of Messrs. Johnson, M. A. Vass, Sloan, Battle, Fowle, Littlefield, Watt, Lee and Askew in this connection. It appears from a certificate of the Treasurer that 1697 of these bonds have been returned to the State.

The evidence of Messrs. Hawkins, Tate, Simonton, Guion, details, amongst other matters, circumstances bearing upon the question. How far any of the Bonds, issued since May 1st, 1869, or the proceeds of such Bonds, have been used to forward Legislation for these and like appropriations. For the rest, it will be seen that with two exceptions, in which persons claimed and were allowed the privilege of not testifying upon that point, direct and full details have been made, by every witness supposed to have any information thereabouts, of any knowledge in regard to such-use of the said Bonds or their proceeds.

It will, doubtless be borne in mind, that the investigation of the Commission into these matters was by the Senate expressly limited to any improper employment of those Bonds, or any of their proceeds.

Some evidence of an application of those Bonds or their proceeds to private purposes, will be found in the dispositions of Gen. Littlefield and Messrs. Jones, Tate and Littlefield. Otherwise, such application has been denied.

THOMAS BRAGG, Chairman.

March 12th 1870.

General Logan's bill for the reduction of the army was taken up yesterday, considered in detail, and finally passed without division.—General Logan occupied nearly two hours in an able and effective argument in its favor. Considering the very important changes made in the army by this bill, and the warm opposition it has met from many of the higher officers of the army, whose salaries are reduced by it, it is somewhat surprising that this measure was permitted to pass with so little opposition. There can be no doubt that it will have a severe ordeal to pass in the Senate.—Washington Chronicle.

INTERNAL REVENUE DECISIONS.—Commissioner Delano has decided that depositors in savings banks are required to return and pay tax upon the interest accruing to them upon the amount of their deposits. He has furthermore decided that fines and penalties imposed for violation of law are not deductible from income tax.