

The Legislature of Rhode Island is to convene on Tuesday, the 31st day of May next.

The Kinston correspondent of the New Berne Journal says that the contest on local option will be pretty warm. The Pros can bring to their assistance now the testimony of the old Confederate Postmaster General and now United States Senator from Texas, John H. Reagan, to show that it is a slander upon the Democratic party and Thomas Jefferson to put them in defence of the dram shop and drunkenness.

A new indictment has been found against the officers of the Exchange National Bank of Norfolk by the United States grand jury at Richmond. There are sixty counts in the indictment and the trial is set for the May term of the court in Norfolk. The New Berne Journal well says: Justice travels slow in this southern climate when in pursuit of the wealthy criminal; but it is to be hoped that in this instance it will, in the end, be meted out impartially.

The editor of the Wilmington Star is moved to say: It is believed that the Labor party will certainly have a Presidential candidate in 1888. The recent elections have given a decided spur to this purpose or idea. Senator Kenna says the Democrats have trouble ahead. Senator Sherman professes not to be particularly alarmed. He expects that perhaps his party will lose less than the Democrats and that brings to him the philosophy of the stoic to console him.

The Democrats now have the control of the Rhode Island Legislature by a majority of nine on joint ballot. The House consists of 72 members; the Senate 37. Last year the Democrats had but seven members in each house. Now they have a majority more than half as large as their whole vote. A contemporary says that this is a sudden and startling change, but the amount of reform involved in it will have to be determined by later developments. There is a cheering prospect that henceforth the most deserving party will hold the ascendancy in the midget State.

The Greenville Reflector says: Not since the war has a judge presided at any session of any court in Pitt county who possessed more ability, greater legal attainments, or was more learned than Judge Merrimon, who is now holding the courts of this District. In fact, we have heard several of our oldest citizens remark that not within their recollection have they known the business of any court to be conducted so rapidly, impartially and ably as the session just closed. Judge Merrimon is from the Western end of the State, and a new occupant of the bench.

The Wilmington Star says: The United States are certain to have a big rival in Russia in the petroleum business. The increase in production is very rapid. The market product is five times as great now as it was four years ago. But thus far this vast increase in Russian products has not affected the exportation of American petroleum. But the Star must remember that now our people are using natural gas in a great number of places, where, only a few years ago, we did not know such a material of light existed. And almost weekly the number is being added to. Pos-

sibly, by-and-by, the Russians may have natural gas, too. Who knows:

ORIGIN AND MOVEMENTS OF ASIATIC CHOLERA.

Medical books inform us that cholera has long been known in India, but that it was not till the year 1817 that it attracted the attention of the medical world, when, commencing at Bengal it overran Asia and in a very few years leaped into Africa and Europe, from whence it found its way on to the Continent of America.

In 1832 it reached Paris and London; and in the same year, overleaping the barrier of the Atlantic, appeared in Quebec on the 8th of June, and on the 10th at Montreal; and thence pursued a course, along the St. Lawrence, and the Lakes, to the Valley of the Mississippi river. A detachment from the main line of invasion, as it crossed the Atlantic, appears to have struck the shores of the United States at New York, where the disease broke out on the 24th of June. Thence it spread northwardly up the Hudson, and southwardly to the river Delaware and Chesapeake Bay, on the 3rd on 4th, and Philadelphia on the 5th of July, and Baltimore in the course of the same month. About the beginning of November, it appeared in an island off Charleston; in February, 1833, at Havana, in Cuba, where it committed great ravages; and, before the end of that year, in Mexico.

From the above we see that the disease radiates from a given point north and south, east and west, and moves with a velocity only equalled by the celerity of the wind. The past winter it has invaded the Brazilian Empire and is now crawling north and will soon be in the United States other than Texas, we fear. Therefore we want our people to be prepared for it. A single case of cholera introduced among us in our present unprepared condition would cause the deaths of scores of people in our otherwise healthy town.

No Use to Get Mad.

Matthew Lyons, a naturalized Irishman, when a Representative in Congress from Vermont, was fined \$1,000 and imprisoned four months for publishing a letter calculated to bring President John Adams into contempt. He was strongly opposed to everything that was royal or sovereign; and when a national coin was discussed he objected to the eagle being put on, because he was the king of birds and therefore inappropriate as a Republican emblem. Judge Thatcher, of Massachusetts, who was always characterized by good natured mirthfulness, replied that perhaps it would be well to take the goose for our emblem, for that bird had nothing majestic in her deportment, nor could her humble rank among the feathered tribe give offense to the most fastidious Republican. Moreover (continued the Judge), goslings would be a very convenient stamp for the tenpenny pieces and fivepenny bits.

This caused a great deal of mirth among the members, excepting Lyon, who was so offended by it that he challenged the facetious judge to a duel. What arrangements will you make? inquired the man who carried the challenge. None at all, replied the Judge. Why, are you willing to be called a coward? Yes, because I am a coward, and he knew it very well, or else he would never have challenged me. This turned the laugh upon Lyon, who wisely concluded there was no use in trying to fight with a man who fired nothing but jokes. — Ben. Perley Poore.

At a school examination in Avoca, Ia., the question, What are the chief products of the United States? was asked, the answer to be in writing. One of the scholars, a very honest boy, and in good faith submitted the following answer: Presidents, Governors and Congressman.—Omaha Bee.

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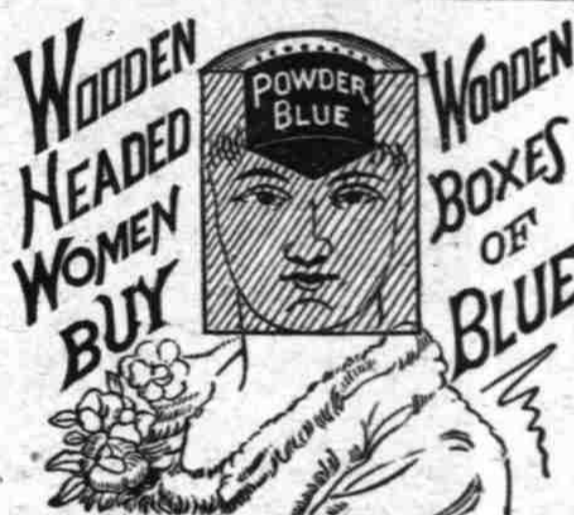
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