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VOL. VI.

MILTON, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1891.

NO. 32.

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GRAHAM, N. C.

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Via Keyville, Oxford and Durham.

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ECLIPSE OF THE SUN, AUG. 7, 1869.

BY D. H. DAVIS.

The sun now hung a golden fringe
Around the edges of the moon,
And cast a shadow dark and dingy
When shades of night were not in time.
The stars looked through a gauzy veil,
Dim shadows walked like ghosts at night,
And darkness spread o'er hill and dale;
The heavens burnt a hidden light.
The earth grew strangely pale and faint,
The trees wore robes of millet green,
The hills wore crowns like tints of pink,
The rich-clad valleys trailed between.
The birds now sung their evening song,
The chickens bid the day good-bye,
The night owl hooted gauff and strong,
Because the moon was in the sky.
But soon swept on a daybreak scene,
The fowls and birds saw their mistake;
The earth awoke and dressed in green,
The stars went out, 'twas then day-break.

The owl went back to bed again,
The rooster blew his daybreak horn,
The birds sang sweet o'er hill and glen,
And three P. M. was then the morn.
—Baltimore Herald.

WASHINGTON LETTER.
[From our Regular Correspondent.]
WASHINGTON, March 16, 1891.

Mr. Harrison has given no sign that he intends to remove the present head of the Pension Bureau, notwithstanding the damaging facts brought out by the Congressional so-called investigation into the peculiar business methods of Gen. Raum, although he has had his attention called to the matter by a very prominent member of his party, who, I have reason to know, told him that Raum and his wild cat speculations and his proven obligations to the king of the pension sharks was more than he should attempt to carry. Raum has within a week, boasted to a personal friend that he was all right and would not be disturbed.

A Democratic Representative said to me to-day: "Looking at the matter from a political point of view, I hope that Harrison will not kick Raum out now, because, if he is left in his position until next winter the Democratic House will show him and his methods up in a manner that will disgust all decent men, whatever may be their political affiliations, and it will help us greatly in the Presidential campaign. But whether Raum goes or stays we shall investigate the Pension office, which I am satisfied is honey-combed with fraud, that can easily be discovered, if it is fearlessly and honestly looked for."

The air of mystery which always prevails around the State Department is just now very much intensified, owing to the fact that Mr. Blaine and Sir Julian Pauncefote are deep into the negotiations preliminary to the arbitration of the Behring's Sea question, which Mr. Blaine is pleased to think or to pretend to think that he has compelled Great Britain to accept, although all the rest of the world knows that he never made the slightest progress toward a settlement of the dispute, until he returned to the position maintained by Mr. Bayard under the Cleveland administration. These negotiations are not conducted at the department. Oh, no. There are too many prying newspaper men always on the watch, so whenever Mr. Blaine has any very important business on hand it is transacted at his private residence. The administration feels very much relieved at the prospect of a peaceful settlement of this question, having last fall become fully satisfied that the sentiment of the country was opposed to any unnecessary display of "jingoism."

Mr. Harrison was anxious to find a good reason for not appointing the new Circuit Court Judges created by the late Congress until next winter, doubtless believing that the longer they can be held the greater their value in votes at the next Republican National convention, so he re-

ferred the matter to Attorney General Miller, expecting that he would render an opinion against his right to make the appointments during the recess of Congress. But the Attorney General, following the excellent example of Solicitor General Jenks in a similar case that occurred under Mr. Cleveland, has given his opinion in favor of the President's right to make the appointments at any time. Between this opinion and the clamorings of the Republican applicants and their friends, Mr. Harrison will find it difficult to postpone the matter very long, although he still professes to be in doubt as to his right to make them until Congress is in session.

Treasurer Huston is again at his desk, although he cannot hide his anxiety to have his resignation accepted in order that he may feel at liberty to express his opinion of Mr. Harrison and his administration. An attempt was made to get him out of the way by giving him a foreign appointment, but he refused to be caught, and says that he intends to return to Indiana for the express purpose of taking an active part in politics, which is interpreted to mean that he will do his level best to prevent that State endorsing Mr. Harrison.

If things go on for a few days longer as they have for several days past, there will not be a Democratic employe left in the Government printing office. It is customary to largely reduce the force shortly after the adjournment of Congress, and that reduction is now being made, and the discharged people are nearly all Democrats, or women who owe their appointment to Democrats. Prof. Charles W. Smiley, special

commissioner of fish and fishery statistics, is under charges. His work is said to be practically worthless, although it has cost a large sum of money. The adage "a woman is at the bottom of everything," is brought to mind by the claim of a female lobbyist, who, by the way, is also in the employment of the Government, that she killed the Wamamaker postal telegraph bill in the House Post-office committee, and that the money she used was furnished by Jay Gould. Perhaps she is only trying to divert suspicion from the eminent Republicans who actually did disburse Gould's money here.

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