

Rockingham Rocket.

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THE PENITENTIARY.

We have seen a copy of the bill reported by Mr. Hoke, of Lincoln, from the Committee on Penal Institutions, to provide for the support of the State penitentiary. In any aspect this establishment is an expensive one to the tax payers of the State, and we are not sure that the General Assembly would act unwisely if it shall so change our penal laws as to allow some minor grades of felony to be disposed of in some other way. The bill in question has been examined by us, and if we comprehend its provisions they are these: Seventy-five thousand dollars are to be appropriated directly from the Treasury, and the Board of Directors are authorized to draw as much as one hundred and forty-five thousand dollars more from the earnings of the institution, from all sources, if that much shall be needed. So that in case the earnings are less than the sum named, whatever the expenses may be, no more money can be had. In such case there would be a collapse or a call on the General Assembly, or both.

From the information at our command we can state that during the past two years, with an appropriation of \$100,000 annually and the use of all the earnings, the penitentiary authorities have been forced to draw somewhat upon the future. Now it is proposed to make a smaller appropriation and let the penitentiary depend upon the earnings. We do not believe it can be done. Suppose railroad building shall decrease in the State, or stop, how can the institution be supported? To our mind the bill in question is fatally defective in that it does not provide how self-sustentation can be produced. Would shoe shops and other pursuits of a similar character be allowed? Would the temper of the people stand it?

Our own opinion is that it is safest to make an appropriation of \$110,000 annually, with all the earnings, and require the surplus earned to be covered into the Treasury and make a part of the general fund. Then all appropriations of convicts for railroad use should be repealed. If this shall be done, and the institution placed under the care of business men, all will be as well done as possible.

We see that the Governor recommends the abolition of the pay of the Board and the appointment of a sort of president and general manager, with a salary of \$2,500. When the Board convenes their expenses shall be paid. We beg to say that if a sensible man can be had—a man who has grasp enough to take the matter in charge—and a Board which could afford to visit Raleigh every month with no compensation, then all would be well. But on this subject we have grave doubts.

WE ARE PLEASED to know that Senator Vance has suffered comparatively little from the removal of his eye. It is healing nicely, and the Senator will soon, we trust, be at his post again. During his confinement North Carolina has practically no representative in the Senate.

WE HOPE the Legislature will have the prudence and good sense not to form any new counties. It has got so that every little village which springs up wants a little slice of territory cut off and a new county formed with it as the county-seat. And what for? Is it for the public good? Not a bit of it. A new county movement is usually inaugurated by a few persons who are largely interested in real estate in and around some village, the value of which they wish to enhance by getting a new county. It is, nine times out of ten, purely a personal matter with a few individuals, and a selfish one at that. North Carolina has quite enough counties already.

IN THE LEGISLATURE of Pennsylvania has been introduced in the House a bill providing that the flag of the United States shall be floated above every public school building in the

State. The bill has passed to its third reading in the House and will doubtless become a law. That is patriotism (?) run mad. What has the Federal Government to do with the common schools of Pennsylvania or of any other State? It strikes us as a foolish piece of business on the part of the Pennsylvania "patriots." Or perhaps their action was in anticipation of the passage of the Blair Bill, in which event the Federal Government will take the public schools under its sheltering wing, and then it will be all right and proper to float the stars and stripes over the common school houses.

IS IT POSSIBLE that the "Farmers' Legislature" is afraid to impose a tax upon dogs? Do they stand in greater fear of the owners of worthless curs than of the owners of sheep? The growing of wool might be made one of the leading industries of the State. Our climate is much more suited to it than is that of any of the Northern or Northwestern States; we have much better facilities in every way than they, and yet they furnish us all of our woolen goods. Why? Simply because it is impossible to raise wool where there are two worthless curs to every sheep—dogs that are a tax upon the community at large and are of no benefit to any one. Tax them, and tax them heavily. Let us have more sheep and less dogs. Those who own good dogs will not grumble at paying a tax upon them, and the owners of worthless ones should be glad to see them go to the "bone-yard." In view of the high tariff tax put upon wool and woolen goods by the Senate Tariff Bill (which will become a law as soon as the Republican Administration gets in power), it is absolutely necessary that we raise and manufacture our own wool. If we do not, we shall have to do without woolen clothes and blankets or impoverish ourselves in their purchase. Gentlemen, tax the dogs.

THE PHILADELPHIA TIMES thinks that Blaine's appointment as Secretary of State will cause a breach in the Republican party which will be hard to heal. It will "precipitate a lively and bitter war of factions in Pennsylvania," says the Times, and it predicts that Quay will be forced to the wall by the Blainites. As to Blaine's status with the President the Times says:

"Blaine is the Clay of Republicanism. He can't be President and he won't be the friend of a Republican administration that is not in the closest sympathy with himself and friends. Clay drove Tyler out of the party and divided the Whigs by leading the opposition to Taylor, and Blaine hedged Hayes and Arthur around with bitterness and rent the party in twain in three months as Premier of Garfield. 'But Harrison won't be dominated' is the ready answer of all who desire Blaine as Premier or excuse his appointment. Well, if Harrison can't be dominated, Harrison will speedily dominate Blaine out of the Cabinet, and what then? Blaine has a hundred friends to reward for every one that Harrison has; he has a hundred enemies to punish for every one that Harrison has, and his friends have borne the heat of conflict for years, while his enemies have been tireless and malignant. With presumed power to reward friends and to punish foes, and with the President free of either, how is Blaine to be dominated by Harrison?"

"Uneasy lies the head" of the incoming Administration, it would seem. "He'll be damned if he does and he'll be damned if he don't," make Blaine Premier, for, as the Times says, "Blaine would probably smash the party windows from the outside if pushed out of the Cabinet." Altogether, we shall probably have a lively time of it during the next four years.

The Legislature.

There has yet been but little of general interest done by the Legislature. Bills are pending to extend the time for Sheriffs to settle with the State Treasurer, from February 1st to May 1st; to incorporate the town of Hasty, in Richmond county; to abolish the State normal schools and apply the sum set apart for them to county institutes; to establish an agricultural and mechanical institute for colored people; to provide that no person shall be eligible for county commissioner for more than two years in any term of four years; to protect landlord and tenant by providing that contracts shall be in writing, each party to keep a copy, and that itemized accounts of supplies furnished shall be kept.

Important changes have been made in the public school law, all of which we will publish later.

A Mockery of Protection.

But the Senate assumes that the late election sanctioned the protection of protection to the most oppressive monopoly, and it has increased the present tariff taxes on every grade of wool, on every quality of woolens, including flannels, blankets, hats, carpets, women's and children's dress goods, and, in short, everything composed wholly or partly of wool that is consumed by the people. This is studied and needless oppression of the great mass of the people; it is a flagrant prostitution of the policy of protection; it lessens instead of enlarging our industry; it increases instead of lessening the cost of the common necessities of life, and it is a perversion of protection that invites and will surely bring revolution.

There is another protection country in the world that does not furnish free raw materials to its mills and labor. France, Italy and Germany are protection nations; but a French, German or Italian statesman who proposed to tax the raw materials of his mills and labor would be regarded as idiotic. It is one of the cardinal features of a true protective policy to cheapen the products of industry when it can be done without cheapening labor; to enlarge consumption, multiply labor and open new markets; but the so-called protection leaders of the Senate tax labor, tax raw materials, limit products, diminish employment and close every market of the world against our working-men. With all this excessive tax proposed by the Senate, English mills and labor will continue to supply a large proportion of our woolens, all of which could and should be supplied by American mills and labor, and could be so supplied with free raw materials and at the same time cheapen the necessities of life to consumers. The action of the Senate, especially on tin, steel, wool and woolens, is the veriest mockery of protection to labor, and if it shall be adhered to as the policy of the new administration, the greatest political revolution of modern times will come in the Congressional elections of 1890.—Philadelphia Times.

Bayard and Bismarck.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Secretary Bayard said this afternoon that he had not yet received Prince Bismarck's proposition for a conference in regard to Samoan affairs, but that he thought it would arrive in a few days through the German minister here. The Secretary said: "There is one thing that I think ought to be made clear in regard to Prince Bismarck's instruction to the German Consul to withdraw his demand for control of the island and that is this: 'The communication of Bismarck to Count Arco, the German minister, announcing his action, anticipated my telegram to Minister Pendleton saying that the United States would not recognize the martial law declared by the German consul. It was therefore not a reply to my telegram, but an anticipation. In other words Prince Bismarck sent his message to Count Arco before Mr. Pendleton received the message from me.'"

UNEASINESS IN LONDON.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—There is a great deal of ill-concealed uneasiness in official quarters with reference to the existing relation between England and Germany, which Prince Bismarck's speech in the Reichstag will do nothing to remove. Despite the representation of the German Chancellor that Germany is in thorough accord with England respecting Africa and Samoa, everything points to the fact that English and German colonial policy is in conflict.

This is a state of things which there is good authority for saying was anticipated at the Colonial Office before Parliament separated, and is now regarded in ministerial circles with growing anxiety.

As a matter of fact, the people of the South are perfectly willing that the negro should go or stay. The duties of citizenship have been imposed upon him long before he was prepared for them. Some of them never will be fit for them. The increased representation comes with citizenship, and, as far as the South is concerned, it can never compensate for the evils of the carpet-baggers. But this is one of the revolutions that can never go backward, and the people of the South simply propose to move forward.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

HARRISONBURG, Va., Feb. 2.—The White Caps have organized here and severely handled two colored men—Arch Strother and Moffet Cochran. Notice had been previously given them that they must improve their morals or they would be visited by White Caps. The colored people are very much alarmed, and many of them are afraid to be seen on the streets at night.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It is very pleasant to the taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, colic, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for diarrhoea, whether arising from teething or other causes. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—A memorial asking the immediate repeal of the tobacco tax adopted by the Tobacco Exchange of Richmond, Va., was to-day presented to the House and referred to the Committee on appropriations, which has under consideration the Cowles bill.

Be Sure

If you have made up your mind to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to take any other. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a peculiar medicine, possessing, by virtue of its peculiar combination, proportion, and preparation, curative power superior to any other article. A Boston lady who knew what she wanted, and whose example is worthy imitation, tells her experience below:

To Get

"In one store where I went to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla the clerk tried to induce me to buy their own instead of Hood's; he told me their's would last longer; that I might take it on ten days' trial; that if I did not like it I need not pay anything, etc. But he could not prevail on me to change. I told him I knew what Hood's Sarsaparilla was. I had taken it, was satisfied with it, and did not want any other.

Hood's

When I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I was feeling real miserable, suffering a great deal with dyspepsia, and so weak that at times I could hardly stand. I looked, and had for some time, like a person in consumption. Hood's Sarsaparilla did me no good at all. I was under the impression that I was much better than I was, and my friends frequently speak of it." MRS. ELLA A. GORF, 61 Terrace Street, Boston.

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of all kinds of General Merchandise, in good order and sold from regular stock, which, if you don't want at my price, you can have at your own.
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All goods offered will be as represented.
sept 20th

Notice.
Application will be made to the Legislature now in session to incorporate the town of Hasty, on the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad, in Richmond county, January 15th, 1889.

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