

# THE ROCKET.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY  
L. M. BLUE,  
Editor and Proprietor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
One Dollar and a half a year in advance.  
Advertising rates furnished on application.

Harrison is now on a tour through the South and West and meets with an ovation at every stop. We hardly think the enthusiasm displayed in admiration of his course as President, but rather as a justification that it's so near 1892.

It is reported that Blaine is soon to take a Southern trip to strengthen his chances for '92; but if his present tendencies continue, he can't be dominated by the Republican party, for then he'll be a Democrat of the advanced school.

With the present political outlook it seems that every man will soon set up a political party of his own. Well we are not hankering after a party of exactly that stripe but if it's to be fashionable let us have one with two planks to "set" on. Woman's rights should be respected.

If the Italian government should hear of the Charlotte trouble, and most likely it will, it will be forced to the conclusion that an Italian citizen who attends to his own business, will readily receive the protection guaranteed under the Constitution, and that our people are ever ready to aveng his wrongs.

It seems that death often holds its season of high carnival among particular classes of men; and of late it has been among the prominent men of North Carolina. First, Secretary Saunders, then Governor Fowle and now Julius A. Gray, a trio that will long be missed in the business and political interests of the State.

Last Monday, after Judge Snyder had pronounced sentence of death on a criminal in a Charleston, W. Va. court, the criminal made a desperate effort to kill the Judge, but without succeeding. This brings up a case of somewhat similar character that is reported as having occurred in North Carolina before the war. It was when the late Judge Warren was Solicitor, and while prosecuting a minister of some reputation, the preacher drew a pistol, shot the Solicitor in the arm and took his own life by shooting himself in the head.

## BUSINESS FRICTION.

When we enter the church on Sunday and note that look of unstrained concentration and deep humility written on the faces of its worshippers, we see the world in its bright attire, and are apt to judge that among such devout men business moves with theoretical ease. But what a mistake! What changes Monday morning brings, and what a different robe it puts on men. The word business has become a hard term; one from which the mad world has pressed out all the pleasures of civilized life and substituted extreme coldness and at times bitterness. Business should walk hand in hand with religion, but men look upon them as having no kinship and class, them as diagonally opposed to each other.

We believe that business should be conducted upon a basis of business principles; from such a reform the world would profit much, but we also believe that underlying true business principles is the great moral law, and when it is regarded it will work no wrong or hardship upon any man.

Our country is sorely in need of reform on this line, but the student of the tendencies of the times must look far into the future for hope of a better day, for the American's object is money and money made at a sacrifice of holier things. If men were disposed to do right, business would not wear a repulsive face, but as it is, the open rascality of men has destroyed confidence, and even when a man would do right, his motives are impugned, which fact, in itself, is not calculated to breed honesty. There is no such thing as perfection or theoretical smoothness in the working of any of man's institutions, but they approach it nearest, when woven with the warp of Christianity, and the business interests of our country will lose their disagreeable character only when the "Panacea of all ills" becomes a part of our business life.

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## BLAINE GIVES ITALY NO CONSOLATION.

Uncle Sam Carries No Insurance on the Lives and Property of Italians in this Country.

Signor Crispi says Secretary Blaine's letter of April 1st, was laid before the Italian government and that Premier Rudini directed him to say that the government of Italy had asked nothing beyond the prompt institution of judicial proceedings through the regular channels. He acknowledges that it would have been absurd to claim the punishment of guilty parties without warrant of regular judgment, and repeats the original demand for the prompt institution of judicial proceedings, and says that not until the United States government shall have explicitly declared that the proceedings shall be promptly begun can the diplomatic incident be considered as closed.

Secretary Blaine in reply says the United States did not by treaty with Italy become the insurer of the lives or property of Italian subjects in our territory. If it should appear that among the victims at New Orleans were Italian subjects resident there in conformity with the treaty, and not in violation of the immigration laws, abiding in peace in the United States and obeying the laws, and that public officers connived at the work of the mob, or failed upon proper notice or information of the threatened danger, to take steps to preserve the peace and bring the guilty to trial; the President, under such circumstances, the Secretary says, will be justified in bringing the matter before Congress, with a view to the relief of the families of the Italian subjects who lost their lives by violence.

Secretary Blaine also says if it is found that the prosecution of the persons charged with the killing of the Italian subjects can be maintained under U. S. statutes the case will be presented to the next grand jury. But if, as seems probable, proceedings cannot be taken in the courts of Louisiana, the President can only urge the State officials promptly to bring the offenders to trial, and this he has already done. He also says if the case can only be prosecuted in the State courts and a judicial investigation is not resorted to, it will then be the duty of the United States to consider whether some other form of redress may be asked. He adds that it is understood the Louisiana State Grand Jury is now investigating the affair, and while it is possible the jury may fail to present indictments, the United States cannot assume that such will be the case.

## RUDINI SPEAKS.

He Denounces Blaine's Letter and is Cheered by his Italian Brethren.

ROME, April 16.—In the chamber of Deputies to-day Marquis de Rudini, the Italian Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs replied to a question as to what action that government would take in view of the note of the American Secretary of State, Mr. Blaine addressed to the Marquis Imperiali, the Italian charge of affairs at Washington.

The Marquis De Rudini said that the government would decline to admit the irresponsibility of the United States towards the single states composing the American Union. The question at issue in the present controversy was one in which interested every civilized government in the world as well as it does that of Italy.

Continuing, the Premier said the Italian government had no fear of political difficulties, but it was filled with regret that so highly civilized a country as the United States should fail in the fulfillment of its duties to the cause of justice and morality.

Cheers greeted the conclusion of the Premier's explanation. In political circles in this city Mr. Blaine's latest note causes disappointment. It is spoken of as vague and inconclusive, and as leaving the matter in statu quo.

## No War With Italy.

ROME, April 13.—Among the lower orders the complication is having a contrary effect. The people seem to anticipate that the gates of the American paradise are about to be shut on Italians and there is a rush to get in before they close. The ports are thronged with intending emigrants and families, from the patriarch to the babe, can be seen trudging along the highways leading to the point of departure. The authorities are making efforts to discourage emigration but without effect.

## IS DEMOCRACY SPLIT.

Danger in the Palmetto State.

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 17.—The first white Republican meeting ever held in the State took place at the State capital yesterday, and is said to be largely the outgrowth of the Alliance movement which swept over this state last year. Many citizens who have heretofore been associated with the straight-out Democratic party were present. This movement is regarded with some concern here.

The white Democrats who are in it say that the old Democratic party has been elbowed out of existence by the farmer's movement and as they will not subscribe to the platform and principles of that movement, they will go into the Republican party. There is some danger of the new movement developing into a stampede from the Democratic party as it exists in this state at present.

## Hung an Innocent Man.

Asheville Cor. Charleston Courier. The hanging of Tom White, a white man, in Spartanburg about twelve years ago for the murder of Pet Hawkins, a colored man, will always be remembered as a remarkable execution. It happened just at a time when the white and colored races were decidedly at daggers' point, but which had no influence or bearing on the case. The idea of a white man being hung for the killing of a negro was rather repulsive to a great many people who had suffered under negro domination and misrule, but the law took its course and the man was executed in the county jail. But he suffered the penalty of a crime with the commission of which he had nothing to do, and which was laid to his account by the man who did the killing.

All along White professed his innocence, and declared that he had not killed Hawkins. When the execution took place, just before the cap was put over his face, White said: "I am an innocent man, and I am now to suffer death for another man's deed." He was executed, and there was a good deal of talk about his last words; but nothing was ever done to ferret out the other man of whom White spoke on the scaffold.

Dick Bird soon afterwards left Spartanburg, and went over to Polk county in this State, where he got into some trouble and then went over into McDowell county. Last year he sickened and died. While on his deathbed he made a full confession of his crime in permitting Tom white to be hanged for the murder of Pet Hawkins. Bird went on to say that he killed Hawkins, but put the blame on White; that the evidence taken altogether was against White, and that he had permitted him to be hanged for the murder, although he had nothing to do with it.

"The moral of the removal of the sugar duty," says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat (Rep.), "is that it will pay the Republican party to advocate similar action with regard to other duties."

## The Progressive Farmer Speaks.

"A good deal is being said in our North Carolina exchanges just now about the efforts the Alliance is supposed to be making to break up the Democratic party in this State. There is just nothing at all in this talk. The Democratic party of North Carolina has endorsed every essential demand that has been made by the Farmers' Alliance; and so long as that party is willing to stand by its endorsement of our demands, there will be no trouble. The Alliance is not a political organization in a partisan sense at all. It is an organization of the farmers of the country to secure certain definite reforms, by the agitation and discussion of certain great public questions, and by the education of its members. If the Democratic party or any other party is willing to help us get these reforms, such party will be heartily welcomed to the field of our effort. The Democratic party in North Carolina has said in its Conventions that it is willing to help us in this work, and as long as it is true to this pledge, the Alliance would be very foolish to try to break it up. But we do not intend to allow the Democratic party or any other party, either in or out of North Carolina, to force upon us candidates who are hostile to our demands. This is all there is of it."

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