

The Southport Leader.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF SOUTHPORT AND BRUNSWICK COUNTY.

VOL. 2.—No. 24.

SOUTHPORT, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1891.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

WASHINGTON NEWS.

GATHERED BY THE "LEADER'S" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 3.—Senator Gorman has gone to Saratoga but his Presidential boom is being very carefully groomed by his friends, and the present program is to push him to the front as a compromise between Hill and Cleveland who are both, according to the Gorman figures, already out of the race. The program as stated here is to straddle everything except the tariff and even on that issue there are many people who remember the time when Gorman was classed as a "protectionist" democrat, but since the death of ex-Speaker Randall there seem to be no recognized "protectionist" democrats, although during the last session of Congress Representative Flower, of New York, was several times charged with voting with his republican colleagues on the House committee on Ways and Means upon tariff matters.

The silver people are to be referred to Mr. Gorman's herculean efforts to pass the free coinage bill in the Senate last winter, and the anti silver people to the mastery in which he manipulated things at the recent Maryland Democratic Convention so as to prevent the placing of a free silver plank in its platform. In short to borrow the expressive phraseology of "Jones, he pays the freight," Gorman's boom is to be worked on the "get there" principle. There has been some quiet talk among the visitors to the Farmers' Alliance headquarters here about the part Mr. Gorman took in keeping the free coinage plank out of the Maryland platform, and unless they are mistaken some awkward questions are to be asked when the attempt is made to start the boom a booming in the South, where the sentiment for free coinage is practically unanimous.

If all the resignations from the Cabinet billed by the special correspondents of Washington during the last four days had really been handed in, Mr. Harrison would find it difficult to get a quorum of his Cabinet. Among the gentlemen retired from public life without their consent are Secretaries Noble and Tracy, Postmaster General Wanamaker and Attorney General Miller. Denials direct from all the gentlemen named except Secretary Noble, who is out of reach of the telegraph, were obtained, and in his case the denial of his assistant secretary and of Private Secretary Halford, but the resignations are still on; the able correspondents who are trying to earn their salaries maintaining that they know more about it than the officials themselves do, and one of them goes so far as to state that no matter what anyone may say to the contrary, he has positive knowledge that Secretary Noble's resignation has been in Mr. Harrison's hands for four months.

The reciprocity record may fairly be said to have been broken when official proclamations of two treaties, that with Spain for Cuba and Porto Rico and that with San Domingo are issued within forty-eight hours of each other, and it is hinted in State Department circles that there are more to come before long. September 1, is the date the two mentioned will go into effect.

There is one amusing feature of the unmistakable Blaine boom which the meeting of the Republican National Executive Committee here last week precipitated on the country. It is known to those familiar with the undercurrents of politics that the men who first started the Blaine ball to rolling, did not do so because they wished to see that gentleman nominated, but because they saw in it an opportunity to sidetrack or wreck the Harrison train for '92, and now they are considerably chagrined to discover that the matter has been taken out of their hands, and that while they have for the time being blocked the Harrison train, they have aroused a sentiment in the great mass of their party

that is loudly demanding the nomination of Blaine. Changes in political feeling are so many and so sudden in this country, that it would be a reckless man who would attempt at this time to say who would be nominated, but every truthful chronicler is compelled to record the present Blaineish aspect of things republican.

If the G. A. R. is not moved to come to Washington, for its 1892 encampment, by the mammoth solid silver invitation in a satin lined Russian leather box, the key of which is of solid gold, which the citizens committee has taken to Detroit, then lots of people hereabouts will be very much disappointed.

Secretary Foster is the only Cabinet officer in town to-day. Meanwhile the assistants are playing at being heads of the big departments, and between us, some of them are exhibiting heads that are nearly as big as their departments.

It is stated here that the Treasury department has been asked to investigate charges of undervaluation of imports against the Collector of Customs at El Paso, Texas, but no confirmation can be had at the department.

NORTH CAROLINA.

News Clipped From Valuable Exchanges From the Old North State.

Some of the parties who are entitled to the Direct Tax, have received checks on the State Treasurer for the amounts due them.—Farmers' Advocate.

Much progress is being made in the construction of the Wilmington & Onslow railroad. The way is cleared about 18 miles north of Jacksonville. Over three hundred hands are employed in the work.—Smithfield Herald.

There are no less than 22 cotton gins in six miles of this place.—Our grape growers are shipping large quantities of grapes to Northern markets. Apples and peaches of a salable quality are very scarce in this section.—Mt. Olive Telegram.

The Lenoir and Linville Valley Railroad is being rapidly pushed on to completion, and track has been laid beyond the Vineyard, a distance of three miles. Trestles across the creeks at G. M. Goforth's and at the Vine yard have been built.—Lenoir Topic.

The building boom in Goldsboro is by no means at an end. There are several new residences in course of construction in different sections of the city, in addition to those that have recently been noted in these columns and that are now nearing completion. We go forward.—Goldsboro Argus.

Mr. H. A. Stillwell Burdett, brought to the Democrat office, on Wednesday, the slate used by General Andrew Jackson during his school boy days. It is not unlike the slates used by the children of the present day, except in thickness. It is about nine inches wide, and nine inches long, and one quarter of an inch thick. Recently it was broken in one corner, otherwise it is well preserved.—Charlotte Democrat.

The Argonaut, Rocky Mount, contains an account this week of a serious fire which occurred in that city, on the 27th of July. An entire block was consumed and some buildings across the street from the fire, received a severe scorching. The damage is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$25,000. As the Argonaut says, the fire will be a benefit to Rocky Mount, as the burned buildings which were of wood, will be replaced with handsome brick structures.

The furnace branch of the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley railway was completed last week and the first train passed over the road Saturday. The first passengers to take a ride over the line were President Lash, Capt. H. L. Fry, Dr. Beabow, C. D. Beabow, Gen. Kase, and Capt. James W. Albright.—Now that the difficulty of getting building material to the Steel and Iron Company's plant has been removed, the work of constructing the furnace will go rapidly forward.—North State.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

LEADING TOPICS OF THE WEEK AT RALEIGH.

RALEIGH, N. C., August 4.—The continued rains of the past week have proven a serious drawback to almost all kinds of business. There is absolutely nothing doing in the mercantile line. The county people are hard at work, endeavoring to keep the grass down, and the ladies in town are completely housed up, there seems to be no abatement of the wet season. Last Saturday there was a continual down-pour from early in the morning until nightfall, deluging the streets, and causing heavy floods in the creeks of the surrounding country. Several bridges have been swept away and two or three mill dams broken. The crops in the low grounds especially have been injured, and much damage generally done.

The Sheriff of this county had quite a set back during the latter part of last week, when, in obedience to an order from the Board of County Commissioners, he attempted to collect the Merchant's Purchase Tax, under "Schedule B." He was met by a prompt refusal on the part of many of our business men. He therefore suspended the attempt until a meeting of the Board, which took place yesterday. It is now understood, that something in the nature of a compromise has been effected, and the merchants will pay the tax with the understanding, that, in case the Supreme Court shall declare the law unconstitutional, they shall be entitled to rebate.

The work of preparation for the coming exposition is vigorously going on in all the departments. At the grounds, all is bustle, and everything is getting in proper trim. Mr. Patrick is energetically pushing the work forward, as is evidenced by the huge amount of mail matter being every day sent out and received. The street railway has been laid from the corporate limits to within a few hundred yards of the gate of the grounds, and, in less than two weeks the cars will be running. The track for racing has been all graded, and fresh coats of paint are being given all the different halls, in fact the entire surroundings have been renovated.

An order has been given the Steam Manufacturing Company, of Philadelphia, for a large automatic engine with which to run the machinery in the mechanical department of the Agricultural College, and it will be ready and in position before the opening of the next session. The new dormitories have also been commenced and will be completed in about three weeks, the outlook for a large increase in attendance is first rate.

This morning two young men, Messrs. Will Wynne and Neil A. Spence left the north door of the State House for a bicycle trip to the Northern and New England States. A large crowd was present to see them off. They will go through Richmond, Washington and Baltimore, direct to New York, which they claim they will reach in a week. Both are fine wheelmen and expect much eclat from their undertaking.

A considerable number of our business men left this morning to attend the tobacco convention at Morehead. There were thirty-two deaths in this city during the month of July, 14 whites and 18 colored. There were no cases of typhoid which is unusual.

A very large crowd of excursionists will leave here to-morrow morning for Richmond, Va., they will return Friday night.

It is not now expected that Gov. Holt will occupy the new Executive Mansion, before the early fall, as there are some much needed improvements to be made to the building.

Warrants on the Treasury for direct taxes, up to this morning, aggregate about \$70,000 in round numbers. The rush of applications has considerably subsided.

It really seems to be a difficult matter to entirely settle up our ante bellum indebtedness, on the basis of the Act

passed by the General Assembly, known as the Act to compromise and settle the State Debt. It would appear that the holders of these securities have had ample time in which to take advantage of the terms proposed, which are surely as liberal as could have been expected of the State, plundered as she was by the carpet bag regime of 1868. They have, however, to a considerable extent held back, notwithstanding the Legislature has on two occasions extended the provisions of the law. In conversation with the State Treasurer yesterday, that official informed your correspondent that there was still a large amount of bonds yet unrepresented, although he had caused its widest advertisement to be made. He has no idea where the bonds are, or who are the holders, but it can be presumed that the bulk of them are in the hands of the foreigners, who are awaiting the vain expectation of better terms. The provision of the law will expire in July 1892, and the Treasurer is by no means certain that they will be further extended. No State of the late Confederacy has offered its creditors fairer terms, and certainly no more liberal proposition should be expected.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Brief Mentioning of the Doings in the Old World.

The death rate from cholera, at Mecca, is increasing. It is now 140 per day.

Striking street car employes at Toulouse, France, are giving a great deal of trouble. Thursday morning all the kiosks on the principal thoroughfares were demolished, and they also tried to destroy the tracks of the horse car road. The military were called out and dispersed, them, injured a number of people and made some arrests.

William O'Brien and John Dillon were released from Galway jail last Thursday morning.

It is reported that France will largely reduce her tariff on Russian corn, and will impose a prohibitory duty on Indian in order to encourage the importation of Russian corn.

Vesuvius is again in a state of eruption. The lava has reached the village of Rio del Cavallo.

A \$250,000 cotton fire occurred on Friday in Grandy street, Liverpool. Several thousand bales were burned.

The Queen of Belgium who has been seriously ill is recovering and her physicians declare that she is now out of danger.

Fifty-four hundred Russian Jews arrived at Hamburg last week. Several Chilean war vessels are cruising off the coast of Portugal.

Dom Pedro, ex-Emperor of Brazil, has suffered a relapse and is confined to his bed at Vichy.

A London special says: There is considerable alarm in Rome over rumors of the impending closing of the Bank of Rome. The bank is an old Catholic institution and it is said that Pope Leo has advanced 2,000,000 francs, and thus averted the threatened disaster.

Fifty five hundred Italians sailed from Genoa for America last week.

The large commissary depot of the German army at Pathenow, thirty-four miles from Potsdam, was struck by lightning on Tuesday and entirely destroyed by fire with all its contents. The loss is estimated to be about \$375,000.

It has been decided by the Government to annex to Berlin all of the nearest suburbs, the combined population of which amounts to about 200,000 persons.

A cable from Hobartstown says that the Bank of Van Diemensland, established in 1823 and having a capital of £250,000, has suspended.

The Uruguayan Government has issued a decree extending for one month the payment of all claims against the National Bank. During this period the Bourse will be closed.

WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY.

HAPPENINGS IN THIS COUNTRY FOR THE PAST WEEK.

Thursday, July 30.

The town of Austin, Nev., was visited last Tuesday by a destructive cloudburst, doing damage to the amount of \$10,000.

James Gordon Bennett, of the New York Herald, has been indicted for misdemeanor in publishing details of the electrocution of the five murderers in New York.

Fred C. Havemeyer, the founder of the well known sugar firm, died Monday at his home at Trogg's Neck, Westchester county, New York, aged 84 years. He leaves an immense estate.

Advices from Ohio and Indiana, state that the oat crop is being rapidly destroyed by grasshoppers.

W. S. Russell, arrested at Rochester, N. Y., yesterday, confessed that for a year he had made a living by stealing bicycles. He says that he stole fifty within the year.

Anna Milner Woods died at Cynthia, Ky., yesterday, aged 98. She was one of the original followers of Alexander Campbell, in founding the Church of the Disciples.

Friday, July 31.

An unusually sharp shock of earthquake, was felt at San Diego, yesterday morning. It lasted several seconds.

Spring's saw mill, sash factory, and a large quantity of lumber were burned, at Vicksburg, Miss., yesterday. Loss \$50,000; insurance \$20,000.

John E. Eppes, manager of the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Suffolk, Va., was shot at from ambush, Wednesday night, by some unknown person, and instantly killed.

Two large stores and five other buildings were destroyed by fire, early yesterday morning, at Brantford, Fla. It is said that the fire was started by burglars.

A Chicago dispatch says: After a strike of nearly four months for an eight hour day, the ship carpenters have begun to return to the ship-yards, and the long and desperate labor contest is believed to be over. The men returned without conditions and applied for their places.

Saturday, August 1.

R. G. Dun & Co's weekly review of trade says: Business continues dragging and dull. In commercial circles there seems to be a very general and growing confidence that the business of the fall will be large and profitable, and some improvement is seen, but not enough as yet to justify sanguine views. Failures for the week 247, against 252 for last week.

Rev. Prof. John Tridinnick, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Bluffton, Ala., and Dean of the University of the South and member of the Alabama Conference, died yesterday morning.

Nearly \$30,000 damage was caused at Birmingham, Ala., Thursday night, by the explosion of fifty kegs of gunpowder in the Alabama Great Southern depot. The depot was fired by incendiaries.

A man named R. D. Wheidon is under arrest at Portland, Ore., charged with trying to swindle insurance companies out of large sums of money. He procured the insurance while living in Birmingham, Ala.

Sunday, August 2.

New York banks now hold \$19,481,350 in excess of the requirements of the 25 per cent. rule.

It is reported that the cotton crop in Alabama and Mississippi is being greatly damaged, by the cotton worm.

The Rev. Ebenezer Junkin, of Houston, Texas, a brother-in-law of Stonewall Jackson, fell dead yesterday on board an East Tennessee & Georgia train, while near Johnson City, Tenn.

A collision occurred Friday night

on the South Carolina Railway. The engineer and fireman, after reversing the engine, jumped and were both killed. None of the passengers were injured.

E. Holland & Co., shoe manufacturers, of Rochester, N. Y., have made an assignment to James B. Doyle. Liabilities amount to \$50,000.

Kirby, the cashier of the City National Bank of Marshall, Mich., who fled with \$100,000 six weeks ago, has been caught at Sedalia, Mo.

Monday, August 3.

Five stores, comprising the biggest block in Ridgedale, the largest suburb of Chattanooga, Tenn., were burned to the ground yesterday morning. The loss will exceed \$20,000 and is said to have been caused by incendiaries.

A cyclone struck the town of Checotah, Indian Territory after 11 o'clock on Saturday night, doing many thousands of dollars damage to growing crops, and destroying several buildings. As far as known no persons were seriously injured.

A mob has attacked the Omaha and Granite Smelting Works at Omaha, Neb., and is driving out the workmen. The police are powerless and great damage will result as the fires are unprotected. The mob is several hundred strong and drunk.

Siegel, Cooper & Co's immense retail dry goods store on the southeast corner of State and Adams street, Chicago, was damaged by fire early yesterday morning to the amount of about \$1,000,000. There were about twenty-five employes in the establishment at the time all of whom escaped.

Tuesday, August 4.

Abraham Backer, a dealer in commercial paper and a member of the firm of A. Backer & Co., dry goods commission merchants of New York, has made an assignment. His liabilities are estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$4,000,000. He is said to have handled paper to the amount of \$15,000,000 annually.

The Weeks House, an old landmark at Palmer, Mass., was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. The guests, who numbered about 35, had barely time to escape with their lives. Rev. Mr. Williams, a retired Congregational minister, was burned to death.

The U. S. Circuit Court has rendered a decision in the famous Coosaw case, in favor of the State of South Carolina.

A dispatch from Laurinburg, N. C., says that McDougald, the suspected murderer of Simeon Conoly, has been arrested at Albany, Oregon. He will be brought back for trial as soon as the necessary requisition papers go forward.

Wednesday, August 5.

A sensation has been caused in Alliance circles in Kansas by the publication of open letters from W. A. Harris and C. W. Shum, prominent leaders in the Peoples' party, protesting against the sub-treasury scheme.

Claus Spreckles is making things interesting for the Sugar Trust. His price for net cash, at Philadelphia, is now 3.92 cents, the lowest on record.

Fire was discovered yesterday at Charleston in the hold of the British steamship Tischerbut, loaded with iron pyrites from Panerau, Portugal. The cargo will probably be a total loss. It is valued at \$13,000.

Birmingham, Ala., will secure the million dollar steel plant. Its citizens were asked to subscribe \$150,000 toward the capital stock of the corporation and \$102,000 have already been raised with the other \$48,000 in sight.

Indictments have been found against the proprietors of seven of New York's great dailies, charging them with misdemeanor in publishing more of the recent electrocution of the four murderers than they had a right to accord ing to law.

THE SOUTHPORT LEADER \$1 a year