

WASHINGTON NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16, 1893.

Not since the memorable silver debate began in the Senate has the outlook for passing a financial measure that will receive the vote of every democratic Senator been as bright as it is at this writing. The failure of the attempt to compel the Senate to vote by holding a continuous session, which was a foregone conclusion, has convinced those democratic Senators who were pledged to do their best to secure the passage of the Voorhees bill that unconditional repeal is under present circumstances an impossibility and they are for the first time taking part in conferences held for the purpose of reaching agreement upon a compromise that can be passed as a distinctively democratic measure, and there are the best of reasons for the prediction that such a measure will this week be passed by the Senate.

President Cleveland is not taking any part in these conferences. He is still firm in his belief that unconditional repeal would be the best thing, but he will not veto any compromise which meets the approval of the democrats in the Senate and House, as any compromise will necessarily include the vicious purchasing clause of the Sherman law, and probably the authority for an issue of bonds to strengthen the gold reserve. The indications are that it will also include the repeal of the tax on State bank currency. Secretary Carlisle is reported to have given his opinion as to a compromise that would be approved by President Cleveland and it includes these propositions.

Laying aside personal opinions and looking at the matter from a strictly political point of view it must at once be apparent to those familiar with public sentiment in the west and grant some recognition to that sentiment in financial legislation than to ignore it. Without votes from these sections the party can neither elect a President nor control Congress.

All of the Ohio republican members of the House have been called home to help McKinley, who for some reason has become very much alarmed at the outlook. Democrats in Congress do not forget that Ohio is under ordinary circumstances a republican state, but their private advices are certainly very favorable of late to the democrats.

The democrats of the House are setting the democratic Senators a good example in keeping together. Notwithstanding the efforts of the republicans to create dissension among the House democrats over the Tacker bill for the repeal of the obnoxious federal election laws, that bill was passed on schedule time and it received the votes of every democrat present, as well as those of the populists. The House then took up the McCreary bill amending the Geary Chinese exclusion act, which would have been passed last week if more members than were expected had not desired to make speeches thereon, causing the taking of a vote to be postponed until this afternoon.

The democratic Congress has one opportunity to bring about a great reform, and at the same time save a very large sum of money, that should not be neglected. It is a fact well known to all who have ever had any considerable business with the Treasury department that there is an unnecessary amount of red tape in its method of dealing with accounts involving the expenditure of money. This is not the fault of individuals but of the absurd system which compels a duplication of all the work done in connection with every account which passes the offices of five out of six auditors of the Treasury. To duplicate the work the clerical force is also necessarily duplicated. It is not a good argument to say that this duplication is a necessary safe guard, because the work of the Sixth Auditor's office, which handles all of the postoffice accounts, and which has long enjoyed the reputation of being conducted under a thorough business system, is not duplicated, being of itself a final settlement of the accounts upon which it passes. It is probable that the joint Congressional committee now investigating the work and methods of the various departments will recommend that all of the bureaus of the Treasury department which exist merely for the purpose of duplicating the work done in the offices of the first five auditors be abolished. They certainly ought to be abolished. It would mean the dropping of five or six hundred needless employees—the influence

represented by their friends, many of them Senators and Representatives, is what will make the task a difficult one for Congress—and the consequent saving of their salaries, and it would reduce the time required to get an account through the Treasury nearly one half. It would also show the people that democratic economy was being practiced as well as preached.

At last the House is unanimous upon something. It adopted a resolution asking the Attorney General whether the interests of the Government are jeopardized by the passing of the Union Pacific Railway into the hands of receivers.

The Editor of the Observer Visits Greensboro.

We were in Greensboro recently and concluded to sound the bankers of that thriving city on the subject. We first inquired of Hon. D. F. Caldwell, the venerable president of the Bank of Guilford. He said that he was heart and soul with Senator Vance and the stand that he had taken. While it would be to his personal interest to have the Sherman law repealed unconditionally, he believed it would be injurious to the people. He had been tempted to expose some of the rascals at headquarters who had been writing him to put the screws on his customers and thus bring a pressure to bear upon Vance.

We next asked Mr. Neill Ellington, president of the National Bank of Greensboro. He said that he had given more attention to his business affairs than the money question in its general aspect, but he was a silver man by nature and training and saw no reason for changing his views. The Faulkner proposition, with a little working over, would be a good compromise he believed.

Mr. J. M. Winstead, president of the Piedmont Bank, expressed himself as favoring the coinage of every silver dollar that the people need and the country can maintain. Unconditional repeal would be a dangerous leap in the dark he thinks.

Mr. W. S. Hill, a prominent capitalist, says he could not agree with the President's demand for unconditional repeal. He believed the interests of the masses demanded the coinage of gold and silver on equal terms, as favored by the platform upon which Mr. Cleveland was elected.

We had a talk with Mr. Robert Harris of the well-known firm of Robt Harris & Bro., tobaccoists, of this place, recently. He is a man of fine business ability, level-headed, and his word is as good as a gold bond wherever he is known. He said in substance: "Senator Vance is right. Unconditional repeal would be a perilous step. I fear it would be a long time before we would get any silver legislation. I have tried to get at the truth of the matter and honest investigation has increased my faith in the righteousness of the cause. While it is true that only a few States produce silver, every dollar that goes into circulation helps us all. It would be an outrage to paralyze the industries of those States by the demonization of silver when the country absolutely needs their silver to coin into money."

The Weekly maintains that the business men of the 5th District do not desire unconditional repeal. Some of them got right badly scared several weeks ago, but they see things in a different light now. It is getting plainer every day that the panic was started by a few rascals in New York to force a big issue of bonds, upon which they hoped to fatten. It was a fine game, well-planned, and if it hadn't struck a snag in the Senate it would have succeeded. The people now see as they have never seen before the power of the National banks. It is an object lesson that cannot be forgotten. A system by which it is possible for a few men to stop the business of the country at will can not stand.—Payetteville Observer.

The picturesque old mansion that was the home of several generations of the Lees of Virginia is still standing in an excellent state of preservation near Fairfax Court House. It is known as Ravensworth, and with its fine grounds and its historic treasures in the way of relics, it is, next to Mount Vernon, probably the most interesting old house in the Old Dominion. Early in the eighteenth century the estate was the home of the Fitzhughs, from whom the Lee family inherited it by intermarriage.—[Exchange.

STATE NEWS.

The law denies to all men the privilege of shooting partridges before November 1st. Huntsmen beware!

Davidson College has already enrolled 150 students. The largest number ever before present so early in the session.

Alf Welsh, a colored boy of 17 years, who works on Mr. Trotter's place, one day last week picked 500 pounds of cotton. He picked 166 pounds in two hours.—[Charlotte times.

John Short, of Lincoln county, was arrested at Shelby, the 11th inst., and carried to Lincolnton by Sheriff Hord on a charge of seduction and bastardy. Julia Pope makes the charges against Short.

The Federal Court will be with us next week. It is now almost a Democratic court. The district attorney, assistant district attorney and marshal are all Democrats, and while Judge Dick is rated as a Republican he is a mighty fine man and not Republican enough to hurt.—[Landmark.

Mr. S. A. Hensley, of the Egypt coal mines in this state, says: "The coal outlook at our mines is better than ever before. We have nearly completed and will have in use within sixty days a hoisting engine with a capacity of 1,000 tons in ten hours. The quality and quantity of the coal improve as we go down."

The list of pensioners is now completed in the State auditor's office. Of the soldier pensioners there are 66 of the first class, 244 of the second, 303 of the third, and 1,391 of the fourth; total 2,604. Of widows there are 2,904. The grand total is 4,888. Wake county has 98 pensioners, New Hanover, 26, Mecklenburg, 91. Wilkes leads the State in the number of pensioners, having no less than 140.

Goldsboro Argus: The fine large gin house of Mr. E. K. Bordon, on his river farm, about six miles south of this city, was destroyed on the 13th inst. by an accidental fire originating in the lint room. There were some fifteen or eighteen bales of loose cotton in the building at the time, all of which, together with the gin and machinery, were destroyed. The loss will aggregate some \$2,000 with an insurance of \$600.

On the 10th inst. Burton Brown, a negro, was instantly killed near the asylum in Raleigh while assisting in moving a 100 horse-power boiler from the railroad to the asylum. He was one of the drivers of the ten horses hauling the boiler, and becoming entangled in the reins fell in front of the great truck on which the boiler had been placed, and was killed before help could reach him. The wheels of the truck passed over his head killing him instantly.

William Hewlett, a youth about 19 years of age, met with a serious accident, the 13th inst., at Messrs. Bowdoin & Kelly's machine shop in the city of Wilmington, N. C. The young man was grinding a chisel on an emery wheel when it broke, while revolving at a very rapid rate, and one of the fragments struck the boy crushing the skull. An operation of trepanning has been performed by surgeons and it is thought there is a possibility of recovery.

Last week the annual reunion of the Confederate Veterans of Western North Carolina convened at Waynesville. The first day, Wednesday, there were perhaps less than 1,000 persons present; but the day following the crowd was estimated at 5,000. 280 of the "old veterans" were in line. The crowd was greatly disappointed at the non-arrival of Senators Vance and Ransom and Gen. Longstreet, but good speeches were made just the same and the reunion is voted a great success.

How much life insurance would you suppose was carried by Statesville parties? A gentleman who has taken the pains to investigate tells The Landmark that it amounts to about \$750,000. Three-fourths of a million! This is quite a neat sum, and the figures seem to indicate that the male population of Statesville, at least, are not "worse than infidels," for they are making provision for their households when they shall have departed to that country whence no traveler returns.—[Statesville Landmark.

Why Vance is Fighting Kope Elias.

Washington Cor. Atlanta Constitution. The contest over the confirmation of Kope Elias as collector of internal revenue in North Carolina is waxing very warm. The two Senators are divided. Senator Ransom is fighting for his confirmation, while Senator Vance is opposing it.

In speaking of this contest a North Carolinian, who is very close to Senator Vance, said: "Vance is just right in this fight. Any other self-respecting man in his position would do just as he is doing. When Mr. Cleveland first came in, and the North Carolina offices were being distributed, Senator Vance received consideration at his hands as far as some State offices were concerned but just after the Senate adjourned, last spring Senator Vance was at the white house one day to see the President about North Carolina appointments, when the President told him he wanted to talk with him about the silver question. He asked Mr. Vance how he stood on the repeal of the Sherman law. Mr. Vance replied in his characteristic style that he was a free coinage man and intended to do all in his power for free coinage. He announced that he would oppose the repeal of the Sherman law without substitute legislation. From that day to this Mr. Vance has not been given a single appointment within or without the State of North Carolina. Indeed, he has secured but one office in Washington and that was a small place in the interior department given him shortly after the present administration came in.

"Now, as to Elias. He was a candidate for district attorney against R. B. Glenn, and H. A. Gudger, of Asheville, was an applicant for collector with Senator Vance's endorsement. Mr. Gudger has been a prominent candidate for lieutenant governor and was one of the most prominent democrats in the State. Mr. Cleveland appointed Glenn for district attorney and then ignored Senator Vance's recommendation of collector and appointed Kope Elias. It seems that the President appointed Elias as a punishment to Vance. When Elias assumed the office it became known in the State that no Vance man need apply to him for a position. Every man of influence and activity for Vance who applied was turned down. Indeed, Elias seems to have been making a fight against Vance in the State ever since his appointment. Had he gone to North Carolina and behaved himself, although Senator Vance had opposed his appointment, he would not have opposed his confirmation. Now, however, Vance will do all in his power to prevent the confirmation of a man who seems to be working to knife him in the State. Any other self-respecting man would do as Vance is doing.

"Senator Vance expects to defeat the confirmation of Elias. He does not expect to have Gudger appointed. He will not ask it, but he does expect that the man who is appointed and confirmed by the Senate will not be politically antagonistic to him."

Mob Violence.

The Constitution guarantees to every one the right of a trial by jury after a true bill of indictment has been found by the Grand Jury. The Constitution should never be violated. Its violators are the worst enemies to the rights and liberties of a free people. Every man who joins a mob to violate the laws and Constitution is an enemy to his country. Mob law must be stopped, or many innocent people in the future, as they have in the past, will be made to suffer. The law should be changed so as to make the punishment fit the crime.

The Raleigh correspondent of the Charlotte Observer writes that paper under date of Oct. 3th, as follows:

"Col. Harry Skinner was here to day on his way from Hickory. He was asked by your correspondent if he spoke there, and he said he made two speeches, each time to at least 4,000 people. He was then asked if he discussed hog-raising, the best breeds of cows, and that sort of thing, and he replied no; that he did not discuss agricultural subjects at all. 'He is the owner of a silo, however, and is putting Alliance and Third party ensilage in it,' remarked a wag who heard what the colonel said."

GENERAL NEWS.

Col. Wm. Welch, of Stanford, Ky., has announced himself a candidate for Congress, from the Eighth district, against the present incumbent, Hon. James B. McCreary.

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 13.—W. J. Northen, Governor of Georgia, flatly refused to introduce Dr. R. S. Barrett, a prominent Episcopal minister, to an Atlanta audience because Dr. Barrett was going to lecture on the "Passion Play." The Governor says he can not indorse a discourse on the "Passion Play." The affair is creating a sensation here.

The treasury gold reserve has decreased to \$88,838,000, a loss since October 1st of \$5,243,000. The currency has increased to \$17,846,000 a gain since October 1st of \$4,553,000. These figures mean that the gold reserve of \$100,000,000 has been invaded by nearly \$12,000,000. This condition, it is said, is largely due to demands from the East.

ROME, Oct. 13.—The aeronaut, Charbonnet, who was married three days ago, set out with his bride and two friends to go in a balloon over the Alps to France. Yesterday the balloon struck a glacier in the Italian Alps. The car was smashed and all the travelers were thrown out. Charbonnet was killed instantly and his wife and friends were injured fatally.

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 13.—A bombshell was thrown into the Southern Railroad and Steamship Association today by the announcement of the withdrawal from the association of the Norfolk and Western railroad, the Merchants' and Miners' Transfer Ship Company, the Savannah, Americus and Montgomery and the Columbus Southern. It is thought the association will go to pieces, and a general cut in freight rates occur.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 13.—Judge Sneed to-day rendered his decision on the habeas corpus proceedings of the sixteen soldiers charged with being implicated in the lynching of Miner Richard Drummond, admitting the entire squad to a bond for \$3,000. The troops were then paid off and disbanded, leaving on a special train for Chattanooga, whence they will go to their homes, in different parts of the State.

The biggest single day attendance at the Philadelphia Centennial Fair in 1876 was 217,526, and at the Paris Exposition of 1878 it was 307,150. But the times change and we change with them. Into the World's Fair at Chicago there has poured in one day 713,646 people—the biggest crowd, perhaps, ever assembled on the footstool, except at the confluence of some pilgrimage or scene of some fete in the Asiatic hives of humanity, where mankind swarms as bees, and is physically of little more consequence. It was a great day for Chicago and the fair.

2,000 Were Drowned.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The news has come in slowly, but nearly 2,000 killed and \$5,000,000 of property destroyed is the result of the great Gulf storm of two days ago in Louisiana. More than half the population in the region over which the hurricane swept is dead. Everything is wrecked. Probably one house in ten is standing and the surviving population is left in a destitute situation. They are without food. Most of them have no clothing, for they were asleep when their houses were crushed by the wind and the waves.

The Mobile News having remarked that "there is something wrong with civilization that permits one woman to starve while another sleeps in a \$75 night gown," the Memphis Appeal-Avalanche arises to ask this pointed and embarrassing question: "If the better half of the News editor sleeps in a \$75 night gown, he should make her economize and give something to the poor; if some other woman sleeps in a \$75 night gown, how in the Tom Walker did the News man find it out."—[Durham Sun.

The Asheville Daily Citizen says: A serious shooting affair occurred at Biltmore Saturday evening, the shooter and his victim being colored men employed about the Vanderbilt estate. The man who did the shooting is W. W. Duncan, generally known among his fellow workmen as "George Washington," and the man who was shot is Pink Casler.