

HOME POLITICS.

Very naturally and very properly many of our State contemporaries earnestly deplore the introduction of an element of discord into the Democratic party of North Carolina. There could be nothing so distasteful as...

The friends of the Western North Carolina Railroad have nothing to ask from the State, nor have they now any more than in 1878, the slightest wish that anything connected with that road should come before the next Democratic State Convention. The contract between the East and the West which resulted in the Convention of 1875 for the correction of evils in either section and in which each gave up something for the accomplishment of a greater good to the whole...

Such a paper, we say, was in circulation and generally talked of among Radicals and Democrats. We speak what we knew from their own lips when we say that it was in the hands of four leading repre-

sentative Wake County Radicals, the ablest men of that party not only in Wake but in the State, all the while that we were persistently engaged in seeking a copy that could be printed. At last, after nearly a month's incessant effort, we got such a copy and we printed it, as our duty to the State and to the party, which is the State, required. It was as the reader saw, not an assault upon the Western Railroad, far from it. That was but the precise item chosen for the second attempt within a year to destroy the integrity of the Democratic party, and the third had been in course of preparation for some weeks before we unearthed and printed the second. That which we printed, originating as the first did a year ago in motives which we do not care to discuss, for men's motives have nothing to do with questions of fact, has written in bold letters across its face the end to which it points: an end long since expressed when it was declared that the next Governor of North Carolina would be a Democrat, but that it was not likely he would be the nominee of the Democratic party. The intent of the Boom, as any reader may see, was to force the Railroad matter upon the Convention not in the shape of an embolism sought for by its friends, but by resolution committing the Democratic party to the repeal of existing legislation. Of course such a resolution would fail; but the alleged waste of millions of their money might induce a movement among those people whose railroads are already built, sufficient to secure the election of a ticket composed in great part or altogether of so-called Democrats and supported, as we have reason to know it would be, by the whole strength of the Radical party. That is the meaning of the paper which we printed, and by printing destroyed. The charges of wastefulness against the Democratic party had to be met, and we never discuss matters of which our readers are kept in ignorance. The statements in the paper were actually damaging to the Democratic party if they were true. What of that? The people are not fools. They are not babes to be fed on milk, nor crying children to be soothed with syrup, or lumps of sugar, or sticks of candy in the shape of exhortations to harmony. The people have as much sense as editors have, and generally much more material interest in knowing what is going on. If the statements were true, it was time the people knew them; if the Democratic party were corrupt as charged, time it was overthrown; if its public servants were guilty of mal-administration as suggested, time they were punished. The statements were not true, and we showed that they were not true, as any one may see for himself who will take the trouble, as this paper did, to examine the records of expenditures to the State Treasurer's books.

As I have had to add, that this paper can never find room to inform the people of what concerns them, and that no fear of talk about creating discord, or harming the party, or anything else, will ever curtail that room. We believe in giving the people the fullest information on all matters of public concern, for we know that our informed people's judgment is always right. We fear nothing but ignorance of the actual facts, and those facts the people shall have so far as we can get at them. We will never stand idly by and see the Democratic party stabbed to death, for its death is ruin to North Carolina, ruin from which our already the State has barely escaped.

DEATH OF CAPT. ROBINSON. Captain THOMAS J. ROBINSON, Secretary to the State Agricultural Department, died at his residence, near Fayetteville, on Thursday last week. For some months his health had been impaired and towards the close of life his sufferings were severe. Captain ROBINSON was a native of Fayetteville and was fifty-two years old. He was graduated at the University in the class of 1849, receiving its highest honors; passed some years in the service of the Government at Washington under Commodore MAURY, quitting his position only when the war between the States began; to return to North Carolina and labor faithfully and ably for his own people with the class of Bureau in 1877. Captain ROBINSON has served the State in its Agricultural Department, a position for which his inclinations and the character of his life studies peculiarly fitted him. The results of his work at Washington were printed in a large octavo volume after his return to the South, and the results of his labors here will show themselves after death. A good man has died and the State has lost one of its most useful citizens. For years we sat at the same school desk, and at the University occupied the same room, always the closest friends. Thus we knew him well, and in all his life we do not know he had an unkindly or ungentle thought of man, woman or child. He was a true man, true to wife and children, true to his friends; a man of big brain, learned, generous and brave. His nature was of rare sweetness, and his manner was as his nature. Its sweet courtesy was born, inherited, not made. The older people throughout the Cape Fear and Pee Dee country knew and loved and revered his father, the late Dr. BENJAMIN ROBINSON. Those of them who may not have known our dead friend, will recognize them as words of highest eulogy when we say that "he was his father's own son."

Nothing of interest occurred in Congress yesterday. The Senate heard the message and adjourned as a mark of respect to Hon. Z. CHANDLER, lately dead. The House sat while the message was read and adjourned.

SOMETHING ABOUT TAXES. In the Union Republican, a Republican paper printed at Winston, we find the following: "FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.—North Carolina has had a Democratic Legislature for ten years, and the taxes are now higher than ever. It was a Democratic Convention under a Democratic State policy that deprived the people of the privilege of choosing their own magistrates, county commissioners and other county officers. Will the people please remember? The Republican, we take it for granted, knew nothing of its own knowledge in regard to taxes. Its statement is simply a repetition of the first Boom, that which we regard so great a stir last winter. The remark about the present system of county government is a response to the second or Mud-Cut Boom, inciting the West to repudiate its part of the compromise with the East, as the Mud-Cut Boom seeks to excite the East to break its pledged faith with the West. This work accomplished, the West loses its railroad; the East, the railroad in which its interest is at least as great as the West's interest, and in addition, goes back to the horrors of negro lynch rule from which the Convention of 1875 set it free. And far beyond these material results, there is the broken faith of each section, pledged solemnly to the other! To the same effect is the Mud Cut Boom, junior, elsewhere printed, and in which we are told: "There is a spirit of inquiry now pervading the Democratic ranks of North Carolina." This inquiry seeks to know what becomes of our State taxes. The answer to both the Eastern and the Western complainant is to be made with figures, which either can verify at any moment. The property tax levied by the Radicals for collection in 1869 was 77 cents. For collection in 1870 it was 351 cents, but a deficiency of \$100,000 was left to be made up by the Democrats then coming into control of the Legislature. With this deficiency to be supplied, the Democratic Legislature of 1870 levied a tax for General Fund, Asylums and Penitentiary of 42 cents; in 1871, 35; in 1872, 35; in 1873, 31; in 1874, 29; in 1875, 29; in 1876, 29; in 1877, 24; in 1878, 24; in 1879, 24 cents. It strikes us that the Republican has been led by the Boomer into a slight mistake. And now to let the junior Boom know what "becomes of our State taxes." The last Auditor's report for that year is not yet out, but the disbursements of taxes received at \$534,187.97. Omitting items of taxes refunded, the following classified statement will show what becomes of our State taxes: EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1878.

Table with 2 columns: Department and Amount. Includes items like Agriculture, Education, Penitentiary, etc.

There are Booms and Booms, Booms senior and Booms junior. The Boom elsewhere printed, a junior Boom, does not purport to come from a much abused man, as the other undoubtedly did, but from "Cape Fear." It is printed not because it contains anything new, but because it is almost an impossibility for us to refuse a hearing to those whose notions are not as ours. We have no fear of results from the greatest flood of light that can be turned on Mud-Cut and on the Western Road generally. Nothing is to be feared, much to be gained, from the fullest discussion. There is no need for fear that the people will not sustain the party in building a road so much needed by the State and at so trifling cost. There is no need to discuss matters with the junior Boom. It adopts the figures of the elder, after having learned that those figures had no foundation in fact. We do not care to travel over that ground again, and will only suggest to "Cape Fear" that as the policy of the Democratic party is already fixed, his purpose and that of the Boom must be to organize a new department; and in view of the little possibility of forcing the party to go back on its record, the new department proposed must be in the nature of a bolt. The full text of the President's Message, read in Congress yesterday, is printed in a supplement to HALE'S WEEKLY this morning. It is really an interesting document and well worth reading. So, at last, it seemed to us at 4 a. m. when we finished our reading of it in proof, and only recollected that we laughed as we read about "divisive" reform, and did not laugh at any one of the many times the President talked about the "nation" and talked it with a big "N."

PREBTERIAN readers will not overlook the claims of that excellent paper, The North Carolina Presbyterian, elsewhere advertised. It was always a good paper, and if it receives the support it deserves, it receives all its best friend could wish.