

DECREASE IN TAX VALUE

A Shrinkage of \$311,797 in the City List.

ALDERMEN TO MEET

Tomorrow Night to Levy Tax for Year—Likely that an Increase will be Made—City Revenues will be Cut Off Near \$4,000.

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen has been called tomorrow (Tuesday) night for the purpose of levying taxes for the present year. The tax levy for the past year, as in former years has been 90 cents for special, 33.1-3 cents for general or, a total \$1.23 1-3. But this year there has been a most remarkable falling off in the amount of taxes listed, which of necessity cuts off the city's revenue heretofore too limited to meet the running expenses incurred.

The slump in the city's income, which is attributable to the decrease in the enlistment of taxes will reach \$4,000. This is an existing fact and no one seems able to explain the cause of the sudden falling off. The Board will consider the question of increasing the tax levy, which seems to be the only means of facing the present conditions.

The assessment of city taxes for the year 1895 was, on real estate \$3,278,896, and on personal property \$1,460,730, a total of \$4,739,626.

The assessment of city taxes this year is on real estate, \$3,244,968 and on personal property \$1,182,861, or a total of \$4,427,829.

These figures reveal a shrinkage in the amount of taxes listed as compared with last year, of \$277,869 on personal property, and \$34,000 on real estate.

There can be no explanation of the falling off in these figures, when it is remembered that 150 houses, many of them elegant and costly structures, were erected last year. The facts exist and the figures are unexplainable. The city authorities do not know what to make of them, unless some of our good people have discarded their conscience in enlisting taxes.

It was stated today by persons who should know that very wealthy citizens gave in their personal property at \$100.

According to the figures produced above the deficit in the city revenues occasioned by shrinkage in tax valuations will be \$3,752.56. The city is behind now and something will have to be done to meet obligations.

LARGEST ON RECORD.

Sixty-One Applicants for License to Practice Law Stood Examination.

The Supreme Court of North Carolina reconvened this morning after the regular summer vacation. All the Justices were present, with Chief Justice Faircloth presiding. The first Monday of the term is always occupied with the examination of applicants to practice law. Today sixty-one young men, chock full of legal lore presented themselves to be examined.

This is the largest class that has ever made application before the court. The highest number reached heretofore is fifty some odd. Every year the classes increase in numbers. A rather unusual thing connected with the class making application today, is that of all sixty-one none are colored. There are in almost every instance colored applicants.

Twenty-six of those who stood for license today, come from the University summer law school, thirteen from Judge Avery's law class and nine from Wake Forest College.

The successful applicants will not be known until late this afternoon.

Funeral of the Late Geo. W. Thompson, Sr. The funeral of the late George W. Thompson, Sr., was held Saturday afternoon from the First Presbyterian Church, and the services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Eugene Daniels. A large concourse of friends attended. The remains were interred in Oakwood cemetery and the following gentlemen acted as pall-bearers: Messrs. Julius Lewis, C. B. Root, B. F. Montague, James McKee, T. B. Womack, O. S. Poe, J. J. Thomas, and W. J. Hicks.

A called meeting of Y. W. O. U. will be held Tuesday afternoon at 8 o'clock at the Mission Rooms.

UP TO SNUFF.

A New York Agency Offers to Place Bets On the Election.

Letters were received by parties here today from an agency in New York giving "quotations on the Presidential result." From the circular accompanying it we take it that the betting business is being worked down to a fine point. The agency referred to proposes to place bets for 3 per cent. commission, and gives as reference "any of the leading turfmen or turf commissioners throughout the United States." A table of quotations is given showing how the betting is being offered at present. Two and a half to one on McKinley in the nation is offered, according to this table, and odds are offered in favor of both candidates in various States. Odds are offered on McKinley in the following States: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin. Odds are offered on Bryan in the following States: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Louisiana, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington and Wyoming. Even money is offered in several States and also on the result in New York city. The highest odds offered on McKinley is on Pennsylvania. The quotation on Pennsylvania is 10 to 1 on McKinley. The highest odds offered on Bryan are on Colorado and Arkansas on which the odds are 4 to 1.

TO GET A MANDAMUS.

Chairman Holton Makes Charges vs. Democratic Poll-Holders in Winston.

Chairman Holton returned from Winston today and he reports that there is very much excitement in the town. He says the Republicans are very indignant at the action of 2nd Democratic poll-holders, who are parading themselves as Populists.

"The Democrats are up to their old game," Mr. Holton said. "In two wards in Winston Democrats have been appointed registrars in the place of Populists and they are trying to prevent the registration of Republican voters."

"On Saturday at one of the precincts in Winston, three hours were consumed in registering 18 men and over 50 were turned away when four o'clock arrived. It was the same way in one other ward. These poll-holders killed time by asking all kinds of foolish questions."

"It is the privilege of poll-holders to ask only questions, as to a man's age, his residence and place of removal. I shall apply to a Superior Court Judge this evening for a mandamus to force those registrars to conduct registration in their wards in a proper manner."

"All Superior and Supreme Court Judges are supervisors of election and they have only to issue instructions to registrars to have the law carried out. There is a day for challenging and a day for trial and I intend to see that registration is conducted according to law."

In Memory of Annie Marie Hood.

Annie Marie the beloved child of Mrs. W. H. Hood, died in this city on the 19th day September, 1896 after a sickness of only two days. Thirteen months and three days was the allotted time of little Marie on earth, yet in that brief time she became greatly endeared not only to her parents but to every one who knew her loving ways. "In the midst of trouble thou wilt revive me" says the sweet Psalmist of Israel, so in the midst of the trouble and anguish of the parents hearts God revived them by the sweet comforts of his grace and spirit and by the "comfort of his scriptures." These little lambs are now perfectly safe for "Jesus carries them in his bosom."

Another glad thought is "I shall go to him." David said this of his dead child, he did not mean that he would just mingle his dust with that of his child, for that would have been poor consolation to his troubled heart, but he meant exactly what he said, I shall go to him, I shall again see him face to face, I shall clasp him again in my arms, and be with him evermore. "I shall go to him" may our faith ever boldly say the same, may these words ever gladden and cheer the hearts of the parents during their pilgrimage of life is the wish and prayer of this friend.

A. FAIRBANKS.

AT ODDS WITH WEYLER

Consul Lee of Havana May Return Home.

PROTECTS HIS OWN

And Displeases the Blood-Thirsty Spanish General—Lee Demanded the Return of An American to His Ship—Matter Reported.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. HAVANA, Sept. 28.—In spite of official denials, it is evident that the relations between Consul General Lee and General Weyler are becoming more strained daily. General Lee demands the American, Tolon, be replaced aboard the American vessel from which he was arrested, and Weyler refused. The matter will be referred to Washington and Madrid. If General Lee's claim is ignored he will return to the United States.

ALL IN A MIX.

The Campaign Regarded in a Very Uncertain State at Washington.

Special to the Press-Visitor.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—It would startle an old-fashioned Democrat to walk through the queer white building within a stone's throw of the United States Treasury, where the Democratic, Populist and Silver Committees are working together under one roof—a three-celled beast. The Populists have the front of the building, the silver mine owners committee has the centre, while the Democrats have the rear. There is meat for thought in the situation. Here sits the Democratic Congressional Committee overshadowed by the Silver party, consisting principally of silver mine owners, represented by the three Nevada silver millionaires, Congressman Newlands and Senators Jones and Stewart, and the Populist party, which, not so long ago, demanded that there should be a sub-treasury in every county, where farmers could borrow money from the Government on their cotton, wheat, corn, oats or tobacco. Only a block away is the headquarters of the Republican Congressional Committee, in Hotel Normandie. It has already distributed more than twenty-five million political documents.

Washington is not an interesting place at this moment. The White House is vacant, all the Cabinet officers but two are away from the city, and the Capitol is almost deserted. The great rookeries which are usually packed with newspaper correspondents are silent, for most of the tenants are out in the critical States, watching the progress of the struggle between sound-money and Bryanism.

But there is one thing which makes this an interesting political centre. The great fund subscribed secretly by the silver mine owners is supposed to be here; or, at least, the man who is supposed to control it is here. Yet so far the patriots who have come to Washington in search of money have called upon Chairman Stevens, of the Silver party, in vain. He is a secretive man.

It is certain that the silver men have a large fund, how large I can not ascertain, but neither the Democrats nor the Populists have been able to get any of it.

Mr. Diferender, the Secretary of the National Silver party, assured me today that the means of the disposal of his committee were really very modest.

"I give you my word of honor," he said, "that more than seventy per cent of the money contributed to our campaign fund by mine owners has come from gold, copper and other mining interests aside from silver. This is an absolute fact. One gold mine owner gave us \$25,000, and another man will probably give us a good deal more than that before the campaign is over."

Down under Mr. Diferender's office broods the sallow, melancholy Senator from North Carolina, whose principal occupation is the cementing of Populist and Democratic unions. Mr. Butler is a very young man, three years younger than Mr. Bryan. He is slender and nervous, and his long silky brown hair falls side-wise over the broad, white forehead under which burn the dark eyes of a poet.

Mr. Butler's colleagues in the Senate do not, as a rule, take him seriously. He is so young, so open-

lescent and energetic in conversation, and so much after the fashion of an old-time troubador.

But the Senator is all-powerful at the Populist headquarters. Ask him to-day whether he still believes that the government should be compelled to lend money upon cotton, wheat, oats and tobacco, and he will shake his silky mane and smile pleasantly.

Mr. Butler insists that Mr. Bryan will be elected, but the real fact is that Mr. Butler and his friends are simply anxious to make the Populists the balance of power in both houses of Congress. They hope to swallow up the Democratic organization in time, at least, to take possession of it in the South. Those who know Senator Butler well say that it will not break his heart if Mr. Bryan should be defeated. The Populists are concentrating their work in the States which they hope to control in the future.

So with the Populists working for one purpose and the Silverites for another, the Democratic committee wedged in between them here is in a state of decrepitude. The chairman of the Democratic congressional committee, Senator Faulkner, has sent out about eight million documents, while the chairman of the Republican congressional committee, Mr. Babcock, has distributed more than three times that amount. The Republicans have almost finished their work of mailing documents and text-books, while the Democrats have only fairly begun.

The Democratic organization here can form no estimate of the prospects for free silver in the House of Representatives. Most of the new candidates for Congress are unknown men. The old-time Democratic Congressmen have generally declined to stand for re-nomination.

The committee has just sent out a circular to the various districts asking for information about the present candidates. The fight to sustain Bryan has been so fierce that the congressional committee has been unable to devote any time to its regular work, and is counting entirely upon the strength of the National ticket in a general way for success in the Congressional Districts.

Senator Faulkner believes that the next House of Representatives will be controlled by free silver men. He has no figures to show. It is a pathetic sight to see bewildered Democrats wandering through the rooms of the headquarters here—first in the Democratic room, then in the Populist room and then in the silver room. They can get no idea of how the fight is going. Everything is mixed up.

A Valued and Valuable Testimony.

The following highly prized and appreciated letter came to the office of the Press-Visitor this morning from one of the best known, most successful, reliable and progressive business establishments in Raleigh: "MR. GREEK O. ANDREWS—We wish to continue our advertisement in your paper for another year. We have found your type clear and clean, your display judgment excellent, and we know not a few read your newsy afternoon paper. Such facts are assuring and profitable.

"Yours truly, _____" The same verdict as that expressed above has come verbally from all of the patrons of the advertising columns of the Press-Visitor, and it is the most gratifying class of testimonial that we could have. We are not satisfied with having the patronage of those who advertise in our columns. We want to have the knowledge that our patrons find their advertising with us profitable. This knowledge we have because we have it direct from the advertisers themselves. And if additional evidence is needed our advertising columns speak for themselves.

Will Divide in Georgia.

The Atlanta Constitution of yesterday says: "Division of managers in the State and National elections will be made nearly every county in the State. This is assured by a pile of letters which have poured into the office of Chairman Cunningham during the last two or three days. Scarcely a county has refused the request made by the Populists or failed to yield to the suggestion given by Chairman Clay, who recommended a division of managers in all counties in the State. Most of the chairmen had already assented to the suggestion of Chairman Clay and so informed the Populists when they called. Scarcely a county chairman refused to grant the Populists representation."

MORE TALK OF TRADING

Guthrie or Watson One May Come Down.

SO A RUMOR HAS IT.

Jim Boyd to Speak Tonight—Populists Say They Will Get Five Congressmen—Senator Blair to Speak Here Fair Week.

A rumor was current here today among the politicians that Watson or Guthrie was to retire from the gubernatorial race, and that an agreement had been reached whereby one the candidates was to be made Governor and the other given the vacancy in the Senate which expires in March. The rumor gained widespread attention in an incredibly short while. Chairman Ayer and Chairman Holton had heard of it, and it had been talked in both headquarters. But the origin of the story can not be traced at present and it is a matter of speculation as to whether it is based on fact. Chairman Manly is out of the city and Chairman Ayer had nothing to say about it, further than that he had heard it. But the story gained credence among many of the political divers.

It was whispered by one or two that Dr. Mott was to be the combination Senator, but perhaps the story was imposed upon by some enthusiastic friend of the iron Duke's.

A Populist, in commenting on the story, stated that it was evident that Russell had broken his pledge to the Populists and was not coming down. He said that Watson or Guthrie one ought to retire in favor of the other, with the understanding that whichever candidate retires be given the Senatorship in order to accomplish Russell's defeat.

Judge Russell left today for Littleton, where he fills an appointment.

Col. James E. Boyd, of Greensboro, probably the best orator in the Republican party in North Carolina, arrived in the city today. Mr. Boyd will speak tonight at the Academy of Music and not Metropolitan Hall. The latter place is occupied by a colored show and arrangements have been made to secure the Academy tonight.

Mr. Boyd spoke Saturday at Pittsboro. When asked if he had heard about the rumored Watson and Guthrie deal, he replied that he had and he remarked incidentally that the Republicans and Populists had agreed upon everything this year, except the dog law.

Word was received from National Republican headquarters today that Senator Blair of New Hampshire would canvass the State. The following appointments have been made for him. Asheville, October sixth, Charlotte seventh, Greensboro eighth, Winston ninth and Raleigh the twenty-first. The dates were arranged by Gen. Powell Clayton.

A Populist of official circles stated today that the Populists would carry five congressional districts and the Republicans the other four in accordance with the agreement of the Republican and Populist Executive Committees. The same Populist said he wanted the Democrats to know that every Populist paper in the state was supporting the electoral fusion ticket.

Otho Wilson says Guthrie will be the next Governor. "All the Populists and half the Republicans want Guthrie for Governor," Otho says, "and," he remarks, "how can you beat him?" Mr. Wilson says that Dalby, the nominee in the fifth district, will take the stump soon.

Cooler Weather Tuesday.

An area of low barometer over Florida and the gulf region is affecting the weather over the greater portion of the country and especially over the Southern states. It is raining this morning at Vicksburg, Memphis and Knoxville and Charleston.

The prospects are good for rain here tonight and Tuesday. An area of high pressure is central over Texas. It is attended by cool weather. This will follow the "low" as it passes eastward and cause slightly cooler weather here on Tuesday.

Teachers Assembly Building.

The Teachers' Assembly building has been sold for \$1,500 and bought by the people of Morehead City.

DUKE, THE DONOR

Of Funds to the Republican Campaign—Gave the Big Banner.

The Republican campaign fund, which is being freely used by the executive committee, is not a free will offering from Marcus Aurelius Hanna. Contrary to the popular theory Mr. Hanna has given very little money to North Carolina Republicans. It is asserted, by responsible parties that \$2500 will cover the entire amount received from the National committee. Washington Duke is the principal donor of funds. It was he and not the "sound money" Democrat who gave the big McKinley banner, which hangs out from the State committee's headquarters. Mr. Duke is a very ardent gold advocate, but his desire in this campaign above all others is the defeat of Cy Watson. Mr. Watson's attacks on trusts and the American Tobacco Company in particular have touched a responsive chord in the hearts of the tobacco multi-millionaires. The responsive chord is boodle galore.

Mr. Duke has promised to give the committee ten thousand dollars. Mark Hanna has not made his last contribution either. This fact is evidenced by the announcement that orators of national renown, like Speaker Reed and Senator Thurston will visit the State. A large amount of literature is being sent out from Republican headquarters and there is a big force of clerks engaged upon the work.

TODAY'S MARKETS.

Cotton Closed 13 to 14 Points Better than Saturday.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28. Cotton quotations furnished by E. B. Cuthbert & Co., 56 Broadway, New York, and 305 Wilmington street, Raleigh, over their special wire:

MONTHS.	OPEN-ING.	HIGH-EST.	LOW-EST.	CLOS-ING.
January,	8 34	8 37	8 33	8 35-
February,	8 39	8 42	8 37	8 39-
March,	8 41	8 46	8 41	8 44-
April,	8 44	8 49	8 44	8 48-
May,	.....	.....	.....	.....
June,	.....	.....	.....	.....
July,	.....	.....	.....	.....
August,	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sept'mb'r,	.....	.....	.....	.....
October,	8 11	8 18	8 11	8 16-
Novemb'r,	8 12	8 18	8 13	8 16-
December,	8 24	8 29	8 24	8 27-

Futures opened 12 to 14 points higher, continued steady throughout the session and closed at about the highest point of the day, 13 to 14 points above Saturday's closing prices.

New York Stock Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the New York Stock Exchange today:

Missouri Pacific.....	20 1/2
Union Pacific.....	20 1/2
Rock Island.....	20 1/2
St. Paul.....	73 1/2
General Electric.....	28 1/2
Tennessee Coal and Iron.....	22 1/2
Manhattan.....	87 1/2
American Tobacco.....	62 1/2
Burlington and Quincy.....	68 1/2
Western Union.....	83 1/2
Louisville and Nashville.....	42 1/2
United States Leather.....	58 1/2
Southern Railroad.....	81 1/2
Southern Preferred.....	23 1/2
Chicago Gas.....	62 1/2
Sugar.....	111 1/2
Reading.....	.....
Des. and Grt. Feed.....	.....
Atchafson.....	.....
D. L. & W.....	153 1/2
Jersey Central.....	103 1/2
Erie.....	.....
Silver.....	.....

Liverpool Cotton Market.

September.....	4.39 s.
September-October.....	4.34 b.
October-November.....	4.31 s.
November-December.....	4.29 s.
December-January.....	4.28 b.
January-February.....	4.28 s.
February-March.....	4.27 b.

Chicago Grain and Provision Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the Chicago Grain and Provision market today:

Wheat—December, 67 1/2; May, 71.
Corn—December, 22 1/2; May, 25 1/2.
Oats—December, 17 1/2; May, 19 1/2.
Pork—October, 6.10; January, 7.10.
Lard—October, 3.77; January 4.12.
Clear Rib Sides—October, 3.20; January 3.50.

Pleasant Occasion.

The members of the Westminster League, and the entire congregation of the Presbyterian church, feel greatly indebted to the very efficient committee of arrangements, who superintended the Autumn Reception at the lecture room Friday evening. The social gathering was enjoyed by every one, and it will be remembered with pleasure.

SHORT STATEMENTS.

Minor Matters Manipulated for the Many.

AROUND THE CITY.

Port-Parrot of the News Pictured on Paper—Points and People Pertinently Picked and Pithily Put in Print.

The Republican County Convention meets Thursday.

Telephone subscribers will please add to their lists the residence of Julius Lewis, No. 251.

Judge Russell had an appointment at Oxford Saturday, but failed to turn up owing to a misunderstanding.

The Concord Standard says a large crowd of people were in Concord Saturday expecting to see Frank Howard hung.

An adjourned meeting of the bar will be held at the court house at 1 o'clock tomorrow in reference to the death of Maj. A. M. Lewis.

October 6th is the date for the final hearing before the railway commission of the matter of the reduction of the railway passenger rates.

Criminal Court convened here today with Judge Boykin presiding. There are very few cases docketed and the work will soon be completed.

W. W. Clark, elector at-large for the National Democratic party in this State, made the opening speech of his party's campaign in Newbern last week.

There are 140 orphans at the Thomasville orphanage. The new central building is in course of construction, the foundations having been completed. The building will cost \$5,000.

The Seaboard excursion rate of \$2 to Norfolk and return which has been very popular all the summer went out of effect Saturday. Quite a number of people took advantage of it.

The bird law goes into effect November first. The huntsmen are already beginning to sniff the air in expectation of a delightful bird season. Game is reported to be plentiful.

The Board of Trustees of the insane asylum here were preparing to have an artesian well out in the grounds, but State geologist Holmes says this particular section of the State is unsuitable for such.

The rain-making and dust-creating paraphernalia and other weather devices which constitute Col. Von Herrmann's stock in trade, are being removed from the Agricultural building to the Fisher building.

Mr. A. B. Stronach has returned from New York where he made some attractive selections and additions for his already complete and elegant fall stock. Mr. Stronach will be prepared this season to furnish lines in the markets and at the very lowest rock-bottom prices.

Rev. A. L. Betts, pastor of West Raleigh Baptist church, aided by Mr. John T. Pullen, is holding a series of meetings at that church this week. The public is cordially invited to attend. The services yesterday and last night were well attended and the interest good.

Johnson Given His Liberty.

John Johnson, the alleged pick-pocket, who was arrested here the night of the Bryan speaking, was given a hearing before Justice Roberts. The evidence was not sufficient to hold Johnson and he was liberated. He paid the fine of \$25, which was imposed on him on the charge of vagrancy, before taking leave of the city.

Ladies Hospital Aid Association.

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' Hospital Aid Association will be held in the Supreme court building tomorrow (Tuesday) afternoon at 5 o'clock. By order of the president.

Mrs. F. A. Olds, Secretary.

Desperate Rapist Captured.

Joe Baggar, the negro who made such an outrageous assault upon Mrs. Brumble at Hamlet a few weeks ago, has been arrested at Abbeville, S. C. The sheriff has been telegraphed to hold the prisoner until requisition papers can be made out.