



By JOHN T. BRITT.

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OXFORD, N. C. JAN. 20, 1893.

Hogg, of Texas, is trying to break into the Senate pen, but the indications are that he will have to take it out in grunting.

The State of Pennsylvania spent last year for all purposes \$10,743,759.08, of which \$5,379,672.08, or over one-half was for public schools.

The Democratic elector who cast a solitary vote for Cleveland in the Ohio electoral college must have felt lonesome. He broke the record of forty years.

James W. Wilson has been elected by the North Carolina legislature to succeed himself as railroad commissioner. His term is for six years. He is chairman of the commission.

Our exchanges all agree that the present is one of the coldest winters for many years. It is said that a good crop year always follows a cold winter. There is some consolation in this.

Susan B. Anthony has been appointed manager of the New York State Industrial School by Governor Flower. There will not be much fooling among the boys of that establishment when Susan gets her eyes upon them.

Editor Watterson is in a sportive mood. He offers to bet the star-eyed goddess and every shred of her new inaugural ball costume against a last year's Harrison and Reid election ticket, that the next secretary of the treasury will be John G. Carlisle, of Kentucky. The odds are handsome.

Private Secretary Halford is to be a paymaster in the army, with the rank of major, at a salary of \$4,500. There were three vacancies. The president filled two of them and the third will be given at the proper time to Halford. It means a reduction of \$500 a year from his present salary but it is for life and is considered a very desirable berth.

A ventriloquist took a mean advantage of a confiding Boston woman by selling her a parrot which could repeat the Lord's prayer in half dozen languages. After the man left the parrot couldn't be enticed to say beans. The ventriloquist did the praying in the half dozen languages while the parrot struck an attitude and looked serious.

Congressman W. C. P. Breckinridge: "When I am asked whether I can tell who will be the members of Mr. Cleveland's cabinet, I am like a certain man who attended a wedding. When the minister asked, who gives this woman away? some fellow way back said in a low voice, 'I could, but I'll be darned if I do.' Now, that is the way I stand on the cabinet."

California has taken the lead in two most important political reforms. At the recent November election her people declared, by a vote of 187,598 against 13,342, in favor of the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people. At the same election her people voted, by 151,320 against 41,059, in favor of an educational qualification for voters.

THE ALLEGED CHEAP FARMS.

A run-down farm may seem cheap and so attract a farmer who has little money to invest. But he had much better buy less land of greater fertility, and then limit himself to the amount that he can properly manure and cultivate. Too much and too poor land have been the rocks on which many a farmer has sunk his time, labor and capital and lost his all. To have any land that cannot be made the most of, or at least brought toward this ideal condition, is the greatest of all misfortunes in the business of farming.

REDUCE THE ACREAGE.

B. G. West, secretary of the Cotton Bureau, National Farmer's Alliance, has issued an address to the order advising a reduction of the acreage of cotton planting. He says that the southern states produce 55 per cent. of the staple available for use in this country. He holds that the cotton mills in the south are desirable, but unattainable, this not being a manufacturing country.

The salvation of the southern farmer is the diversification of crops and living at home instead of depending upon the pork packers of the south for food. He points out in support of this argument that the reduction of the crop this season resulted in a marked increase in the price, and insists that the cotton planters can secure fair prices every season by keeping the production within reasonable bonds.

LET IT BE ABOLISHED.

We fully agree with the Headlight what it says: There never was a more unjust law on the statute books as the purchase tax, and we hope this Legislature will have the courage to abolish it. There is no more reason why merchants should pay tax on what they buy than manufacturers, founders, publishers, farmers or anybody else. We believe, in equality to all, and special injustice to none. The merchant pays his ad valorem tax like other owners of property and that should suffice. To place a double tax on him and not on others is legal robbery. Moreover all unjust taxes have a tendency to corrupt the people by tempting them to make false returns. Let this unjust law be abolished by the present Legislature.

THEY VALUE PEPPER NOW.

The Republican senators have developed since the election a singularly interesting regard for the Populist members, who were received previously with scant courtesy, Senator Pepper, particularly, has been the recipient of marked attention. Senators who are not chairmen of committees are furnished rooms in the Maltby house, where they install their secretaries and attend to their correspondence. Before there was any question as to the political complexion of the next senate Senator Pepper was denied even ordinary furnishings for his rooms, the sergeant-at-arms offering the plea that the contingent fund had been exhausted. Now his rooms are fitted luxuriously. A year ago he said he would be content with a gas stove and an odd chair. Now he has a gilded heater, rugs, couches and other fittings of equal magnificence. Nor did republican courtesy stop with the improvements in his office. His son has been appointed to a \$1,200 position on the senate pay roll, and his nephew has a \$900 position in the office of the sergeant-at-arms.

Ben Butler left an estate of \$7,000,000. This suggests to the Richmond Times to pointedly remark that "no man was fonder of appearing before the people on the stump as an alleged friend of the poor, and a violent denunciator of the rich."

A GOOD BILL.

We like the bill in the House looking to a reform in election by prohibiting the appointing of ignorant, unlettered persons to act as judges of election says the Wilmington Messenger. We are surprised that the House voted it down. Can it be that the House believes that such people can properly discharge the functions of such an office? The elections teach a lesson different from that. It is of the utmost importance that elections be fair and just and honest in North Carolina. A pure and fair ballot lies at the foundation of a republican Government—a Government of the people. Debauch the ballot with frauds and by debarring qualified voters from exercising the right of suffrage and you aim a fatal blow at free institutions. Democrats can not afford to work at corruption or condone wrong doing.

TOBACCO TRUST.

A Bill is now wending in the Legislature of this State, which if it becomes a law, and there is no reason why it should not, will bar the American Tobacco Co., from operating in North Carolina. The Bill has been prepared so as to leave no loop hole of escape and it is thought that every member, agent and representative of the trust will be indicted as soon as the new statute is ratified. A Bill to serve this purpose was passed in 1889, but it was ineffective and did not cover the case. The present Bill is an amendment to the one passed in 1889 and has been prepared with the greatest care so as to be of the value should the tobacco trade of the State wish to use it for its protection.—Tobacco Journal.

The very influential and able St. Louis Republic says of the sugar tax that "the attempt to restore the sugar tax could not succeed without costing the Democratic party the next Congress and the next Presidential election. Once on the free list, always on the free list! No more taxes on sugar!"

Now Try This.

It will cost you nothing and will surely do you good, if you have a Cough, Cold, or any trouble with Throat, Chest or Lungs. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds is guaranteed to give relief, or money will be paid back. Sufferers from La Grippe found it just the thing and under its use had a speedy and perfect recovery. Try a sample bottle on an expense and learn for yourself just how good a thing it is. Trial bottles free at J. G. Hall's Drug Store. Large size 60c, and \$1.00.

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- ☞ In this department we are as usual on top with styles and low prices.
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- ☞ 1 piece 46 inch Black Serge at 85cts, worth \$1.00.
- ☞ 1 piece 38 inch Black Storm Serge at 50cts, reduced from 65cts.
- ☞ 1 piece plain Serge 38 inches wide at 60cts.
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- ☞ Trimmings to match every color of Dress Goods, in changeable silks, surahs, velvets, gimps, passamentries, ribbon trimming, etc.

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- ☞ We are showing all the new and pretty patterns in Carpets and all at reduced prices, Rugs, Art Squares, Oil Cloths, Curtain Poles, Lace Curtains, Chenille Curtains, Double Faced Cotton Plush. The Celebrated Leaksville Woolen Blankets 11-4 and 12-4 at \$5.00 and \$6.00.
- ☞ 6 pairs 10-4 Wool Blankets at \$3.75, richly worth \$4.50. White quilts, Table Cloths, Table Covers, Napkins, Towels, &c.

Wash Goods

In all the latest styles and at prices to suit everybody. Gingham, Percals, Suitings, Bedford Cords, Sateens, Camel Hair Suiting, Outings in plain and fancy.

Cloaks.

We are showing a beautiful stock of Wraps in all the newest styles. Box coats, Reefers in plain and trimmed in fur. Prices reduced to suit the times.

Shoes.

In this department we have reduced the price and can now offer you the Celebrated Ziegler Bros' and Bay State Shoes as cheap if not cheaper than other goods of inferior make.

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