

Oxford Free Lance.

JOHN T. BRITT, Proprietor. WILLIAM BIGGS, Editor.



PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

The only Democratic Journal published at the County Seat of Granville. Fearless exponent of true Democratic principles.

OXFORD, N. C.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1878.

ORGANIZATION.

We are glad to see the spirit of some of our contemporaries on the question of organization. As that military commander who has his forces well organized, all other things being equal, is sure to triumph over his adversary, so is the same thing true in regard to political organization.

It is now more important than ever that the Democratic party, particularly in North Carolina and the South, should be organized to beat back the cohorts of Radicalism, because the success of such a party would exercise a malign influence on the moral as well as the material prosperity of the Commonwealth.

Many of the colored voters in the radical party were never more completely in a state of servitude to their former masters in the days of slavery, than they are to their political masters of the present day in some parts of North Carolina, and this is conspicuously true of the colored voters of Granville county.

A great many colored people in this county are now declaring that they will vote for the men who have been dictating to them how they shall vote. They profess to see that they have been duped and deceived. They make open confession of their errors and even denounce the radical office holders for having deceived them by falsehoods and duplicity.

Whether they will still be led as sheep to the shambles, or will really shake off the thralldom that has bound them in its iron grasp, is a question that time will decide. We believe ourselves that gradually the scales will fall from their eyes and that they will ultimately be bold in the assertion of their manhood.

CHIEF JUSTICE SMITH.

We cannot endorse the course of several of our State cotemporaries, who, in their zeal for the nomination of some particular friend, have allowed themselves to indulge in petty slander and misrepresentation of Chief Justice W. N. H. Smith.

In our opinion, Mr. Smith in all the requisites for Jurist, Statesman and Gentleman stands the peer of any man in North Carolina, and whether he desires the nomination or not, we honestly believe the Judiciary would receive a severe strain should the Convention fail to tender him a renomination.

Some of the State press have sadly misconceived the duties and powers of journalism when they attempt to foist their special favorites into public positions at the expense of the character and reputation of a good and pure man, who commands a greater share of public confidence, and they will find to their cost that such public esteem is not to be dissipated at the mere flourish of their pens.

The FREE LANCE stands pledged to the nomination of no particular man at the State Convention, but we would be false to our sense of justice and fair play to be silent at these unjust and uncalled for attacks upon the reputation of a gentleman enabled by so many high characteristics as Mr. Smith—a gentleman, who, when a few months since called to the high position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was commended in the most exalted terms by the entire people of the State, including those very writers who are now endeavoring to belittle and misrepresent him.

Now that the people of Oxford are in such good spirits in regard to getting a railroad, we feel that we ought to say something on the subject in this number of the FREE LANCE. The proceedings of the late meeting will be found elsewhere. It was truly an important meeting. The committee were instructed to employ a competent engineer to have the route surveyed from Oxford to Henderson.

Of course, it would not be expedient to tax the town heavily enough in a single year to materially aid in the erection of a road. A tax of ten thousand a year could be levied for five successive years, making fifty thousand dollars. This with private subscriptions, we opine, would be ample to build the road. The improvement in the value of property in Oxford and vicinity would be immense, and more than make up by large odds the amount of the tax.

We throw out these suggestions preferring to follow rather than lead the voice of the people of Oxford in this matter.

From what we can learn the scheme to levy a tax is popular.

TAX ON DRUMMERS.

The Charlotte Democrat, one of our most prudent and level-headed cotemporaries, has the following to say with regard to the proposition to impose a large tax on drummers and traveling salesmen:

We are pleased to see that our neighbor, the Southern Home, endorses the suggestion of a \$500 tax on drummers. The Legislature must manage to raise more revenue without increasing taxes on the working men of the State and landowners, and drummers and peddlers should be made to pay at least \$500 each.

The Hillsboro Recorder, speaking of the evils and nuisance of the drumming business, says: A drummer comes here, opens his sample trunk, sells not only by sample, but actually sells supplies to individuals, and goes through the State as a parcel merchant, when the home merchant himself, who pays taxes as a merchant, who pays taxes on sales, who pays taxes on purchases, is made to believe that he is saving a great deal by dealing at second hand with New York, Boston, Philadelphia or Baltimore; when in truth he buys more than he needs—supposing he is not proof to the wheedling ways of the "commercial travelers"—and he is recognizing a class in direct opposition to his best interests.

BREVITIES.

A careful count of his Fraudulency's followers in the Senate makes the aggregate 6 out of 76.

The Tarboro Southerner hoists Hon. George Howard's name for Supreme Court Judge.

Mr. Hayes makes a poor President, but let us remember that he has promised never to do it again.

Gen. Joseph E. Johnston visited Durham last week. He surrendered four miles west of that now flourishing town.

The Wilmington Review wants North Carolina to adopt the Moffett Bell Punch for registering drinks.

There is an area of forty acres in North Carolina that has yielded over \$1,000,000 in gold since the war.

South Carolina now has 5,900 spindles and 1,400 looms in operation, divided among ten prosperous factories.

We are entering upon a judicial campaign. It will be the worst for if we do not conduct it judiciously.

To those who would elevate one good Democrat upon the ruins of another good Democrat's reputation, we would say, brethren go slow.

The Rhode Island Democratic State Convention nominated, on March 22, Isaac Lawrence for Governor, and Thomas Davis for Lieutenant-Governor.

Senator Merrimon has introduced a bill to provide for and regulate the counting of the electoral vote. It is similar to the bill which passed the Senate last session.

Since 1850 the incredible sum of \$1,008,650,149 92 has been wrung from the industry of this country to pay "merely the interest on the National debt."

The Steamer Richmond has arrived in safety at Para, in Brazil. Some anxiety had been felt for this vessel following the sad fate of the Metropolis, whose place she filled.

The new German iron-clads have venomous names—Wasp, Viper, Bee, Scorpion, and Gnat. An excellent name for a fleet bound for Nicaragua to attack the "Mosquito King."

Congress has agreed to reduce the tariff on grindstones. This is right. The people have to turn so many of them for Congress to grind somebody's axe, that they should be duty free.

The Heathen Chinese has invaded British America, and seems to excite something of the same feeling there as he has enjoyed in California, in the shape chiefly of brick bats and rotten eggs.

Gov. Vance has been invited by the Ladies Benevolent Society of Wilmington to deliver a lecture at such time as may be convenient. Also, at the Commencement of Wofford College, S. C.

Gov. Wade Hampton's requisition on the Gov. of Connecticut for the body of Kimpton was only a line shot. A requisition on Gov. Robinson for the body of Daniel H. Chamberlain would hit the bull's eye.

The New York Herald says that Fred Douglas wishes that Grant may be the next President. He is not the only enemy to constitutional government who desires the same misfortune to overtake the country.

The Peabody educational fund, devoted to educational purposes in the South, which in 1876 yielded an income of \$100,000, has produced only \$60,000 for 1877, and promises a yet smaller sum for 1878. Depreciation of real estate is the cause.

The Massachusetts manufacturers are about to yield to the great financial pressure, and to follow the example of the English cotton spinners. After April 1st the factories of Fall River will cut down the wages of operatives 15 per cent. It is thought trouble will follow.

The attorney general of Louisiana has filed an application for a re-hearing in the Anderson case. He contends that errors have crept into the decision of the State Supreme Court, no doubt from the imperfection of the presentation made by the State, and the shortness of time during which the court held the case under consideration.

And it is not all well with Wells. We have been too fast. Senator Kellogg, of Louisiana, is authority for the statement that the release of Anderson does not let Wells out of his trouble. Anderson was accused of changing consolidated returns, while Wells is charged with having altered original returns. The indications are, after all, that reconciliation hasn't fully reconciled things yet.

Notice to Druggists and Storekeepers. I guarantee Shiner's Indian Vermifuge to destroy and expel worms from the human body, where they exist, if used according to directions. You are authorized to sell it on the above conditions. David E. Foutz, Proprietor, Baltimore, Md.

THE TOBACCO TAX.

The Washington Correspondent of the Raleigh News, writing under a late date, furnishes some information in regard to the Tobacco Tax, and replies to the following interrogations;

"What is its status,—when will the committee report,—when will the question be decided,—what will be the result?"

(1) The Committee on Ways and Means, having just finished the details of the new Tariff bill, will proceed at once to the consideration of the Internal Revenue laws, with a view to their modification and revision where deemed necessary. The sub-committee, charged with the preliminary duties in this direction, have agreed, it is generally known, on a reduction of the tax on tobacco from 24 to 16 cents per pound. It is certain that a majority of the whole Committee will agree to the proposition.

It is impossible for me to say when the committee will report, and of course, therefore, impossible to speculate even as to the period of final action by the House. The Committee on Ways and Means (of which Hon. W. M. Robbins, you know, is a member,) is the second, if not the first, of the committees in point of importance. Its duties are onerous to the last degree, bearing, as they do, upon thousands of perplexing minutiae. That the report will be made, at the earliest practicable day, is rendered certain by the excellent composition of the Committee, but, when it gets to the House, it is equally certain that this tobacco question, with the other important items involved in a Revenue bill will elicit protracted discussion and arouse clashing interests.

Those interested will be able, I opine in a very short time, to form an opinion for themselves as to the 'final result.' It is the purpose of Mr. Robbins, yielding to the outside pressure, to introduce a resolution, in a few days in advance of the Committee, declaring it to be the sense of Congress that the tax on tobacco ought to be reduced. If he can get it in and have it acted on, that will settle the general question. I have spoken of Mr. Robbins as 'yielding' to pressure,—by which I do not mean, of course, that he is not actively, earnestly and effectively in favor of the reduction, (as are our entire delegation,) but that he may (as I certainly do) think it impolitic to precipitate the issue. Tell our tobacco friends to 'hold in their horns.' Undue haste and excessive lobbying have killed many a meritorious measure. Festina lente is a sound and safe old maxim.

DIED.

In Person county, on 14th, inst., after a protracted illness, Captain Wm. R. Hamlett, aged 76 years.

At his residence in Person county, on 7th inst., Elijah O'Brian, Esq., aged 84.

In Granville county, on Friday the 15th inst., of paralysis and pneumonia of the lungs, Mr. Wm. Talley aged ab. ut 60 years.

In Granville county, on Saturday the 23rd, inst., after a long illness, Miss Hannah Wilkerson, age 1 about 75 years. Funeral sermon preached by Rev. Mr. Underwood on Monday afternoon.

At the residence of Mrs. Ann E. Morton, Granville, N. C., on the 22nd of March, 1878, Rev. Wm. G. Baird, of the Presbytery of Orange, in the 39th year of his age. Bro. Baird was a conscientious, devoted Christian Minister. He leaves a wife and son sorely bereaved, and a circle of greatly attached friends to mourn his early death. T. U. F.

Fresh Garden Seed.

The Centennial Grand Prize Medal, and Diploma of Honor were awarded to BUIST'S GARDEN SEEDS, for their purity and superior quality above all others, therefore it will be greatly to the interest of Gardeners to call at the old reliable Brick Drug Store of Mitchell & Sons, who have just received a fresh supply and are prepared to fill all orders.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

State of North Carolina.

GRANVILLE COUNTY.

George W. Watkins Administrator of Mrs. Sarah A. Blankenship, deceased AGAINST

William J. H. Legan, Richard L. Legan, Robert Legan, Johnathan H. Legan, the heirs at law of Piety Pucket and Almond Brooks.

Petition to make real estate assets for the payment of debts and charges of administration. This cause coming on to be heard on petition to make real estate assets and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the said William J. H. Legan, Richard L. Legan, Robert Legan, Johnathan H. Legan, the heirs at law of Piety Pucket, and Almond Brooks the petitioners, are non residents of this State, Now on motion of A. S. Pease attorney for the petitioners, it is ordered that publication be made in the FREE LANCE a news paper published in the town of Oxford in the said county of Granville for the space of six weeks, notifying them that they are required to appear at the court house in Oxford in the county of Granville aforesaid on or before the 15th day of May, 1878, and answer as demur to the said petition.

Given under my hand, at my office in Oxford the 28th of March, 1878. B. H. COZART, C. S. C. Granville County. March 29th, 1878.

Have your Physicians' PRESCRIPTONS compounded at the Drug Store of Mitchell & Sons if you want to save money.

Furniture! Furniture!



PIANOS & ORGANS!

THE Citizens of Granville and surrounding counties are reminded that the old and reliable House of S. A. STEVENS & CO., Norfolk, Va., still stand at the head of the trade. They present the largest Stock South of New York, and all goods sold at Lowest New York prices.

WATKIN'S WAREHOUSE

HENDERSON, N. C. Carrin & Watkins, Props. THE BEST AND LARGEST WAREHOUSE BUILDING IN THE COUNTY.

Size 4x150 and has 24 Skylights and wagons drive into the house. Good Camp house and well of water in lot. J. M. CURRIN & WATKINS, Proprietors. J. M. MEADOWS, Auctioneer. feb8

FARMERS' Warehouse

OXFORD, N. C. BEST PRICES GUARANTEED. LARGE ORDERS always on hand, and the attention of Farmers are especially called to this commodious Warehouse, situated near the Court house, for the sale of Leaf Tobacco. Good lights and everything necessary to make tobacco bring the highest market price. Give us a trial.

Mr. James B. Crews is our Auctioneer, and expects of his numerous friends a liberal share of their patronage. Sales every day.

Taylor & Winbush.

Spring and Summer Happiness or Misery; TRADE 1878.

S. H. MARKS & CO., PETERSBURG, VA. CANNY MANUFACTURERS, Fruiters, Cakes and Cracker Bakers.

HAVING Increased our facilities for manufacturing Cakes and Crackers we are prepared to furnish the trade a superior article at BALTIMORE PRICES.

Encourage Southern Industry and Enterprise and thus secure your own success. Our steam-refined CANDY is made to suit the trade and keep in any climate, and cannot be excelled.

Canned Goods of all kinds—Tomatoes, Brandy Peaches, Peaches and Cherries. Bitters, Bitters, Bitters—Tobacco, Virginia & Burwoods at Factory prices, and Cigars of grades and prices.

Snuff—Rah, Starr, Railroad, Carolina Belle and Gill & Ax in bales or bladders. Also many other goods too numerous to mention. All we ask is a trial and we insure satisfaction.

Cooper & Williams. Are constantly getting in NEW GOODS. They would call special attention to their apartment of Ready-Made Clothing. Among their clothing will be found some beautiful Overcoats. Be sure and call while you can get a fit.

Carpeting! Carpeting!

HIGHEST PRICES FOR TOBACCO

FOR SALE OF TOBACCO

That is the Question? DR. W. E. HO...

Fresh and Genuine! PLANT THEM! YOU will save money, avoid disappointment, have good vegetables, and your family be happy, by using the celebrated LARDRETH'S GARDE SEEDS. 5 10 CENT PAPERS FOR PLANTS. We sell, per bushel, Seed, Orchard, Irish Potatoes, &c. Prices. For sale by T. D. CRAWFORD & CO. DRUGGISTS, next door to Gandy & Bro. feb23-2m