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The Wilmington Post.

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BELKNAP.

Seldom has it been that this country has been so profoundly convulsed as it has been over the action of ex Secretary of war Belknap. We can find no words of apology to offer for a man who, possessing in so eminent degree the confidence of the Nation, should have so wantonly and unnecessarily precipitated himself from the high and enviable position which he held, into the lowest depths of shame and infamy. And whether under the peculiar circumstances of the case the Senate will have the jurisdiction to hear and decide on the impeachment charges preferred against him by the House, it is to be most fervently hoped that the outraged law will mete out to him the punishment he so much deserves, and that it will be shown that those in high positions who commit crime are as sure of speedy and sure punishment as the most humble and obscure violator of the law.

People are perfectly astounded at the record of a recent outrage to integrity as of unexampled audacity, and to a degree that it is of a deeper hue of blackness than any thing ever before known in the history of the world. Mr. Clymer, chairman of the House Committee, who unearthed this Belknap affair, says that the facts of his corruption are so plain and so heinous that "there is no parallel for it in our own history that I know of." The fact is that Belknap, as far as is known, never pocketed one cent of any money belonging to the United States—his crime consisted of having levied black mail on certain persons to whom he in his official capacity gave positions as Post Traders at some military stations on the western frontier.

This spirit of impurity in official corruption which has so recently broken out among the Democrats in Congress, and which they would have it fully believed has never before been indulged in, is no new thing with the Republicans. It was Republicans who investigated the Credit Mobilier and exposed its rottenness. They the rascality of such Republicans as Ames and such Democrats as Brooks. It was Republican newspapers, led on by the New York *Times* that led to the exposure of the Democrat Tweed, the champion thief of the century, who confiscated millions to his own use out of the people of New York, and who finally went to the penitentiary for his crimes, while his *confrere* Genet, Connelly and others, equally guilty, found safety in flight.

As to crime and corruption in high places in the government of the United states, we find that this affair of Belknap's sinks into insignificance as compared with occurences that are fresh in the minds of many of our readers. It was not to put a few thousand of dollars into their pockets, thereby becoming guilty of misdemeanors was it with Cabinet officers under the administration of Buchanan, but to plunge the county into war and to blacken their souls with the crimes of murder and treason that Secretary of War Floyd transfered guns and other munitions of war from the arsenals in the loyal states of the North to the possession of the traitors of the South;—that Secretary of the Navy Toucey deliberately and intentionally scattered the war vessels of the United States to the four corners of the world so that they would not be immediately available to the government, (of which he was a part,) in the suppression of the rebellion; and that Secretary of the Treasury Cobb as deliberately and intentionally depreciated the credit of the county for the same avowed and traitorous purpose.

Why was it that these men, John B. Floyd Secretary of War, Toucey of the Navy, Howell Cobb of the Treasury, and Jacob Thompson of the Interior, were not impeached by the Democratic House of Representatives in 1860 and brought to the bar of the Senate for the "high crimes and misdemeanors" committed while they were in office? Why was it that the Democratic President himself was not also impeached? In January 1871 the Grand Jury at Washington found a "true bill" against this scoundrel Floyd for maladministration of office, for having been concerned in the theft of nearly a million of dollars worth of Indian bonds, and he would have been tried and sent to hard labor in a penitentiary had he not ran away to avoid the process of the court.

And one of the most stupendous pieces of rascality extant was that committed by Jones, Treasurer of the State of Georgia in 1872. Jones was a democrat, and Jones defaulted in his trust to the tune of a half million of dollars of the people's money. With a democratic Governor and a democratic Legislature nothing was ever said or done looking to the impeachment of Jones; he was requested to give a new bond which he failed to do, his place was supplied with another democrat, and Mr. Jones was allowed to "step down and out" with the ill-gotten gains of his astonishing larceny swelling his pockets to their fullest extent.

All countries suffer from corruption in high places;—as we have shown, heretofore it has not been the rule of democrats to punish democrats for this class of crimes. Old England, who has been a terrible sufferer from this cause, has not been lax in the infliction of punishment on her offenders. Peers of the Realm have been degraded and imprisoned—estates have been confiscated—titles to honor have been cancelled,—and—as in the South Sea bubble, leading members of the House of Lords were imprisoned,—members of the Parliment were expelled,—the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lord of the Treasury, forced to resign, and all who held office under the government and were in any way concerned in the swindling company, were summarily kicked out of office.

The Republican party is the only one that ever punished crime in high places. This spirit of stern integrity comes honestly to it by inheritance from its English ancestry, and it will continue to fight and punish evil doers as long as it is able to seize and wield the sword of Justice.

HON. WILLIAM M. ROBBINS.

This virtuous ku klux gentleman, and member of Congress from this State who stands second on the committee of Expenditures in the War Department of the House of Representatives, is, who the circumstance of his being on that committee and the fact of his having had something to do in exposing Secretary of War Belknap, is eminently fitted for the position he holds, knowing as he does by experience how this thing of corruption in office works.

This man William M. Robbins was a Senator from the XXXIVth Senatorial District of North Carolina, composed of the counties of Davie and Rowan, in the Legislature of this State in 1868-'69. J. W. Stevens claimed a seat in the Senate at the same time as from the XXIVth district, which was contested. William M. Robbins was then as he is now a Democrat. On a vote being taken as to whether or not Stevens should be allowed to take his seat, Robbins voted *no*. The matter was reconsidered, and in the meantime it was suggested to Stevens that an application of greenbacks to the sensibilities of Robbins might possibly have the effect of changing his mind as to the propriety of his Stephens, being seated. Accordingly, just before the vote was taken the second time, Stevens met Robbins in the lobby near the door of the Senate Chamber, and requested him to vote *aye* when the ballot was next taken, at the same time placing in the hand of the virtuous Senator a twenty dollar treasury note. As far as Robbins was concerned the application acted like a charm, and he kept his promise like a little man and voted for his financial friend.

Robbins seemed to have forgotten this little transaction, and after awhile, in a sudden fit of virtue, moved for and obtained from the Senate the appointment of a smelling committee to investigate certain "frauds" that he said he thought existed. He was on that committee, and the only irregularity or rascality that they could find was that of his having taken a bribe to vote for Stevens. Although Robbins said that the matter was unimportant, the committee reported the fact to the Senate and an investigation was had, and it was only by hard lying and the skin of his teeth that he was not expelled. He told the Senate, in his defense, that he *had* taken the money from Stevens, but he had done it *undertantly*, remembering at the time that he was a *lawyer* and accepted the money as a retainer, and forgot that he was a *Senator*, and as such it was highly improper for him to receive it.

Inadvertence indeed! And this is the fellow who took a twenty dollar retaining fee as a lawyer and changed his vote as a Senator for the benefit of his client!!

Pass him around again.

HON. ALFRED M. WADDELL.

This is another of the virtuous Democracy and a Representative in Congress from this State, who raises a hue and cry against corrupt Republicans in office. But he does so to cover up and divert attention from his own corruption. It is a well known fact both in Washington City and in Wilmington that he is a gambler and spends a great deal of his time as well as his money at the gaming table, and many of his I. O. U.'s, in the shape of due bills for gambling debts, that could not be collected in Washington, have been sent to this city for collection.

We shall have more to say about this specimen yanth.

Pass him around.

$20 is the price of Robbins in Washington.

Our special artist has drawn for us a photographic sketch of the recent commingling of happy hearts, when a committee of colored American gentlemen made application to the Executive Committee of the Democratic party to be recognized as men and brothers and voters.

Our artist has given us the view taken at the supreme moment when Jo. Engelhard, who was then in Washington looking for some little crumbs that might fall from his master's table to keep him from starving, and had rushed frantically to the rooms of the said Executive Committee when he heard of the capture they had made of the colored gentlemen who had gone to Washington also on a crumb hunting expedition, feeling that the time had at last arrived when the Democracy should capture the negro vote, threw himself into the arms of his sable brother while they wept, leaning on each others necks. Our readers can readily perceive by looking at the picture, which Joe is and which is the nigger: we all know Jo is a stout man—but the colors seem to have bleeded—too much for white washing and Black washing.

We get part of the names of Alfred M. Waddell's competitors, in the Democratic party, last week. In addition we are informed that Judge O. P. Meares, Col. Robert Strange and J. A. Engelhard, of this city, Maj. McClammy, of Pender county, Col. Ellis, of Columbus county, W. C. Troy, of Cumberland county, and Dr. W. C. Murphy, of Sampson county, are also candidates.—Now add to these the names we published last week, and we find a very respectable number of aspirants for Allies place. We give the names of all of them below, and their counties:

Strange, of Cumberland.
Stallings and Allen, of Duplin.
McClammy and Pender.
Meares, Strange, Davis, and Engelhard of New Hanover.
Murphy and Kerr, of Sampson.
Troy and McKoy, of Cumberland.
Ellis, of Columbus.

We hope they will be able to induce some one else to become candidates.

The accord that Xantippe held at the head of Socrates during one of the fits of angry passion that she was accustomed to indulge in, contained more brains than is posed by the majority of the Democratic editors who accuse themselves denouncing the Republican party because of the rascality in which Belknap was detected. The odor emanating from these bursting bombs of the one is no more offensive than the disgusting tirades of the others. Tell us about Floyd and Thompson and Cobb and Jones, and of Jeff. Davis' and Gordon's Southern Life Insurance Company that swindled Southern people of a cool half million. Tell us about these things.

THREE SWEET BABES.

Honorable William M. Robbins, M. C., who took a bribe of twenty dollars for his vote in the Senate of North Carolina;—Honorable Alfred Moore Waddell, M. C., who spends much of his time and all of his money fighting the tiger in the gambling hells of Washington, and is sued on his debts of honor;—and Honorable Zebulon B. ance, ex-Governor of North Carolina, who is such a dirty blackguard that respectable people won't allow him in their homes.

The people of New York city succeeded on yesterday in getting judgment against Wm. M. Tweed, the great Democratic thief of the times, for $6,250,000. He stole about $30,000,000 and used it in running the Democratic party of the United States for about fifteen years, finally the Republicans routed him.—Belknap was bribed, it is said, to the amount of $250,000; if he had been a respectable thief like Tweed, nothing would have been said about it by the Democrats.

"Wilmington" and the National Republican, are intitled to credit for the timely exposure of X X Robbins, who has been trying to make the folks of the North believe he was made of virtue and piety. We hope that "Wilmington" will give some facts to the people through the National Republican concerning gambler Waddell, whose gambling notes are now in the hands of an attorney in this city for collection.

XX is now all the go in Washington.

Sixteen prisoners now in the guard house and at work on the streets.

Hymn Book Stallings, is hard at work for Congress. We hope he will succeed in getting the nomination of his ku klux party.

Poker Schenck is nowhere beside Poker Waddell. Schenck plays for amusement, Waddell plays for money. First blood for Waddell.

There was a democrat in this city just previous to the war, who defaulted in the sum of $20,000 of the public funds. We shall give his name soon.

Swepson, a leading Democrat, stole about $11,000,000 from the State of North Carolina, yet he is an honored member of the Democratic party.

Jones, the Democratic Treasurer of the State of Georgia, stole about $500,000 from the public funds, is highly spoken of as the Democratic nominee for Vice President, this year.

Will the newspapers that represent the ku klux, white line murderers in this city, deny that Alfred M. Waddell gambles? Will they deny that his gambling due bills have been sent to this city for collection?

The Democratic Auditor of Virginia, who assisted in swindling his State out of several millions last year, is now an honored member of Democratic society of Richmond, and the Democratic papers say nothing about him.

We would ask the Democratic Solicitor of this District what was done with a leading Democrat who was bound over, for larceny, to his court, the public have never heard of the case since the papers went up. We will inquire about this case again.

Hereafter the POST will frequently be illuminated with beautiful and truthful cuts, representing the attitude of certain prominent Democrats on the "nigger," and other questions. The POST proposes to make things lively from now 'till next November.

His Excellency, Gov. C. H. Brogden has returned from New Orleans. He had a pleasant time, so we are informed, and we are glad. He is one of the best men in North Carolina and is the people's man. Long may he wave.

It is reliably reported that Tweed, the great Democratic thief, who got out of the New York jail, by the connivance of the Democratic Sheriff, is harbored in Gov. Tidens residence. Tilden is the Democratic candidate for President. Tweed is to manage Tammany for him.

Gov. Porter of Tennessee, the leader of his party, and a Democrat of the old school, is openly charged by members of his own party, in Tennessee, with selling the contract for running the penitentiary, for a bribe of $250,000, besides squandering on his private friends $100,0000 per annum. Yet he will be the candidate for Governor this year.

STATE CONVENTION.—We are receiving letters from different parts of the State, indorsing our remarks of some weeks since in the POST, concerning a State Convention. They all say that the Committee should call a convention by all means, to appoint delegates to the National Convention, which is to be held in Cincinatti on the 14th of June, which will nominate the next President to succeed Grant.

We pulish a list of Republican papers published in North Carolina, and shall keep it standing during this year:

"The North Carolinian," edited by Dr. P. Johns, Elizabeth City, N. C.
"Times," edited by E. Hubbs, New Berne, N. C.
"The Era," edited by Major W. R. Richardson, Raleigh, N. C.
"Spirit of the South," edited W. R Ferry, Rockingham, N. C.
"New North State," edited by W. S. Ball, Greensboro, N. C.
"Statesville American," edited by Eugene B. Drake, Statesville, N. C.
"Ashville Pioneer," edited by Pinkney Rollins, Ashville, N. C.
"The Surry Visitor," edited by Thos. J. D. & T. J. Lowry, Mount Airy, N. C.
"The Central," edited by Col. F. W. Henderson, Lexington, N. C.

MR. DANIEL F. BEATTY, manufacturer and proprietor of the Beatty Piano and Beatty's celebrated Golden Tongue Parlor Organs, Washington, N. J., is certainly a very reasonable and generous man to transact business with. He makes this very fair proposition to any who may favor him with an order, as follows: "If the instrument does not prove satisfactory after a test trial of five days after receiving it the purchase money will be refunded upon the return of the instrument, and he will pay freight charges both ways." This is certainly an exceeding, generous, and safe manner in which to transact business with him. He warrants his instruments for six years. See his advertisement. jan 28-6m.

For the Post.

EDITORS OF THE POST:

The following communication was sent to the editor of the Robesonian for publication, but it seems that while that paper is the receptacle in which every "puppy, whelp, hound and cur of low degree," deposits their filth—it is a conservative paper, and none put conservatives are permitted to refute falsehoods or repel slanders through its columns.

I know very little about the rules of newspapers in that respect, and I may be wrong in so thinking, but when a newspaper has persistently misrepresented me for years, and permitted others, through its columns to do the same thing, I ought to have an opportunity through the same channel to reply. I know this much, however, and there is no exception to the rule, when the brave and generous inflict an injury they are always ready and willing to make the *amende honorable*; the opposite never do. R. M. NORMENT.

LUMBERTON, N. C., Feb. 15, 1876.

To the Editor of the Robesonian:

My attention having been called to a communication in the last issue of your paper, signed by one S. A. Edmonds, I ask as a matter of justice the privilege of replying to the same, through the same medium.

I am at a loss to divine what motive the sappy headed fellow, Edmonds, had in going out of his way to attack me, unless he is so accustomed to doing mean and dirty things that it has become a second nature to him. I am charitable enough to believe that with this man the habit of lying has become chronic. He knew that I had tried all fair means to have the action against him dismissed, not because I did not think him mean enough to do that with which he was charged, nor that his "wish was father to the thought," but I did not think the game worth the ammunition.

I have said all the time, and proved my assertion by the records of the County Commissioners, that Edmunds and the other judges of the election, not only at Britt's Township, but of those other precincts that were excluded by the County Commissioners, discharged their duty according to law. They made out their returns in proper form and returned them in due time. Edmonds on his oath said in his returns that Neill McNeill, for delegate to the convention, received 99 votes; that R. M. Norment received 119 votes, that Dr. Duncan Sinclair received 84 votes and that Calvin A McEachin received 73 votes—the poll holders all swore to it and when the County Commissioners, who were also on oath, declared that the returns from "Britt's township show that no vote had been cast," *they lied.*

The people of Britt's and the three other excluded townships, who voted for Norment and McNeill have great cause to complain of this whole ale disfranchisement. It cannot be charged to ignorance on the part of the poll holders, for the evidence is in the court house of Robeson county, that they did make their returns in due time and in proper form, and that the Commissioners were guilty of a willful, palpable and intended fraud, in throwing out the returns. It is a fact that Edmonds proved to the satisfaction of U. S. Commissioner Cassidey, by the Register of Deeds and others that he make out his returns and returned them with the poll books in due time, else he would have been held to answer at the next term of the U. S. Court. When did Edmonds learn that there was no law to punish the County Commissioners?

Edmonds says I proposed to stop the matter on certain conditions, which he refused to accept. This is not so—this is an idea that must have radiated from his own brain. On that Saturday night when he sat up so late surrouded by his Sanhedrim, getting up that mighty "communication" which was not only to vindicate the action of the County Commissioners, but to overwhelm me as well as the whole of the Republican party, and arouse the white men of Robeson county to such a degree of Democratic enthusiasm, that they would not be satisfied hereafter in merely disfranchising the people of three Republican townships, numbering some eight hundred or a thousand voters but that they would not hereafter permit any poor white Republican or negro to vote.

I did, some time ago, when this man Edmund's father, Dr. F. Edmunds, and John H Collins were at variance, go to Alva Lawson, at the request of the friends of both parties, to try and effect a reconciliation. I made, at the request of Mr. Collins, a fair and honorable proposition. To that Mr. Edmunds declined to accede unless Collins would pay him for the trouble and expense he had been at, (about two hundred dollars), when I said to Dr. Edmunds that the proposition reflected no credit either upon his head or his heart, and I made no further attempt to effect the reconcilliation. When Edmunds was before Justice Proctor a few weeks ago, charged with killing a man in South Carolina, I did all I could for him, and when they were trying to implicate his father in the killing of John Hays, I did all I could for *him*.

To the political part of Edmund's letter in the *Robesonian* I have this much to say:—That although the Republican party has been dead in this county several years, some how or other their candidates always get the most votes, but, as Dr. Sinclair said in his speech in the Convention, he was elected by the County Commissioners. Perhaps they will continue to elect their Democratic candidates. We shall see.

R. M. NORMENT.

EDENTON, N. C., March 6th, 1876.

Messrs. Editors Post:

DEAR SIRS:—Our village is quiet with the usual dullness of business. We expect our streets to be crowded to-day as this is court week &c.

As to politics we are looking up to the old Republican flag that has been waving in honor of our party since 1861. We hope to organize ourselves soon and march upon the arena of battle, and await the toesin of the Republican cause. We have some would-be Republicans, or (Ransom) men in our section, that we are compelled to watch in the next campaign; who forsooth the party in the civil rights crisis and declared themselves democrats in the fullest sense of the phrase. In the name of God, who can put any confidence in such a man or set of men, who will forsake his or their party in such a time and then after they see the salvation of the party, come and ask the people to elevate them to some office, and for what? Why, fellow citizens, to sell us out as R. M. Ransom did in the State Convention, and the loyal citizens of his own county. If Republicanism means that a man can affiliate in the party when all is well with it, and in a trying time that he can leave and give his aid to the Democratic party, and labor to tear down an institution that he has helped to form for the sake of office, I have never understood the meaning of Republicanism and never desire to. I say welcome them back in our ranks, but before we elevate them to any office, let them show their faith by their good works in the coming campaign. It seems to me that they should be compelled to go and kneel down at the altar of their country and party, and ask the forgiveness of their political sins at any rate, before we can safely trust them in any way—because at the very moment when we think all is well with the working of the party, some poor, lousy devil is selling us to a Democrat because the niggers are united and vote for good and firm Republicans that has always kept the faith.

Yours respectfully.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

CITY ITEMS.

All business communications should be addressed to "THE POST," Wilmington, N. C.

The Mayor had a heavy court for the past week.

We see that the Opera House is undergoing repairs that have been badly needed for some time.

The County Executive Committee is called together on next Monday to consider election business of importance.

Hons. James Heaton and George W. Price, Jr., and T. M. Gardner, Esq., are to address the people of Duplin at Warsaw on Saturday next.

Col. Brink has just returned from Philadelphia, where he has been to visit a sick daughter. We are glad to learn he left her much improved.

The worlds "Golden Tongue" but poorly express the RICHNESS of tone which eminates from the interior of a beautiful organ case, upon which is inscribed the name Daniel F. Beatty, Washington, New Jersey. 2w.

Jno. H. Smyth, Esq., attorney at law, can be found in the office three doors west of this office with Justice Jos. C. Hill. We wish Mr. Smyth success in his practice; he is entitled to a very liberal share of the patronage of our people.

Sheriff Horrell, of Pender, informs us that things look bright in his county and that business is lively. We wish good people of Pender success in life—they defeated Democracy for that, they are deserving of everything that is good and lovely.

We heard a good joke on a certain editor of a morning newspaper of this city who prides himself more on his literary than his political ability. A sciellitz powder was the exciting cause and broken crockery the result of his exploit.

Hon. Silas, N. Martin is spoken of as the successor of A. H. Morris, on the Board of County Commissioners. We know nothing of the intentions of the Board.

A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.—The colored people of Franklin township, Sampson county, organized an Agricultural Association in February last, by electing Andrew Lee, President, Primus Fennell, Vice-President, Moses Newton, Treasurer, Albert Johnson and Edwin Boyden, Secretaries. We hope they will continue to go on in this good work.

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4. For the Fireside Department, in addition to its other attractions, such as poetry, miscellany, humorous extracts, &c., during the coming year, there will be given three one hundred short stories, from the best writers of fiction in England and America.

5. The Market Reports, brought down to the hour of publication, are the best that can be made. Each mark is reported by one whose special knowledge and experience made him the best authority upon that subject in the United States, its accuracy and completeness the market reports of THE WORLD are unrivalled.

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4. The General Special Orders and Circulars issued by the War and Navy Departments and through the Headquarters of the Army. Also the General Court martial Orderders, and orders from the different Departments of the Government affecting the Army and Navy.

5. Official lists of Army and Navy nominations and confirmations by the President and the U. S. Senate.

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