THE WILMINGTON POST.

W. P. CANADAY, J. J. CASSIDEY. Editors.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1876.

NOTICE.

We have obtained the services of Mr. W. J. Buhmann as our Agent. He is authorized to make contracts and receipt for moneys due THE POST.

Capt. L. C. Linebury, of Fayetteville, N. C., will canvass Eastern North Carolina, for THE POST. He is authorised to make contracts and receipt for moneys due THE POST.

Colonel S. Trivett has consented to canvass Western North Carolina in the interest of THE POST. He is authorized to solicit subscriptions and receipt for moneys due THE POST.

THE POOR CHILDREN.

Even the small amount of money that had been appropriated in 1860 for the purpose of educating the poor children of North Carolina, was used to destroy the government and plunge the country in an unholy war, and thousands of children who should have been at school from 1860 to 1865 and their expenses paid by the State, were in the ranks, shouldering muskets bought with their own school money. And for what purpose? For the expressed and avowed purpose of perpetuating the negro race in personal slavery and keeping the poor whites of the land in a state of peonage, degredation and subserviency to the aristocracy and slaveocracy of the land. Not one white man in fifty in North Carolina owned slaves, and this mere handful of slave owners held the balance of the white people of the State in such control that they succeeded in putting them nearly all in the ranks; a rich man's war and a poor man's fight. After the war Hon. S. S. Ashley was Superintendent of Public Instructiton, and although no man ever labored harder or more zealously in so good a cause, and through his indomitable energy and perseverance thousands of free schools were opened throughout the State, yet no man ever was worse abused and villified and lied about that Mr. Ashley. His crimes were that he was not a democrat and that he labored to educate poor children. So too was it with Mr. McIver when he was Superintendent of Public Instruction. The only aim ot the democrats seems to be the re-establishment of the University of the State at Chapel Hill, and to that end have they appropriated thousands of dollars from the State's Treasury—the money wrung from the poor people of the State, white and black alike, to buil up an Institution to which none but the sons of rich white men can have access. Instead of the rich contributing to educate the poor, we find these democrats actually taking the money out of the pockets of the poor to educate the rich! And not content with thus robbing the poor by a Legislative enactment to educate the sons of their rich men, we find one of their immaculate Confederate Brigadiers who holds the high and responsible position of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and who is the custodian of the noble bequest made to the poor children of the State by the late Mr. Peabody for their education, defaulting in his high trust and using the money given to educate the poor children either for his own private use, or to carry on and support the thieving democratic party, or to enable him to publish "Our Living and Our Dead," a publication devoted to the glorification of the "Lost Cause" and the embalming the memory of the traitors who sought to destroy their government.

Verily the disclosures that have been made at Washington sink into insignificance when compared with the theft of the School money of North Carolina.

AN OLD SORE HEAD.

The Asheville *Expositor* absolutely refuses to be happy. Nothing that a Republican does is satisfactory. It tells of a scoundrel who was tried at McDowell court a couple of weeks ago for a felony, but was acquitted for want of sufficient evidence. The fellow was suspected of a number of atrocious crimes—even murder—he had been twice indicted for larceny—was a terror to the entire neighborhood, and there was some testimony to show that he had a guilty knowledge of the murder of a woman. He was also under a bond to keep the peace. The Judge discharged him, but with the condition that he leave the State. Whereupon the *Expositor*, instead of being happy at the community being rid of such a disreputable character, wades into the Judge and prates about judicial banishment and all that sort of nonsense. If the census takes on his next round fails to put that fellow down on his list as a numskull and an idiot he will sadly neglect his duty.

A correspondent of the Raleigh *News* writing from Chatham county says:

"I see that ex-Governor Vance is prominently spoken of for the nomination for Governor. The people of this section are decidedly opposed to him, in fact, I do not know of a single man about here who is in favor of him."

Such is the case in many sections of the State. Zeb. has probably more friends in the eastern part of the State than anywhere else. We are told by a western man that he could not carry half the vote west of Raleigh. So it seems he is not the only man who can save the State.—*Weldon News.*

KU KLUX TO THE FRONT.

In the House of Representatives of the United States on the 27th day of March last:

"MR. VANCE, of North Carolina introduced a bill (H. R. No 2,888) to limit the present power of the United States Commissioners in issuing warrants of arrest against citizens of the United states; which was read a first and second time, referred to the committee on the Judiciary, and ordered to be printed."

The object of this bill introduced by Mr. Vance is to impair, retard and defeat the ends of the law and justice, and the rights of the citizen in the carrying out of what is known as the enforcement act and the revenue act. It is the opinion of some that the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the Grant Parish and the Kentucky cases served to nullify some sections of the enforcement act. It is evident that the ku klux organs so regard it, and on all sides from those organs go up shouts of rejoicings, they felicitating themselves that there being no Federal law to punish, they can now go on and kill, murder, and destroy as many Republicans as they see proper, and be amenable to their ku klux State courts only.

But there are some sections of the enforcement act that have not yet been declared unconstitutional, and when those sections are violated the United States Commissioners have the power and the authority, as it is their duty to do, to cause the arrest of the offenders, and hence it is that General Vance desires to make the provisions of the law inoperative, and emasculate the power of the Commissioners by requiring that they shall submit to the United States Distrit Attorney such facts as they may have—from only one party—the affiaut—and not to be allowed to issue warrants without his advice and consent!

So, too, as regards the issuing of warrants for violating the Internal Revenue act, and is vehement in his denunciations of the present law because of the frauds that are practised under it. The country abounds in disloyal persons who are accumulating immense fortunes at the expense of the revenue of the country by their constant violations of the penal laws of the land. And this State of affairs is particularly noticeable in Gen. Vance's own district and among the very men who voted to place him in his present position.

Under the present law a person who has in possession an illicit whiskey still, or who in any other way violates the law, is liable to arrest on a Commissioner's warrant, issued on a representation of the facts to him. Gen. Vance desires that the Commissioner be required to submit to the District Attorney, in writing, all the facts in the case, and without his consent the warrant cannot issue!

Vance is a man after the true Democratic [illegible] klux, no enforcement act to dread, no authority for Commissioners to issue warrants for the arrest of offenders; kill as many niggers as they please—what a glorious millenium!

THE TRUTH.

Inasmuch as a Radical Democratic paper in this State, (with which we do not exchange), has published garbled extracts from the Washington *Chronicle* concerning our charges against Senator Ransom and Governor Vance in regard to the former paying the latter a certain amount of money in their transaction regarding the election of Ransom to the Senate, we have this to say:—Senator Ransom said to a reporter of the New York *Herald* that he had paid Vance $2,500. He also said that up to the time of his election the salary due as Senator amounted to $4,000, and that if he, Vance, would not receive the back pay, he, Ransom, would return the amount to the Treasurer of the United States. Now, 1st. If the $4000 did not rightfully belong to Ransom, why did he take to himself any part of that amount? 2nd. If $4,000 belonged to Vance, why did not the $4,000 belong to him also? 3d. If it was proper for Ransom to pay *anything*, why did he not pay him the full amount of $4,000? 4th. If it was proper for Vance to receive *any* amount, why was he not entitled to receive the full amount of $4,000? 5th. If $2,500 belonged to Vance, why did not Ransom pay it to him like a little man? 6th. Why did he put $1,500 in his own pocket when he had said that the money belonged to Vance, and if Vance did not take it, he would return it to the U. S. Treasury? 7th. Why, after paying Vance $2,500 he did not return the $1,500 to the Treasury? 8th. Why, if the $1,500 belonged to the Treasury the $2,500 didn't belong there too? 9th. Are not both Ransom and Vance guilty of conspiracy to cheat, wrong and defraud the Treasury of the United States?

We are in the conundrum business and are quite anxious to have Ransom, Vance or any other man to answer our questions. Come to the mourner's bench, gentlemen, and confess your sins like little men, and cease lying and trying to get out of a bad scrape by such disreputable means.

The editor of the *Observer*, instead of being "sick" and unable to masticate a "square breakfast," has begun to eat voraciously since the charge has been made against S. D. Pool. He calls it a "radical attempt at sensation." Go in, neighbor! Defend your own villians, and pretend to lose your appetite if you hear of a radical stealing!—*New North State.*

[From the Inter-Ocean.]

What Has Been Decided?

Here, in a nutshell, is the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Kentucky election case:

The Fifteenth Amendment declares that the right to vote shall not be denied nor abridged on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, and that Congress shall have power to enforce this Amendment by appropriate legislation. Congress has tried to do this. In what is known as the enforcement act it provided, in substance, that "if any person, by force, bribery, threats, intimidation, or other unlawful means, shall hinder, delay, prevent, or obstruct any citizen from voting or qualifying to vote at any election, such person shall forfeit for every such offense $500 to the person aggrieved." The offender was also to be considered guilty of a misdemeanor, and to be fined and imprisoned. This certainly looks, to a man of ordinary understanding, as if it were an attempt in good faith to enforce the provisions of the Fifteenth Amendment. At an election in Kentucky this law was violated. A suit was brought, There was no question about the facts. The offense was admitted. The question was whether the section of the law which has been quoted was constitutional. The Supreme Court decide that it is not. Why? For the simple reason that it permits the punishment of persons who prevent, hinder, or obstruct a citizen from voting, from any cause, and not on account of race, color, or previous condition alone. This, the court declare, is beyond the power of Congress. And, therefore, because the law is broader than necessary, covering not only crimes on account of race, but crimes committed for other reasons, the court decide that the greater cannot include the less, and the section is unconstitutional! Suppose, therefore, a person is, in fact, denied the right to vote, and this on account of race or color; yet notwithstanding the law declares that any one who shall prevent, hinder, or deny this right shall be punished, the sufferer is without remedy, because the statute is too broad, and has not limited punishment to cases where the denial has been on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude alone! The court say that the question is whether they can introduce words of limitation into a special statute so as to make it specific, when, as expressed, it is general only.

But what, let us inquire, is the need of introducing any words whatever? Grant that an offense against the right of suffrage, which is not committed on account of race or color, cannot be punished under the law! How does that prevent the punishment of one which is committed because of these facts? A refusal to permit a man to vote because of his color is a violation of the section as it stands, because in the words of the statute, it is preventing a citizen from voting who has a right to vote. What words, then, are necessary to be added? Is not the offense complete without reiterating the fact that this hindering is on account of race, etc.? The court say that an indictment must be definite, and the accused person must know of what crime he is charged. For instance, he must be able to gather from the indictment whether he is charged with obstructing a voter on account of such voter's race or color, or on account of something else. This is all very well; but we insist that in this case, and by the present ruling of the court, nothing could be more definite than an indictment under the United States laws for obstructing a voter in the privilege of the ballot. The indicted person would know instantly that he was charged with doing this on account of the complainant's race or color, because the law, as interpreted by the court, makes the hindering for any other cause an offense not punishable by the Federal courts. We again ask, therefore, what words are necessary to make the law complete and perfectly applicable to offenses against the Fifteenth Amendment?

We see that both Justice Hunt and Clifford dissented from the opinion, and we shall not be surprised to see it criticised by many eminent jurists throughout the country. The decision is peculiarly unfortunate at this time, and will encourage the notorious law-breakers of the South to fresh deeds of violence against the colored voters. And though the court confine their ruling closely to the points presented, and express no opinion regarding other sections of the act, it is clear, reasoning from analogy, that no part of the law of consequence, saving, perhaps, a few sections regarding officials and some provisions looking to the enforcement of the Fourteenth Amendment, will be sustained by them. In the Grant Parish (La.) case the court ruled that the indictment was insufficient, and decided the case upon that defect, though, had it been good, it is shown from the Kentucky case that the prosecution would have been overthrown.

When the enforcement act passed Congress it received, after the fullest consideration, the votes of some of the most eminent lawyers in both houses, including such men as Sumner, Butler, Edmunds, Trumbull, Conkling, Morton, and many others, who certainly had they dreamed of its being open to the objection named, could and would have quickly amended it. It is rather singular, also, that though such men as Thurman and Bayard insisted very strongly on the unconstitutionality of the law, none of them touched upon the alleged vital defect discovered by the court. Whether these facts illustrate the profundity of the court and the stupidity of Congressmen, or vice versa, we shall not attempt to decide.

Two foolish young men, said to be connected with the first families of Virginia, met at New Providence Church, near Rustburg, in that State, to adjust a difference in the manner prescribed by the code. One is dead and the other dying. The difference is adjusted.

Ex-Rebel Officers Now in Congress.

Although allusion is frequently made to the ex-Confederate element in the present Congress, there are few persons who have any idea as to the real numbers of this wing of the Democratic party. For the benefit of some of our southern subscribers we have taken the pains to prepare a list of these gentlemen, with titles worn by them while in the service of Mr. Jefferson Davis.

SENATORS.

Golthwaite, Alabama, Adjutant General.
Jones, Florida, Brigadier General.
Gordon Georgia, Major General.
Alcorn, Mississippi, Brigadier General.
Cockrell, Missouri, Major General.
Ransom, North Carolina, Major General.
Key, Tennessee, Lieutenant Colonel.
Maxey, Texas, Major General.
Withers, Virginia, Colonel.

REPRESENTATINES.

Williams, Alabama, Major.
Bradford, Alabama, Colonel.
Hayes, Alabama, Brigadier General.
Hewitt, Alabama, Colonel.
Forney, Alabama, Brigadier General.
Lewis, Alabama, Colonel.
Gause, Arkansas, Colonnl.
Slemmons, Arkansas, Brigadier General.
Gunter, Arkansas, Colonel.
Smith, Georgia, Captain.
Hartridge, Georgia, Colonel.
Cook, Georgia, Major General.
Hill, Georgia, Colonel of Recruits.
Blackburn, Kentucky, Lieutenant Colonel.
Gibson, Louisiana, Brigadier General.
Ellis, Louisiana, Captain.
Levy, Louisiana, Colonel.
Lamar, Mississippi, Colonel.
Hooker, Mississippi, Colonel.
Franklin Missouri, Captain.
Clark, Missouri Brigadier General.
Yeates, North Carolina, Major.
Waddell, North Carolina, Lieutenant Colonel.
Davis, North Carolina, Captain.
Scales, North Carolina, Brigadier General.
Robbins, North Carolina, Colonel.
Vance, North Carolina, Brigadier General.
Dibrell, Tennessee, Brigadier General
Whitthorne, Tennessee, Adjutant General.
Atkins, Tennessee, Colonel.
Young, Tennessee, Colonel.
Culberson, Texas, Colonel.
Throckmorton, Texas, Brigadier General.
Douglas, Virginia, Major.
Cabell, Virginia, Colonel.
Tucker, Virginia, Captain.
Hunton, Virginia, Brigadier General.
Ferry, Virginia, Brigadier, General.
Faulkner, West Virginia, Minister to France.
Reagan, Texas, Brigadier General.
Goode, Virginia, Colonel.
Hatcher, Missouri, Colonel.
Singleton, Mississippi, Inspector General.
House, Tennessee, Major.

EX-MEMBERS OF REBEL GOVERNMENT.

Stephens, Georgia, Vice President.
Reagan, Texas, Postmaster General.
Hill, Georgia, Senator.
Caperton, West Virginia, Senator.
Ashe, North Carolina, Senator.
House, Tennessee, Representative.
Goode, Virginia, Representative.
Smith, Georgia, Representative.
Hatcher, Missouri, Representative.
Singleton, Mississippi, Representative
Caldwell, Alabama, Solicitor General.
Norwood, Georgia, State Legislature.
Gandler, Georgia, State Legislature.
Tucker, Virginia, Attorney Generel.
Culberson, Texas, State Legislature.
Harris, Georgia, State Legislature.
Slemmons, Arkansas, State Legislature.
Gunter, Arkansas, State Legislature.
Lamar, Mississippi, Minister to Russia.
Dibrell, Texas, State Legislature.
Hunton, Virginia, State Legislature.
Faulkner, West Virginia Rebel Minister to France
Harris, Virginia, State Legislature.
Maxey, Texas, Superintendendent of Indian Affairs.—*Washington Chronicle.*

The Grant Parish Decision.

Peter the Great boasted that he learned the art of war from Charles XII. of Sweden, who beat him in every battle till the fatal day of Pultowa. In like manner, the Republicans may learn wisdom from reverses, and marshal their forces so as to protect the weak points exposed by the success of the enemy. The Grant Parish decision is not all the Republicans expected it to be; but it is far from being a disaster. There is a useful lesson in it. It teaches us:

1. That the law under which the prosecution was conducted is constutional.
2. That prisoners can be brought to trial and punishment by the proper averments and proofs to sustain them.
3. That the court will punish all who have been convicted of violating its provision.

If ever the occasion shall arise for another trial under the act, the indictments will be drawn strictly in accordance with the technical requirements laid down by Chief Justice Waite, and which he says would bring the prisoners "within the statute and within the scope of the sovereignty of the United States." The court says:

"The offense, as stated in the indictment, will be made out if it be shown that the object of the conspiracy was to prevent a meeting for any purpose whatever."

In like manner, if it be shown that the object of the conspiracy was to deprive any person of a right conferred by the Constitution, the prosecution will be successful. We think there will be no difficulty, after this hint, in bringing any future offenders to law, and we are quite sure it will be attempted if any opportunity is afforded.—*New Orleans Republican.*

Mr. Dana is not confirmed because he wrote a letter that any getleman would have written in the same circumstances. His defeat will tend to remove from the shoulders of the President some portion of the responsibility for many very bad appointments, for people will now reason that the President knew the Senate better than others did all the time, and that he appointed to vacancies as good men as he could get confirmed.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Remarkable Coincidences.

On the day General Belknap, ex-Secretary of War and ex-Chairman of the Iowa Democratic State Committee, was so unpleasantly brought before the public for selling a paltry sutlership, the following lawsuits were going on in New York, viz:

First. Henry C. Genet, Sachem of Tammany Hall, ex-Democratic State Senator and convicted felon, had a judgment rendered against him for $202,000, for money stolen outright from the city of New York.

Second. Boss William M. Tweed, ex-Grand Sachem, and ex-State Sanator, was being tried on a claim for six million dollars, stolen by him and other prominent Democrats from the treasury of the city of New York

Third. Fernando Wood, M. C., late of Mozart, now of Tammany Hall, ex-Mayor and prominent Democrat, was officiating as defendant in a suit brought by creditors of N. Hill Fowler to recover $15,000, which Fowler swore he paid Wood for the office of Corporation Attorney. Truly misfortunes never come singly.

The *National Republican* gives it in the right way about Morton:

The New York *Tribune* pats Secretary Bristow on the back approvingly and describes him as the most popular candidate for the Presidential nomination, but "one who seems to be securing the fewest delegates." It also characterizes him as "an ideal candidate," and predicts that Mr. Morton, "a very practical one," will be nominated at Cincinnati. How little the *Tribune* really knows about the chances of the several aspirants for that nomination, however, may be inferred from its declaration that Virginia and Louisiana will support Mr. Blaine. The truth is that the southern States will go to Porkopolis uninstructed, but with a decided inclination in favor of Mr. Morton. This inclination is founded upon justice and gratitude, because Mr. Morton stand pre-eminent to day as the defender and friend of the Republicans of the south. It is true that his record on the southern question is not more unequivocal than that of Mr. Conkling but he has embraced some opportunities to discuss it which Mr. Conkling has neglected. These facts plainly indicate that the, south will go first for Morton, second for Conkling, and afterwards split up between Blaine, Bristow, Hayes and others.

The Statesville *American* tells th following:

One J. W. Poe, a gentleman of color, who has been a sort of school teacher in Catawba county, and a self-constituted "big-bug" among the people of color where he was unknown, has written, or caused to be written, a letter to the Charlotte *Observer* and published in that print, withdrawing, as he says, his *rirerence* from the Republican party and cast his lot with the Democrats. Doubtless, in the Democratic church, there will be more rejoicing over one nigger that repenteth, than would be over ninety and nine white scalawags; and the rejoicing, will be equally great that Mr. Poe, has severed his connection with a party, of which he was a very unworthy member, and cast his lot among others, if they will receive him, but to them he will bring no influence, not even with his own race.

Mr. J. W. Poe has the following little record which happens to be known to us: In 1874, he became a subscriber for the *American*, and ordered the paper sent to four other colored people at Newton, with a promise to foot the bill, which he failed in the performance. After sending the paper about a year, our collector happening in Newton, sought to find Mr. Poe, when he was informed that the "gemman had some time previously evaporated" and his whereabouts was unknown. Calling upon the party for whom Poe ordered the paper, the collector was informed by them, that Poe had already collected the money, and, of course, appropriated it to his own use. As Poe is an aspiring politician, and failed to secure an office, doubtless, he will expect office from the party into whose arms he has cast himself. Will he fare any better in the hands of his newly made friends? Will they send him to Congress?

Coolness.

We percieve, that a slight breeze has chilled the atmosphere surrounding our friends of the *Post* and *Wide-Awake*, on account of a slight difference of opinion, relative to the Vance and Ransom trade. We rather think the *Wide-Awake* has the worst of the bargin so far, because of having made a partial admission, that money had changed hands between the parties, and requesting them to rise and explain. This was the weak point of attack, and was readily charged by the *Post*. We like to see an occasional spat, between newspapers of equal muscle and brain—as in the present instance—and look for some lively sparing between these well matched contestants—one wide-awake, and the other well-posted. Make it lively; while we occupy our high roost and snuff the battle from a comfortable distance.—*Fayetteville Spirit.*

A prominent New York lawyer recently expressed the opinion that the decision of Chief Justice Waite is not against the constutionality of the enforcement acts as is being stated by southern newspapers. He simply decided that the indictments in the Louisiana cases were improperly drawn; that the parties many be re-indicted, and all violators of the enforcement acts will be held strictly resposible.—There is no comfort for the ku klux Democrats in the southern States in this decision, and their newspapers would do well to mislead them no further into violations of this law.

The Democratic leaders are happy! A nation's disgrace is a precious morsel to them, over which they gloat and rejoice. One would be led to think that the southern Confederacy had come back to life, or that Jeff. Davis had received the war portfolio, so happy are the Bourbon leaders over the shortcomings of Belknap. Judas betrayed his Saviour, but he did not kill Christianity, and Democracy has tempered its unseemly joy by the discovery that the Belknap betrayal has not injured the cause of Republicanism. Men may fail, but just principles will live forever.—*Exchange.*

A Ray of Hope.

The bill that passed the House prohibiting the assessment of clerks, etc., for political purposes may turn out to be quite a blessing to the freed people. It contains within it a provision prohibing violence and intimidation at elections for President and members of Congress. U. S. District Courts are given jurisdiction, and such offences, as well as bribery, are punishable by fine and imprisonment.

We trust that the measure may pass—and this feature in it will doubtless secure its passage in the Senate—and that it may in the future be found to be indeed a protection to Republicans south—and yet so many times have all our pet measures miscarried that we have learned to put little confidence in any law enacted for the security of the weak as against the strong.

A brand new, carefully drawn law, with as much justice and equity and humanity crowded in as it will hold, that stands all other tests, will go to pieces in the hands of the Washington tribunal, that once ruled that a negro had no rights that a white man was bound to respect.

This measure originated with and received the support of many Democrats, and we will try to believe that it is an augury of returning reason and good will and sense of right and justice.—*Atlanta Republican.*

A "commercial traveler," just returned from St. Louis, says that he noticed at one of the hotels of that city a large number of very strong iron hooks which were being put up along the passageways. Upon inquiring what they were for, he was answered rather contemptuously, "Them's for the Democratic Convention. You don't suppose that we can furnish 'em all with beds do you?"—*Cincinnati Times.*

The New Orleans *Ficayune* says: "It is a mistake to suppose that all the enemies of the south in Congress are members of the Republican party. The opposition of some northern Democrats, and even of a few southern Democrats, to the appropriations proposed for works of internal improvement in this section is unjust, ungenerous and unwise."

MISCELLANEOUS.

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