

FIREARMS.

The Legislature played it when it passed the law preventing the sale of firearms. They seem to regard their constituents as infants, incapable of handling firearms. We do not know what the law is. We will forbear to comment further till we read it. We will merely say to that body the people are disgusted.

EXTRA SESSION.

It seems Congress intends to adjourn without disposing of the immense surplus in the treasury. The whole nation will sustain Mr. Cleveland if he will immediately call that body together and inform it by message that the purpose of his call is to have the big amount disposed of. If a hundred million of dollars could be turned loose among the people, better times would immediately follow. In case this extra session adjourns leaving the surplus undisposed of, let it again be called and receive the same instructions.

PROTECTION GUARANTEED.

The following is an extract from the cable dispatches to the New York Herald of Feb. 6th:

"The extended abolition of American duties on foreign wool has made a great stir in German business circles. The Vossische Zeitung thinks that such a step would be a terrible blow for German industry, and prophesies that ere long it would enable the United States not only to supply home demands, but compete with the foreign nations abroad."

This comes from a country where the sentiment is not influenced by protection "hoods." The Germans are afraid that if we have free trade we will commence competing with them in the wool business! The want is to continue protecting so that we can't compete with them. How long, O! how long is this thing to last? Have the people no friends in Congress?

FRANCE ANGRY.

The Berlin Post in 1875 published a sensational article "War in Sight." The prediction proved but too true. In the course of a few weeks marshal airs were heard throughout France and Germany. Thrilled by the notes of "die wacht am Rhein" and the Marseilles, thousands of volunteers fell in ranks. Lately war rumors have been flying thick and fast in both these countries. The French cry "vengeance!" Also and Lorraine look with longing eyes toward Paris and cry, "Liberate us!" France was not conquered, it was only subdued for a period. Prussia is mad. She is jealous of the love of her two provinces for France. She thinks she has stood this kind of thing long enough. She pretends to be insulted. She ignores her Reichstag and strengthens her armies. This same Berlin Post publishes an editorial headed "On the Edge of the Knife." It is so near like "War in Sight" as to excite comment. Old Count Von Moltke has said in effect that sometimes precautions against war become so great as to make war necessary as a means of economy.

It will indeed not be surprising if the nations of the earth are called upon to witness a stupendous conflict.

Randall is now passing through one of his periodical attacks of financial gripes and will vote against the appropriation of \$21,000,000 to construct a navy and manufacture steel guns. He is willing to go as much as \$10,000,000. But this same Randall is willing to take \$79,000,000 for the Government to teach school in the State.

AN URGENT NECESSITY.

The following we clip from our worthy contemporary the Wilson Mirror:

"Any one who attends court, and observes the tedious, perplexing and unsatisfactory manner now employed to take down and preserve the evidence of the witnesses in a case, must be struck with the momentous importance and urgent necessity of having an official stenographer to do that work, and thus relieve the presiding judge of that onerous duty. According to the present custom the Judge writes what the witness says, and in order to get it down with any coloring of correctness the witness is made to go slow, repeat three or four words at a time, and then stop in order for the Judge to get it all. The consequence is it takes five times as long to try a case as it would were the courts provided with a stenographer to take down every single utterance as fast as it fell from the speaker's lips. And the salary which would be paid to the stenographer for this very important and highly essential work would be compensated for at least treble by the dispatch and acceleration of business, and the very great saving of time, which is indeed a most powerful consideration, for time is money, and time saved is money made.

Again, according to the present style, the Judge, not being an adept at reporting, is liable, yes very liable to leave out some very important point which has material bearing upon the case, and the lawyer, whose case is thus enfeebled thereby, will tell the Judge when his Honor is recapitulating the evidence to the jury that he understood a certain witness to say so and so, while the lawyer, who would be injured by the admission of such testimony, will arise with furious heat and haste, and insist that he did not understand it that way. A controversy then ensues, confusion stalks in, great trouble is made, and the Judge can't decide for his life, for he failed himself to catch what the witness really did say. The witness then has to be recalled, and it is frequently the case he has left the court-room, thinking that they are done with him. And all this unnecessary delay consumes valuable time for which the tax payers make valuable pecuniary consideration.

This delay could be so easily obviated, if each court was provided with a sworn stenographer, for then the process of law would flow along as smoothly and as uninterruptedly as the grand and kingly but noiseless current of the majestic Mississippi in its harmonious and unbroken sweep to the waters of the gulf, for the legal channel through which would flow the current of evidence would be free and untrammelled by any interested motive, and nothing but the pure and unvarnished statement of facts would then pass through the channel of justice. Under this wise and beneficent measure the stream of jurisprudence would then flow on in unruffled harmony and with all necessary rapidity, and bear upon its impartial and unprejudiced bosom right and justice alike for all.

We call the attention of Senator Thrope to the above and bespeak his careful consideration of the same. His sound sense, and acute discrimination and long legal experience will cause him to see at a glance the wisdom of our suggestion, and we hope he will prepare at once a bill which will supply the desideratum so long needed in our courts of justice.

INDIANA AND THE ADMINISTRATION.

The Democratic party of Indiana has no sympathy with Cleveland's Utopian idea of running a Democratic Administration with Republican officials. If the views in Indiana on this subject are entertained by the Democracy of other States the election of Mr. Cleveland would be an impossibility and his nomination a farce.

FAIR WARNING TO COLORED VOTERS.

The President having twice nominated a colored citizen to office, the republicans of the Senate have now twice rejected him.

Why? Mr. Matthews is a resident of Albany, a lawyer of acknowledged ability, a man of unblemished character, and he has fulfilled the duties of the place to which the President named him and which he has held since Congress adjourned last summer exceptionally well. We assert all this on evidence which is known to every republican Senator, and so well known that there is no dispute about it.

But Mr. Matthews is a democrat. A colored democrat, says Senator Ingalls, is a Monster and must be crushed out. A colored democrat says Senator Chace, of Rhode Island, must not be tolerated. It is therefore because he is a colored man and a democrat that the republican Senators have twice refused to confirm him to the office to which Mr. Cleveland named him.

This is fair warning to colored voters. "You shall not vote with the democrats," the republican Senate says, to the colored voters of the United States. "If you do we will punish you, and as far as a rejection made in secret session can do so, we will disgrace you. You may imagine yourselves freemen, you colored people; but we republicans will show you that you are not. You are not freemen; you are the vassals, the slaves, of the republican party; and if you dare to imagine yourselves free, as white men are free, we will put the rope around your necks and pull you down, as we have just put the rope around the neck of colored democrat Matthews and dragged him down."

Mr. Ingalls declares that a colored democrat is a Monster. Well, let us see. Matthews was a poor and tolerably friendly boy in Albany. He did well in the public schools; he showed a strong desire for a good education, and some democrat who knew him, and who liked his spirit and conduct, encouraged him and assisted him with means to get the education and to study law. He was "Monster" enough to think well of them, to be even grateful to them; he did not agree with Senator Hoar that the Lord made a mistake in creating democrats. His highest duty, according to Senator Chace, and Senator Ingalls, and Senator Hoar, was to turn his back on his benefactors when he was done with them, and thereafter join in the republican howl against all democrats. But Matthews had not so lofty a character as these republican Senators; he is only a common man, and he was grateful to those who had helped him to make a man of himself. He did not believe them to be bad men, and when he reached maturity and was able to see and judge for himself, he joined the democratic party—the party of those who had helped him and been kind to him.

That is the story of Mr. Matthews, and, of course, he is a "Monster," and in spite of good character, of unbounded capacity for the place, of all the qualities which are required for public office—in spite of all this, the republican Senators, led by Mr. Ingalls, Mr. Hoar and, alas! by the Quaker Senator Chace, "crush him."

"You shall vote the republican ticket or we will crush you"—that is the mandate of the republican Senate to the colored voters North and South; Pray what has the republican party done for the colored men to justify such slavery as the republican Senate imposes on them? The war made them free. The constitutional amendment perpetuating that freedom was passed by democratic as well as republican votes, and could not have passed without the help of democratic votes. The vote was conferred upon them against the protests of leading republicans

like Senator Morton. Then came the reconstruction of the South, in which the republicans played on the ignorance and gratitude of the colored voters to corrupt State governments, to steal and rob and cheat; and having played that monstrous and disgraceful game until Northern public opinion would bear it no longer, having by years of unmitigated and unblushing rascality of white republican leaders aroused race suspicion and hatred against the poor colored people whom they made their tools, the republicans coolly abandoned the colored instruments—because they could no longer use them.

If they had been honestly the friends of the colored race, the republican leaders after the war would have had a great work open to them. They could have led them by clean ways to a proper knowledge of their duties as citizens. Instead of that they played on their "gratitude" and excited their ignorant terrors in every Southern State to make the newly created voters their tools for the wildest and most unscrupulous misgovernment known to modern days—outside of Ireland.

And now if a colored man dares to vote the democratic ticket the republican Senate declares it will "crush" him if it can get hold of him, and the Quaker Chace, with Ingalls and Hoar, holds up the body of Matthews as a "fair warning" to colored voters of what will happen to them if they venture to think and act like freemen.

How do the colored voters like it?—New York Herald.

CLOSING EXERCISES.

The closing exercises of the public school at Barefoot's school house, one mile from Peacock's X Roads, Friday, Feb. 11th, was very interesting and enjoyable. The scene was an exception for a public school. The speeches and dialogues came off in the morning. The insincere faces made many hearty laughs. After the public exercises the hospitable people in that section gave a fine dinner at the school house. All seemed to enjoy it. There were a number of people for such an occasion. We hope and trust those people are interested in the promotion of education.

J. M. G.

POLENTA NOTES.

The young people of this section gave an enjoyable hop Thursday night. These entertainments are becoming quite numerous in these parts. Mr. James Smith is sick with malarial fever. The little child of Mr. John Stephenson is very sick with pneumonia. The citizens of this section are agitating the continuance of the Midland Road from Smithfield to Raleigh. Our progressive citizens will contribute liberally to such an object. The farmers are hard at work making preparations for the coming crop.

THE SEX OF THE LCOMOTIVE.

"Why asked the fat passenger" does an engineer always "call his engine she?"

There was a moment of embarrassing silence, when the man on the wood box said something about "her head-light," which was followed by a hollow groan all along the line. "Because ventured the tall thin passenger (the more you throttle her the faster she goes."

But this was barred out under the rules. The man with the sample case suggested because she runs the mail but everybody said "oh there!" so sarcastically that he apologized. The cross passenger said "because there was so much bang and bustle about her" he was fined cigars for the crowd on the spot. The bashful passenger said maybe it was because she "pulled the smoker," and he was hissed off the stage, and longer had they sung, but the woman who talks boss closed the lodge by exclaiming "Because we could not get along without her."

The Randall tariff bill comes near putting one important article on the free list beside lumber. It leaves the duty of 75 cents a ton on coal undisturbed, while it puts "coal slack" in which there is no free trade, on the free list.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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ABELL AND RICHARDSON, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law, SMITHFIELD, N. C.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

SALE OF LAND.—By virtue of power conferred on me by a mortgage deed, dated 21st November, 1883, executed to Philip Wilkins and wife, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds of Johnston county, N. C., in Book "I," No. 4, pages 478 and 479, I will sell to the highest bidder, for cash, at 1 Court House door in Smithfield, on Monday 21st February, 1887, the land described and conveyed in said mortgage deed, the same being the tract on which said Philip Wilkins now lives, containing about 52 acres and being described by metes and bounds in said mortgage deed. This 20th January, 1887. B. B. JONES, Mortgagee.

NOTICE.—By virtue of authority conferred on me by a mortgage deed, dated 1st day of March, 1884, by E. O. Beasley and wife and registered in Book "1," No. 4, page 449 in the Register's office of Johnston county, I will sell, at auction, for cash, at the Court house door, in the town of Smithfield, on the 10th of March, 1887, a certain tract of land in Bentonville Township, Johnston county, lying between Mill and Hammett's Creeks, containing 160 acres, and fully described in said mortgage. This the 7th day of February, 1887. D. H. GRAYES, Mortgagee. J. H. ABELL, Attorney.

NOTICE.—By virtue of the authority contained in a mortgage deed, executed to me on the 7th day of January, 1885, by Ashley Barber and wife E. C., and duly registered in the Register's office of Johnston county, in Book "1," No. 4, pages 243 and 244, I shall sell at public auction, for cash, at the Court House door in the town of Smithfield, on the 14th day of March, 1887, a certain tract of land in Elevation Township, Johnston county, adjoining the lands of Jas. N. Barber, L. B. Barber and others, containing 100 acres, and fully described in said mortgage. This the 10th day of February, 1887. C. RADFORD, Mortgagee. J. H. ABELL, Attorney.

W. POU, Sr. P. T. MASSEY, POU & MASSEY, Attorneys-at-Law and Real Estate Agents, SMITHFIELD, N. C.

If you wish to buy land or to sell land, perhaps we can aid you. We can negotiate loans, for long or short terms on real estate in Johnston county. Persons wishing to lend money or to borrow money on mortgage of land may find it their interest to call on us.

D. COATS, AUCTIONEER, SMITHFIELD, N. C.

Smithfield Collegiate Institute MALE AND FEMALE

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The Spring Term of the Second Session of this Institution will begin the 24th day of January, 1887, and continue 22 weeks.

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