ASHEVILLE CITIZEN.

R. M. FURMAN,
JORDAN STONE,
J. D. CAMERON, } EDITORS.

WED'SDAY EVN'G, AP'L 22, '85.

—$6.00 PER ANNUM.—

Senator Ransom says Cleveland is a great and a good man, and his administration has already elicited the approval of the country.

It is now stated on high medical authority, that the malady which affects Gen. Grant is skin cancer, and is not believed to be beyond the search of science. The General and his friends are now very hopeful of a prolongation of life, if not of permanent recovery.

The latest London *News*, dated 20th, give indications of a predetermined misunderstanding between Russia and England, and all Sunday the English Cabinet was in session considering the situation which had become more serious. If reports are true, as given out Monday, an open declaration of war is inevitable.

Washington City newspaper correspondents are endeavoring to precipitate a war between Randall and Carlisle, for the next Speakership. All that is being said in this matter is purely speculation. Congress will assemble next December, and there will be no scramble over the Speakership. Randall, Carlisle and all other democrats are in accord on the Democratic platform, and no divisions in the party will occur, the wily correspondents to the contrary.

Goldsboro is agitated over the proposition for a subscription to build the Goldsboro, Snow Hill and Greenville Railroad. The *Messenger* favors the subscription. It will be a great benefit to Goldsboro and that section. Wilmington is anxious for the construction of the Onslow road, which may be extended to Newbern. We hope both will be built. We are glad to hear of the construction of a railroad in any section of the State.

The resignation from the new Cabinet of France of M. Clamergeau, the Minister of Finance, is said to have been due to the opposition among his colleagues, in view of the nearness of general elections in France, to his proposed policy. The policy involved the raising of a new loan to meet many necessities of the Government, and also the most rigid economy in the Departments and all items called for in the budgets. M. Clamergeau's colleagues were afraid to begin their government in the face of a general election by borrowing money and publicly running the republic further into debt, and were equally afraid to make a public declaration in favor of unusual economy in the Departments, in the face of the hard times in France and the general popular clamor for Governmental relief through appropriations for vast public improvement. M. Clamergeau was honest and firm, and had to retire before the opposition of his more politic colleagues.

THE VIRGINIA DEBT QUESTION.

On Monday the Supreme Court of the United States rendered an opinion in the Virginia coupon cases. Seven different cases, involving the right of persons to pay taxes in coupons of Virginia State bonds were appealed to the Supreme court. These cases arose under the "coupon killer" act, and others of similar purport passed by the Virginia legislature. These acts practically forbade the payment of taxes in coupons of the State bonds. In some of the cases parties who tendered payment of taxes in coupons and had them refused brought suit; and in others, upon the refusal of parties to pay taxes in other medium than coupons, the tax collector levied upon the property of said parties, and they resisted, so that the principle involved in various cases was the legality of the coupons as a medium for the payment of taxes.

Justice Matthews rendered the opinion, which maintained the validity of the coupons as a medium for the payment of taxes.

It goes to the root of the whole Virginia debt question, and involves similar acts by the Legislatures of other Southern States.

Justice Bradley read the dissenting opinion of the minority of the court, signed himself, Chief Justice Waite and Justices Gray and Miller.

Pleuro-pneumonia is rapidly spreading among cattle in Missouri. Little effort to eradicate the disease is being made, though the cattle trade is suffering severely. The State authorities have been petitioned to take the matter in hand.

EDITORIAL BRIEFS.

Gen'l Grant enjoyed a drive on Monday. On the 27th he will celebrate his sixty-third birthday.

Chicago grand jury has gone to work on the alleged election frauds in the late municipal election.

The news from the Anglo-Russian imbroglio indicates a more friendly feeling. Despite this war preparations continue.

President Cleveland, it is said desires, if possible, to accept the invitation to attend the National Commercial Convention to be held in Atlanta next month.

At Glendale, a suburb of Cincinnati, D. W. Charles was attacked by a highwayman, whom he shot dead. The corpse was spirited away before officers arrived.

The colored people of Florida have just closed a great camp meeting. The best "get off" at the meeting was from a young copper colored exhorter, who tried to describe the splendors of Heaven, until language failed him and he stopped. Just then a bright idea seemed to strike him, and he exclaimed: "Brethren and Sisters, ah, oh! Hallilugah!—ah, every street 'een Heaven is as fine as Bay street in Jacksonville."

A Washington special says: Lionel Sackville West, British Minister to the United States, was asked whether he had received any intimation from his Government as to its tariff policy in case of war between England and Russia, especially with regard to American cerals. He replied that he had not but intimated that he thought England would not be likely to depart from her free trade policy, and that breadstuffs would be likely to be taxed only in case of a serious financial strain, which he sees no reason to fear at present.

When, soon after the war, the United States sent a monitor to convey to the Czar the resolutions of Congress congratulating him on his escape from assassination, the officers of the American vessel were gorgeously entertained at St. Petersburg. At a great banquet at the Winter Palace the enthusiasm ran so high that a fair young princess tore the diamond necklace from her throat and threw it down the table toward the officers, exclaiming: "Aux Americans!" The string broke and the diamonds scattered over the floor. The officers picked them up and pressed them to their lips amid shouts of "Vive la Russie! Vive les femmes Russes!"

The Duke of Edinburgh, better known as Prince Alfred, is the brother-in-law of the Czar of Russia. In the event of a war with the Muscovite the Duke will retire to Germany, so Edmund Yates says, and remain until the restoration of peace. Still we can imagine that there will be trouble at the Duke's breakfast table when the dispatches are read announcing that Mr. Bull has just slain a few brigades of Cossacks, or has bombarded a Russian seaport. The Prince of Wales is mildly related to the Czar—they having married sisters—but the relationship is not such as to divide the distinguished families.

The jolly good time the Ameer of Afghanistan has been having with Earl Dufferin calls to mind the smiling self-satisfaction of the (very) green turtle basking in the sunshine on the sidewalk utterly oblivious of the legend chalked on his back: "To be served up in soup to-morrow." Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise. The Ameer seems to be about the only intelligent person in existence who does not know that the question is only which of the two, Russia or England, shall swallow him.

The London *Standard* of the 20th believes that the following are the basis of the reported compromise between England and Russia.

Russia consents to an immediate meeting between Gen. Zelenoi and Sir Peter Lumsden at Pul-I-Khatun, Russia and England having agreed to limit the zone to be debated to the territory between the Lessar line on the South and a line from Ak-Tegre to Pul-I-Khatun on the North, excluding Pul-I-Khatun and including Penjdeh. Russia renews her assurance that no further advance will be made provided the Afghans do not attempt to regain their former positions. The commission are instructed to find a practical frontier North of Merychak and to the South of Pul-I-Khatun, restoring Zulkifar and Akrobat to Afghanistan. Penjdeh is to be ceded to Russia, and a friendly agreement is to be made with the Ameer.

The Supreme Court of Mississippi has decided that the railroad commission created by the last Legislature was a legal tribunal. The court practically holds that every railway train from the time it enters till it leaves the State is within the taxing power of the police regulations of the State exclusively and not of the general government, but the franchise right to affix their rates of charges within the limits provided by one Legislature cannot be impaired by the action of a subsequent one.

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Ex-Secretary of State Frelinghuysen is growing weaker every day.

It is announced that Queen Victoria will soon visit Ireland.

Since England has deserted the Soudan, the Arabs have caught the fever and are deserting the prophet.

Tammany Hall re-elected John Kelly last Monday night, to be grand figure-head of that institution.

The President and several members of the Cabinet will attend the Commercial Convention to be held in Atlanta in May.

Gen'l Lawton has declined the Russian Mission, which was again tendered him on Monday. We would suggest the name of Hon. W. R. Cox, the present able member from the Raleigh district.

There is little doubt that the winter wheat crop has been seriously injured by unfavorable weather of the spring. The Lafayette *Courier* estimates that the crop in Indiana will be 15,000,000 bushels short of that of 1884.

Norfolk was diverted from her Bank failures on Monday by the sudden appearance in her harbor of a Russian war vessel, closely followed by a British war vessel. Both were saluted by our naval authorities, but whether they smiled on each other or not is not stated.

The New York *Evening Post*, denies that Solicitor General Phillips is to be removed, but states that he "expects to retire" whenever the Attorney-General can find a suitable scucessor. There are many applicants, the *Post* says, but most of them are not qualified. North Carolina has had the name of a gentleman on file for this appointment, who is not only well qualified, but would reflect credit upon the whole department. We refer to Judge D. G. Fowle.

"The United States are a successful republic," says the Philadelphia *Press*. "Oh, no! The United States is a successful republic," answers the New York *Sun*. How sad it is to think of the blood that was shed and the money spent in a quarter of a century ago to settle the question whether these United States are a republic, or is a republic, and that the newspapers are not agreed about it yet.—Baltimore *American*.

It certainly is sad to know that respectable authority insists that the late war was fought over a question of grammar, with which all half-grown school boys are supposed to be familiar, observes the Washington *Post*.

HOW BOOTH PASSED THE PICKETS.—"Did you ever know how Wilkes Booth passed the pickets on the bridge of the eastern branch of the Potomac that fatal night?" said my friend. "I will tell you as it was told me by the old sentinel who was that night on duty there. A half hour before the time agreed upon by Booth to meet Harold, the latter, who had lived in the neighborhood of the bridge all his life, and who was across the river in the little village of Uniontown then, crossed the bridge to come over on the Washington side. "Who goes there?" said the sentinel on the bridge. "A friend, going for a doctor;" replied Harold. "Pass," said the sentinel. He quickly rode up Eleventh street to Pennsylvania avenue and Eighth street, and there in the darkness waited until the thundering hoofs of Booth's horse were heard coming down Pennsylvania avenue. The two horsemen then started down Eighth street toward the bridge on that ride for their lives, which ended in Garrett's burning barn in Virginia, a hundred miles away. "Who goes there?" rang out on the air from the startled sentry as the two horses came rushing toward the bridge. Harold was ahead and cried out, "A friend, with the doctor.' The two men passed over the bridge, and it was perhaps several hours after the reverberations of the horses' hoofs had died away before the sentry knew who the men in such a hurry really were, and when he found out he was nearly scared to death for fear he had failed to do his duty.—*Phil. Times.*

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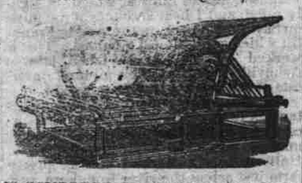

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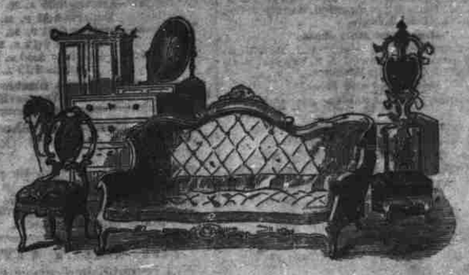

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