

Commissioners' Election.

At the election held Thursday for Commissioners of Town, the vote cast was very small, amounting to only 271, all told.

Some votes were cast for another ticket composed partly of the same names with those on the "old Board" and partly of other names—all no doubt good men and true—but under existing circumstances there was no desire for change, and therefore no serious opposition.

Thursday Coroner I. J. Jones held an inquest over the dead body of a negro named Sam, the property of C. B. Miller, Esq.

High Prices for Negroes. Dr. C. T. Murphy, of Sampson County, sold to J. A. McArthur a negro man 23 years old, 6 feet 2 inches in height, weighing 221 pounds, well muscled, a good cooper and field hand, in fact a perfect negro, for \$1,650.

A correspondent of the Petersburg Press, says that Judge Douglas has done everything in his power to secure Bocock's election as Speaker, by reasoning with the few refractory Democrats.

The latest accounts from Mexico leave little doubt that the scale has turned decidedly and irrevocably against the "Liberals," and in favor of the Centralists or Church party.

By the time our paper goes to press, the negroes, Copeland and Green, will have been hung. In the afternoon Coppie and Crooke. We had understood that the order would have been different—that the white men would have got the first chance, but the Virginia papers state it as above.

This will end most of the excitement for the present, and Charleston and Harper's Ferry will subside into their normal condition, or nearly so—for their doing so fully may be doubted.

PROGRESSIVE.—We have before us a very neatly printed newspaper called the Daily Nebraska, published at Omaha, N. T., on the 7th day of December, the daily issue to be continued during the session of the Legislature, which convened on the 5th.

BEAUFORT, N. C., 14th Dec. 1859. The Conference was assembled at 10 o'clock in Purvis Chapel, the Rev. J. B. Early in the Chair.

Rev. Wm. E. Fell was appointed Secretary. The following Committees were appointed: On Books and Periodicals—Messrs. Barringer, C. P. Jones, Burkhead, Cunningham and W. S. Chaffin.

On Education—Messrs. Deems, Tillet, Reid, J. H. Wheeler, Doubt, Wilson and D. B. Nicholson. Dr. Deems requested to be excused from serving on the Committee of Education. He was excused. Rev. Mr. Shell was appointed in his place.

On the Committee on Sunday Schools—Rev. J. T. W. Whitcomb and F. Moore, and Wm. H. Bobbitt. On the Committee on American Bible Society—Messrs. Hudson, Barrett, and Moran.

On the Committee on Parsonages—Rev. Messrs. Carraway, M. C. Thomas, and J. N. Andrews. On the Committee on Necessitous Cases—Rev. Messrs. Church and Floyd.

On the Committee on the Review of Character. Rev. N. H. D. Wilson, Burkhead, Bethel, Reeks, Reid, Pepper, Norman, Phillips, Lewis, Simpson, Barringer, J. B. Martin, N. F. Reid, H. T. Hudson, S. F. Decker, W. W. Albee, Albert, Anderson, Holsbach, I. Wyche, J. W. Floyd, P. M. Barrett, Mann, Keerns, Clegg, Gibbons, W. M. D. Moore, Hooker, Yarrell, Thomas, Deems, Guthrie, Harris, Cunningham, Carraway, Richardson, Colver, Bibb, Taylor, Bobbitt, P. Deuts, Weaver, O. J. Brent, Tinnin, Tillet, Chaffin, Adams, Gray, D. W. Doubt, Henderson, H. Gray, (who was superannuated), Farrar, J. Reid, Campbell, Jordan, Maynard, B. F. Long, T. Moore, J. P. Moore, Alfred, Johnson, Ricard, King, Heflin, Cross, Brent, Walsh, Jere, Johnson, Shell, Fisher, Davis, Gunn, Jones, Tucker, and Hill.

Rev. Geo. W. Deems, father of Rev. Dr. Deems, who located at the late Virginia Conference, was re-admitted into the North Carolina Conference. The Bishop announced that he had laid over the character of Rev. D. B. Nicholson, because he had heard that there were complaints. This alludes to the charge to be brought against Mr. Nicholson by Rev. W. Carter, the person who made the violent and abusive attack upon Dr. Deems, through the press, which attack has been pronounced by the church to be "wholly false."

Mr. Nicholson presided over the committee which tried Mr. Carter for the libel, and from all we hear did everything possible to help him. In return he is to be tried for maliciation. So cases the world. The community has hoped that the parties would let this matter die, but Dr. Smith's party kept up the fire. We shall see what is to be done and full report made.

Immediately upon the adjournment of Conference, Rev. Mr. Nicholson, President of the Missionary Society, called that Society to order. The following officers were elected: Rev. D. B. Nicholson, President; Rev. J. H. Wheeler, Secretary; T. H. Selby, Esq., Treasurer.

The evening board brought several additional ministers—Rev. Mr. Heflin, Editor of N. C. Advocate; Rev. W. Carter, and Rev. Mr. Archer, of Va., Mr. Carter's counsel to prosecute Rev. Mr. Nicholson. The citizens are doing all they can to make visitors happy, and a pleasant state of things prevails.

We think there can be little doubt of the eventual election of Sherman, the Republican candidate for speakership of the House. Three of the anti-Loompotters, have already voted for him. These three are Hickman and Schwartz, of Pa., and Haskins, of New York. These men are already Republicans.

A little manœuvring, like that practiced on Thursday, will elect him, even if he gets no more votes than the 110 already cast for him. A few more pairings off, or neglects, or refusals to vote, will leave 110 a majority of all the votes cast.

We don't know, but it would be about as well to elect him at once, as to consume as long in doing it, as was consumed in the selection of N. P. Banks. We don't think that in the event of Sherman's election merely, the Southern Senators and Representatives ought to desert their posts. These on the ground have a better chance to judge, but that is our notion.

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"P. W. ARCHER, Counsel." "R. M. College, Va., Oct. 7th, 1859." FROM OUR TEXAS CORRESPONDENT. WASHINGTON, TEXAS, December 21, 1859. "The Weather." Messrs. Editors: Supposing that you might be glad to hear from me from time to time, I have concluded to try and inform you of the state of things at this time. Up to this time we have had a remarkably warm winter; even up to last night the thermometer stood about 75 degrees above zero, and up to ten o'clock last night it was very warm.

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"The yellow fever has been raging in Galveston, Houston, Hempstead, Cypress City, Montgomery and several other cities and towns in this State, but we hope this spell will check the fatal disease. Our town is filled, and has been for two months past, with the citizens of the different places awaiting for the fever to abate so they may leave with impunity."

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ENORMOUS GROWTH OF TAPE WORM.—A very remarkable fact in relation to the value of an organ, or muscle, of squaw seeds, in expelling that really frightful and singularly organized worm, which takes possession of the stomach and intestines, occurred a few days since in the neighborhood of Boston. A lady who had suffered exceedingly from the presence of this parasite, guided principally by the printed directions given by Richard South, Esq., of this city, who has been writing in his humane efforts to make the remedy known, has good reason for believing that she finally triumphed, and is now free from further annoyance in that respect. Her husband stated to a physician on Wednesday, that at least one thousand feet of tapeworm had been avoided by taking the new preparation. One hundred feet have on several occasions been expelled, after taking a dose. From an inspection of portions preserved in alcohol, it seems probable that several worms of uncommon length, have existed in the intestinal tube at the same time. The annals of medicine hardly present a parallel in this or any other country.—Boston Traveller

Also, a letter from T. O. Summers, which was similarly referred. Also, a letter from Rev. Dr. Taylor, which was referred to the Committee on Sunday Schools. The following Communications were referred to the Committee on Education, viz: From President Jones, of Greenboro; from President Craven, of Trinity; from Lenoir Institute; from Glen Arden Seminary; from Rev. Mr. Hines, Agent for Wayne Female College.

The following were appointed a Committee to direct the appropriation of the funds collected by Mr. Hines, viz: Messrs. Fisher, J. B. Martin, and Jas. Brent. Rev. Mr. Bayley, of Va., author of "Confessions of a Converted Infidel," was introduced to the Conference. (Rev. Mr. Rouze, of Va., was presented yesterday.) Rev. C. S. Campbell was located.

Rev. Mr. Martin presented a report, as did Rev. Mr. Andrews, both agents for Trinity College. Referred to Education Committee. Rev. Dr. Craven was admitted to membership in the Conference, as was Rev. Mr. Burton; the latter was also elected to Elder's orders.

The following Deacons, viz: A. W. Mangum, Geo. E. Wyche, Wm. C. Gannon, James F. Snoot, A. D. Betts, J. S. Long, J. B. Bailey, passed an examination of character. When Dr. Deems was called upon to represent the case of the Rev. Mr. Long, from your city, he told the Conference that Mr. Long had probably many equals in the Southern Church, but probably no superior in America.

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Further Foreign Items. The steamers Nova Scotian, from Liverpool at Portland, and the Bremen, from Southampton, at New York, both with dates to the 30th ult., arrived on the 15th inst. The papers bring us a few additional items which we give as follows: The invitations to the European Congress have been issued, and it is to meet early in January.

Queenstown, Thursday Afternoon, Dec. 1.—The steamer Queen's Head arrived at Harcourt, and the steamer City of Baltimore arrived to-day. Paris, Wednesday.—The rentes have declined, on account of rumours of a bombardment of Tangier by the French, to 70f. 30c.

THE EUROPEAN CONGRESS.—The London Morning Post says that Austria still holds out against the terms proposed by France, and supported by England, for going into congress. The text of the treaties recently signed at Zurich have been published, but contain nothing not already known. The effective force of the Prussian army has again been reduced.

The difficulties made by Tuscany in the matter of the delegation of the regency of Central Italy to Buoncompagni have not been settled. The Assemblies of Central Italy are to be convoked and the return of Garibaldi is demanded. MOROCCO.—Accounts from Morocco state that 4,000 Moroccos atacked, for the third time, the redoubt before Seville, but were completely defeated by the Spaniards. FRANCE.—The battery erected at Harcourt to command the mouth of the Seine, has been completed.

SPAIN.—The Bank of Barcelona has offered to the Spanish government an advance of five million reales, with interest for all the time the war with Morocco may last. MARKETS.—The sales of cotton at Liverpool during the last two days foot up 2,000 bales, including 2,000 bales taken for speculation and export. The market closes generally unchanged. Inferior qualities are difficult of sale.

Breadstuffs close quiet, but prices steady. Corn has a declining tendency. Provisions are quiet. Liverpool Produce Market.—Rising closed dull. London, Dec. 1.—Consols 96 3/4 96 3/4. From the U. S. Economist. Cottons.—No. 2. In the preparation of these papers, we are aware that much of the detail noticed may not be of value to the practical spinner, the facts being already familiar to him; but as the incidental object is to make them interesting to the general reader, we shall be more minute than would otherwise be necessary.

The first operation after cotton is received, is to open it to fifty bales, as circumstances may admit, and form a big or bunker of cotton—the object of which is to properly mix the staple; as many different qualities are found in the different bags, and such mixture should be made so as to insure a yarn of uniform quality. This is too often omitted altogether in this country, or is done in an incomplete manner, but its importance cannot be over-estimated. The manner of making a big in the manufactories of England is described as follows: "Every bag or bale that is to be mixed should be brought forward one by one, opened and spread out equally over the whole surface of the big, beginning at the bottom, and so on, alternately, layer above layer, or bag above bag, and pressed down, exactly in the same manner as building a hay stack."

The big being formed, the cotton is taken from one side, from top to bottom, either by hand, or in the more approved way, by the use of an instrument resembling a gardener's rake, which operation is considered by some to be nearly equal to the subsequent process of passing it through the willow. It may be observed, that a more equal mixture can be obtained with a big of equal bales, than with a less number; therefore, space will be required in the picking-room sufficiently large to admit that quantity, besides the machines which prepare the cotton for the cards. This picking-room should occupy a wing of the main building, 30 feet by 70, for a mill of four thousand spindles—a less number of spindles, requiring less consistent and regular production, and should be separated by a wall of sufficient thickness to prevent fire, to which it is peculiarly liable, extending to the other departments. Many of our mills, indeed a majority of them, have a small space in the main building reserved for their picking-room, sufficient to open only four or five bales of cotton at one time, and one sufficient to receive the willow and lay it out in a row. This is designed to open the cotton and free it from the tangled mass, and generally consists of a cylinder punctured with iron teeth, making 1800 to 2400 revolutions per minute, and which destroys the staple in a greater or less degree. This may not be discovered by the casual observer, in the coarse of his ordinary duties, and has not been generally known, until its use in the earlier history of manufacturing, for its wonderful capacity in opening cotton, as well as the small space required in its management. We are happy to know, however, that its use is being abandoned by the most practical spinners, as entirely unfitted for the purpose designed to it, or its comparative use in use in more than one half of the mills in the United States at the present time.

We have previously remarked, that at an early period, in order to clean the cotton, it was spread in small quantities on an elastic table of tasselated cords, through the meshes of which the seeds and dust were made to fall, by beating it by hand with a wooden comb or spring of the tassel, and the willow or entanglements of the fibre. Afterwards the willow was brought into general use for opening the staple. Its object was to clean the cotton slightly by a winnowing action, and was simply a cylindrical cage made of willow, with a rotary axis and cross arms. From this all machines designed for that purpose have derived their names, and the principle of their construction they are entirely different. The cotton was put into the hopper near the upper end, and on turning round the axis it tumbled down the inclined plane, passed out the bottom, discharging in its progress through the interstices of the willow wands, the earthly impurities, and afterwards passed through the spreading matter, which was designed to separate the staple. This simple machine being used, which consisted of a series of rods made to strike upon a table of cords, in imitation of beating by a number of hands—each series of rods, after giving a flat blow, was drawn horizontally by a sliding motion, and then raised vertically to discharge another blow by certain combinations of power, which were derived entirely from the hand, but in a somewhat complicated way, supported by other machines greatly inferior in every respect.

At the present time, the most approved openers are substantially of this construction. They do not have the tasselated cords, but in their stead is used the raw hide, with perforations to allow the dust and extraneous matter to pass, and the willow is used to separate the staple. This simple machine being used, which consisted of a series of rods made to strike upon a table of cords, in imitation of beating by a number of hands—each series of rods, after giving a flat blow, was drawn horizontally by a sliding motion, and then raised vertically to discharge another blow by certain combinations of power, which were derived entirely from the hand, but in a somewhat complicated way, supported by other machines greatly inferior in every respect.

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BY TELEGRAPH.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 15th, 1859. SENATE.—Masson's resolution of Inquiry in reference to the circumstances connected with the seizure of the U. S. Army at Harper's Ferry was unanimously adopted yesterday.

HOPE.—Another vote was taken for Speaker yesterday, without exhibiting any material change. TEXAS SENATOR. GALVESTON, TEXAS, Dec. 14th, 1859. Wigfall has been elected to the U. S. Senate by a majority of two over Houston. This is a victory for the regular Democratic organization over the friends of Sam Houston. Considerable excitement prevails.

LATER FROM EUROPE. PORTLAND, ME., Dec. 16th, 1859. The Steamship Nova Scotian has arrived at this port, with dates from Liverpool to the 30th ult. The European Congress will meet early in January. It is uncertain whether England will join.

COOKE AND COPPE OUT OF JAIL AND RE-LEASED. CHARLESTON, VA., Dec. 16th, 1859. Yesterday Cooke and Coppie attempted to escape—they got out of prison, but were rearrested and jailed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16th, 1859. SENATE.—Yesterday the Senate merely elected a Chaplain and adjourned over till Monday.

HOUSE.—Two votes for Speaker were taken yesterday.—Sherman 110 votes: Bocock 85 votes. LIVERPOOL MARKET. LIVERPOOL, Nov. 30th, 1859. Cotton.—Market closed nominally unchanged. Previous quotations barely maintained. Manchester advices are favorable. The market closed firm at higher prices.

BREADSTUFFS.—All qualities have slightly declined. RICHARDSON, SPEWCK & CO., QUOTE FLOUR DUL AT A DECLINE OF 1S; and wheat dull at a decline of 2 a 3d per cent. Corn dull and declined 1s per qr.

VERDICT.—New York, December 15.—The Adams Express Company gained a verdict to-day against Nat. Maroney, their former Agent at Montgomery, Ala., for \$53,000.

SUPREME COURT. On Tuesday last the following gentlemen were examined by the Judges of the Supreme Court, and being found qualified, were granted licenses to practice Law in the several Superior Courts of this State: Gilbert M. Patterson, Richmond; W. J. Walker, Martin; F. M. Charles, Elizabeth City; J. W. Hinton, do.; Frank Vaughan, do.; Henry Mullins, Fayetteville; Thos. T. Kenan, Duplin; J. T. Brown, High Point, N. C.; Jas. R. Bulla, Ashboro, N. C.; Nat. Allen, Warren Co.; G. H. Gregory, Washington Co.; L. W. Howard, New Hanover; J. W. Payne, Greensboro, N. C.; Geo. M. Blount, Nash Co.; P. E. Spruill, Warrenton, N. C.; C. C. Jones, jr., Salisbury; Edward N. Hill, Halifax; H. C. Jones, jr., Salisbury; Edward H. Plummer, Warrenton; Jas. A. Wright, Wilmington.

SIXTEEN MONTHS. NEW ORLEANS, December 15.—The Church party in Sonora are preparing for a revolution against Pico, Senor Romero, the new Juarez Secretary of Legation, left this city to-day for Washington. Senor Tjanda has returned to the Juarez Cabinet, which has consented to the ratification of the new Mexico treaty. This document contains a clause, allowing the entry of American troops into Mexican territory for the protection of American interests, when the Government of Mexico does not adequately secure.

ACTING MIDSHIPMEN APPOINTED.—Among the candidates examined, found qualified and admitted into the Annapolis Naval Academy at the commencement of the late academic year, were the following:—James Hoban Sands and Daniel Carroll, of Maryland; William P. Mason, A. P. Beirne, Wm. C. Hutter, Wm. H. Cook, Henry S. Cooke, Robert A. Casm, Freeman Egan, and E. Brady, of Virginia; Richard S. Clegg, of the District of Columbia; James M. Stafford, S. S. Gregory and S. S. Hyatt, of North Carolina; John H. Moore, James C. Long, H. C. McDaniel and Richard S. Jones, of Tennessee; and F. Pearson, Philip W. Lowry, Geo. M. McClure, Geo. W. Wood, Chas. H. Ford, Jr., John C. Fortune, Wm. Hammett, C. W. Tracey, F. J. Naile and Wm. W. Young, of Pennsylvania.