THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1868.

Christmas!

Sound the loud timbrel!

"Blow the great fish-horn and beat the big pan." This is Christmas Day! Who cares for the whistling North wind? Who cares for the sorrow of yesterday? Who thinks of the pain to-morrow? This is Christmas Day! Let the seniors chat, and pipe, and drink. Let the juniors jump, and laugh and joke. Let the little ones chirp, and roll and kick. This is Christmas Day! Let the goblet dazzle the smiling eye. Let the smoking pudding be quickly brought. No cold dish. No cold heart. No cold eye. No harsh tongue. This is Christmas Day! Let the champagne flow. Let good cheer sing. Let sighs fly away. Let grief die out. Let hospitality shine. This is Christmas Day! Let the sweet music of the dinner-bell ring. Let Wit and Beauty skip together. Away with care. Away with sorrow. Away with repining. This is Christmas Day! Let the golden bands of brotherhood bind the land. Let voices rise in fraternity. Let joy beam forth from the clouds. This is Christmas Day! Let the edifice of the happy heart and the warmth of the social hearth brighten every eye. Let the beggar be fed. Let the naked be clad. The sorrowing be comforted. This is Christmas Day! Away with gloomy looks. Away with bitter tears. Bend the skies with your cheers. This is Christmas Day! Bring hither the sweet things, and the play things, and the song of thanksgiving, and the carol of peace. This is Christmas Day! Up, up with the banner of God. Up, up with the gladsome shout. Up, up with the glorious cry—the Christmas cry—the Godly cry, the welcome cry—This is Christmas Day!

Let us keep old merry Christmas. Christ came amid the light of joy and peace. His advent was a world of happiness, a sun of felicity. His presence is health. Away with neglect of the poor. Comfort them. Away with hatred of each other. Away with it. Not so did the Saviour mild, the child of Heaven born. He is the *comforter*. He is cheer and the holy wine. For him

"—— Idume's spicy forests blow,
And seeds of gold in Ophir and mountains glow.
See Heav'n its sparkling portals wide display,
And break upon thee in a flood of day."

Let the East be flooded with the glad hearts of glad men. Let the West be rendered deaf in chanting their joyous canticles. Let the North expand to the magnanimous swellings of an honest and fraternal feeling. Let the South be spicy with the bloom and the fragrance of her own eternal glow of Summer heat and delighted face. Shout, shout the glad carol. Let the birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, the beasts of the field hear, and stand in speaking attention to the wondrous sound of men. Hear, hear the angels sing:—

"The seas shall waste, the skies in smoke decay,
Rocks fall to dust, and mountains melt away;
But fix'd His word. His saving power remains;
Thy realm forever lasts, thy own Messiah reigns."

Cheer, cheer with the angels, the seraphs and the cherubs, and thunder forth again and again—This is Christmas Day!

Daily Journal 25th.

Justice.

This is a Republic where the Will of the People is the Law of the Land. —General GRANT.

Answer Mississippi, Texas, Tennessee, Arkansas, and the rest of those States wherein the bayonet has been made the Executioner and the sword the Judge; wherein the voice of the people has been scouted, and their throats grappled with an iron demon-grasp. Republic! People! Law! Land! Vapid sounds. The tyrants at Washington will dispense Justice! Their dear Reconstruction measures are the very quintescence of Liberty and Truth! GRANT will no doubt "let us have peace." He would not disturb us for the world. He repeats the well known sentence, *the will of the people is the law of the land.* He probably means the will of *his* people, the *gens d'Armee*, is the law which rules more than a third of the entire country. We are not blind. The army actually gives law to the whole country. Some people will smile at this. It is nevertheless true. This is Justice! It is Liberty! It is the Will of the People! It is the Law of the Land! We hope U. S. G. will deal more liberally with us. His *Will* will evidently be something. In thee, O General, we put our trust. Let us never be confounded.

The American Odd Fellow.

A monthly magazine for the Fraternity and the home Circle. New York: John W. Orr, 96 Nassau St., $2 per year. We have received the December issue of this widely-circulated publication, and notice among its varied contents, many valuable contributions; among them: The Misanthrope's Dream—a graphic and thrilling story of the Great West; How our Ancestors lived; Gems of Odd Fellowship; Memories of American Authors; Casuals; The Rising Generation; Mutual Benefit Societies; Odd Fellow's Hall, San Francisco, Cal., illustrated; Grand Lodge Visitations; Ladies' Department; An Odd Fellow Abroad; Official Communications; Correspondence Odd Fancies; Poetry; Miscellany, &c., &.

Another Watch.

The Senate reporter of the *Standard*, one Lieut. H. L. Pike, we learn from that paper, has had a fine gold watch presented him by friends in the Senate. Verily it grows fashionable to present watches purchased with the people's money. Such expensive presents, however, can well be afforded at $8 per diem—not to speak of certain loans (?) made and private funds raised by virtue of votes for the ruin of the State by appropriations of railroad bonds. By the above presentation the big puff of many so-called Senators, who disgrace the capitol by their presence, is now fully explained. It seems to have been a bid, and surely the price is no little for the endeavor to make worthlessness appear as merit and clothe filth with new linen.

Negro Suffrage.

We have labored earnestly and faithfully to prevent universal negro suffrage from being fastened upon this State. We did so from no prejudices to the race; from no wish to deprive them of any right or privilege to which they were entitled or which were necessary to protect them in their rights of person and property. We appealed in the face of the prejudices of our people to grant them the right to testify in the Courts, when we met opposition from Governor Holden, Superintendent-of-Public-Works Harris, Senator-and-Militia-Major-General Jones, and other favorite leaders and office-holders of the Radical party of the present day. We favored it upon principle and because it was right and proper, if not absolutely necessary, that they should be allowed to testify in the Courts. Witnesses should be judged by their credibility and intelligence, and not by the color of their skins. This right was given to them after a desperate struggle, in the face of the votes of almost every friend whom Governor Holden had in the Legislature, several of whom now hold high and lucrative seats in the Radical synagogue by the votes of this same race which they attempted to proscribe.

We in like manner opposed negro suffrage upon principle. We knew before the experiment was tried, as surely as we are convinced now, that there was not enough intelligence or independence among them to exercise the elective franchise for their own or their country's good. We knew that they would be used by designing, and too frequently by bad men, for selfish purposes. Where they were in excess, the responsibility of the representative to his constituents, which is needed even to keep good men at all times reminded of their duties, would be destroyed. Men who owed their election to the ignorance and prejudices of the electors, would want one of the highest incentives of representatives. Nay, those who represent only the more ignorant and ignoble portion of the community are apt to lose their own self-respect, if they ever had any to lose, and degenerate into political thieves and plunderers, if to plunder and rob were not the original motives of their conduct.

We have only to refer to the members of the present General Assembly—for we always like to give application to our remarks—to furnish a "local habitation and a name" to our observations—as evidence of the total disqualification of the negro to exercise the elective franchise. In the history of no State or country can a parallel be furnished of such entire and utter incompetency and dishonesty in representatives than is presented in the Legislature of North Carolina. Such reckless extravagance, such wanton misrepresentation, such contemptuous disregard of local and general interests, such wholesome bribery, corruption, plundering, robbery and stealing, is without limit, as it is without precedent. A generous rivalry between sections for the honorable favors of the State has ended in a corpartnership to deplete the Treasury. Debates in which the learning and integrity of North Carolina combatted in friendly and manly strife for the weal of the State, has now depreciated into petty and disreputable quarrels among *pals* for a division of the spoils. Ignorance, corruption and irresponsibility struts with brazen effrontery in Halls where once intelligence, integrity and responsibility modestly held sway.

The conduct of the New Hanover members furnishes probably the most glaring illustration of the incompetency of the negro to vote intelligently and without prejudice. Abbott, and his successor French, and Estes, who were elected almost exclusively by the votes of negroes, have shown the most wanton and michievous indifference to the welfare of their own county and section. There has been no scheme to injure the commerce and the railroads of this city, to lessen the value of the property and to deplete our population, which has not had an earnest, if not an honest, advocate in them. They have taken the lead in urging the appropriations of vast sums for roads in direct conflict with our interests—yea, have wilfully violated their own chosen constitution to do so. Against the solemn protest of the Stockholders of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, of which Estes is a State Director, he is still endeavoring to place the Chatham Railroad bonds on the markets again.

These men know that if they were responsible to an intelligent constituency there would be no party discipline sufficient to save them from political death. Yet the poor negroes, who must be seriously injured by the votes and influence of such men, will adhere to them from ignorance and prejudice. They know this and cowardly take advantage of it to strike a lick at the welfare of the very people whose prosperity is linked with those whose votes give them the power thus to stab it.

Such are some of the evil results of negro suffrage—evils which cannot be corrected until experience and education qualify this race to use the ballot with independence and without prejudice. This power has been violently and illegally conferred upon them against the judgment of the better class of whites, and we believe prejudicial to their own interest and that of the State. We are the last to advocate any violent prohibition of this privilege. The evil, for such we honestly believe it to be, must work out its own end, and the disasters which it entails must be borne with that fortitude and adherence to principle which have animated our people in other trying ordeals.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22, 1868.

The passage of the bill for the distribution of arms to the "loyal" militia of certain of the Southern States by the House a few days ago, without question from those of the North Carolina delegation who opposed it with so much earnestness at the last session, may occasion some surprise. It will be recollected that the venerable Boyden on that occasion raised his voice against it, and his patriotic appeal to the majority not to arm one portion of the people of his State against the other, and thus inaugurate a neighborhood war that must inevitably result in its utter desolation, did credit both to his head and his heart. Col. Dockery also opposed it in an able speech, and it is not doubted that to the influence of these two gentlemen the inhabitants of those afflicted communities are indebted, in a great degree, for the failure of the iniquitous measure and exemption from its fearful consequences.

When the bill was before the House the other day, Col. Dockery was confined to his bed, and Mr. Boyden's seat was so located and the confusion so great that he could not hear what was being done, and did not know that it had passed until he saw it in the papers. It is fair to presume that the bill could not have been suffered to pass without their challenge had it not been for these unpropitious circumstances.

The illness of Col. Dockery has kept him in bed for a week past, which is especially unfortunate in view of the fact that it was his intention to press his bill for the removal of the political disabilities of several Carolinians, among whom was Senator Purdie, and which failed, I believe, for want of his *personal* influence, and Mr. Purdie, I suppose, has suffered the threatened injustice of the Legislature.

In placing these facts to the credit of the gentlemen mentioned, it is hardly necessary that I should state that the same *political* gulf exists between them and myself that separates the two parties, but thus far, I have found them liberal in their views, and always ready to do all in their power to further the interests of their State, and it is a pleasure as well as a duty to say so.

Congress met yesterday and adjourned till 5th proximo, in accordance with the resolution previously adopted. The meeting was sparsely attended, most of the members having gone off to enjoy their Christmas elsewhere. Washburne (E. B.) was in the chair, by the request of the Speaker, who has gone to Springfield, Mass., to spend Christmas—and thus had an opportunity of showing how well he could fill the place seen to be vacated by Mr. Colfax, and it is thought to have been with a view to this that he was selected. No business was done, and the only important development was the utter unfitness of Grant's late "keeper" for the Speakership. By the way, this position is exciting much attention, and candidates increase daily. Blaine, of Maine, has been in the field for months, and has disgusted many members by his persistent electioneering—his chances, once fair, are growing "small by degrees and beautifully less," and Dawes, of Massachusetts, is looming up, but the end is not yet.

It is now very generally believed that the President will shortly issue a proclamation granting amnesty to all excepted classes, and that the Davis farce will be ended and Breckinridge, and Thompson, and other exiles will thereby be permitted to return to the country they have loved and honored.

Mr. Johnson can do nothing that will more certainly link the Southern people to him with "hooks of steel," than so liberal and just a measure would, and it is hoped that rumor is not at fault in reference to it.

Ex-Gov. Letcher and Col. Jno. B. Baldwin, of Virginia, are in town.

ST TOP.

From the Wilmington Post.

An Act to Amend the Charter of the City of Wilmington.

Sec. 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact, That the act of the General Assembly ratified the 1st day of February, 1866, entitled "An act to incorporate the city of Wilmington," be amended, so that the thirteenth section of the above recited act shall read as follows: that all penalties and fines whatever relating to the city, imposed by an ordinance or regulation of the Mayor and Aldermen of the city or by any ordinance or regulation of the commissioners of the town of Wilmington, heretofore made, or by any act or ordinance hereafter passed, or by any act heretofore passed, shall be recoverable before the Judge of the Special Court of the city of Wilmington, and from any judgment of the said Judge for any penalty or fine or other cause of action, of which he may have jurisdiction, the party dissatisfied may appeal to the Supreme Court in like manner, and under the same rules and regulations as are prescribed in appeals from the Superior Court of this State.

Sec. 2. That so much of the 14th section of the above recited act as may be repugnant to, and in conflict with this act, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. That there shall be taxed against each defendent upon conviction or submission, or who may be adjudged to pay a fine or penalty, the same costs as are now taxed in like cases in the Superior Court for process and service of the same and for the judgment. And all such costs, penalties and fines recoverable and paid as aforesaid, shall be paid by the Clerk of said Court to the Treasurer of the city for the use of said city.

Sec. 4. That the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Wilmington shall pay to the Clerk of said Court, a reasonable compensation in all cases in which the city may be a party, and allow to the Judge such additional sum as they may, in their judgment, deem just and reasonable, not less than five hundred nor exceeding one thousand dollars per annum as compensation for his services in the trial of the above named causes.

Sec. 5. That the Judge of said special courts shall hold the said court daily (Sundays and holidays excepted), and shall have all the power and perform the duties of a Justice of the Peace, and shall receive the same fees as are now or may be hereafter allowed to Justices of the Peace where there shall be no jury trial:

Provided, that no fees shall be allowed said Judge upon the trial of violations of the city Ordinances, or any acts relating thereto, and that the said Judge shall be declared to be the Special Magistrate of the city of Wilmington, all laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 6. That the poor tax levied by the County Commissioners for the support of the indigent of the county of New Hanover which may be levied or assessed upon citizens of the city of Wilmington and their property in the city, shall be collected and paid to the Treasurer of said city by the Sheriff of New Hanover county, and he shall be required to keep a separate and distinct account of said tax levied or assessed as aforesaid, and upon default or failure to pay the same at the time and times that he may be required so to do, it shall be lawful for the city of Wilmington to institute suit upon such Sheriff's official bonds for the recovery of the same, so due the city, by motion before the Judge of the Superior Court after twenty day notice of the motion to the said Sheriff and his securities.

Sec. 7. That the city Marshal shall no longer collect the city tax, and the same shall be collected by a tax collector, to be appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen for that purpose, who are required to fix his salary and fees, and the tax collector so appointed shall be the city Treasurer, and shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office of Tax Collector and Treasurer, be required to enter into bond, with approved security, payable to the city of Wilmington, in such sum as the Mayor and Aldermen shall prescribe, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as tax collector for the city of Wilmington, and the faithfully accounting for, and paying into the Treasury, all monies that may or shall be received by him by virtue of his office, and for any failure in office, it shall and may be lawful for the city of Wilmington to move for judgement before the Judge of the Superior Court for the Fourth Judicial District, against said tax collector and his securities, for all monies which he has failed to pay over as required by this act. Provided, ten days notice in writing of the motion shall have been previously given.

Sec. 8. That it shall be the duty of the Marshal of the city of Wilmington to discharge the duties of Street Commissioner, and any other duty that may be assigned him by the Mayor and Aldermen, not inconsistent with the provisions of this act.

Sec. 9. That all officers appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city, shall hold their respective offices for such term as the Mayor and Aldermen may prescribe, removable, however, at the will of the Mayor and Aldermen.

Sec. 10. That the Mayor and Aldermen may cause an assessment of the real estate of the city at such times and in such manner as they may deem expedient, and shall have power to tax all subjects of taxation, which are now liable to be taxed either by State or county, under existing laws or any laws that may be hereafter enacted; and if any person shall render on account of their personal property, liable to taxation, which, in the judgment of the Mayor or Aldermen is below the value, it shall be the duty of said Mayor and Aldermen to appoint three freeholders, to assess and value the same according to the true cash value of said property; and levy the tax according to said valuation made by said freeholders.

Sec. 11. That the ninth section of the above recited Act be amended so as to require the city Marshal to execute a bond in the sum of one thousand dollars, instead of fifteen thousand dollars as now prescribed by said section

Sec. 12. That it shall and may be lawful for the Mayor and Aldermen of the city to borrow money for the necessary expenses of the city, and issue their bonds for the same, by which the faith and credit of the city shall be bound, and the Mayor and Aldermen shall assess and levy a tax for the payment of such bonds, with the interest thereon.

Sec. 13. That the bonds hereby authorized to be issued shall be numbered, and shall be made payable to bearer, and the Mayor and Aldermen shall require the Clerk of the city to record said bonds so issued in a book to be kept for that purpose, in which shall be recorded the number, date and amount of said bonds. And to whom issued, and for what purpose the same may be issued.

Sec. 14. That the Board of Aldermen of the city of Wilmington shall annually, as soon after their organization as may be convenient, elect by ballot three assessors, and shall, in such a manner as the said Board of Aldermen may determine by any by-laws made for the purpose, define their duties and fix their compensation.

Sec. 15. The qualified voters of each Ward shall, at the annual municipal election, elect by ballot one person in their respective Wards, who shall be a resident of the Ward, to be an assistant assessor. And it shall be the duty of the person so elected to furnish the assessors with all the needful information relative to the persons and property taxable in their respective Wards. And they shall be sworn to a faithful performance of their duty.

Sec. 16. The persons to be chosen by the Board of Aldermen as assessors as hereinbefore provided, shall constitute the Board of Assessors, and for the valuation of property and the assessment of taxes within the corporate limits of the city, shall exercise such powers and be subject to such duties and liabilities as the said Board of Aldermen may by any by-laws determine, and they shall be sworn to a faithful performance of their duties.

Sec. 17. All taxes shall be assessed in the manner prescribed by the laws of the State. Provided, however, that the Board of Aldermen may establish further or additional provisions for the collection thereof.

Sec. 18. The Board of Assessors shall have a Clerk, to be elected by the Mayor and Aldermen, who shall receive a salary not to exceed five hundred dollars per annum. It shall de the duty of said Clerk to make a list of all taxes assessed by the Board of Assessors, also all special and license taxes that may be imposed by the Mayor and Aldermen, said list to be made in duplicate, the clerk to retain one copy, and deliver the other to the tax Collector, taking his receipt therefor.

Sec. 19. The Board of Aldermen shall in such a manner as they may determine, by any by-law, appoint or elect all subordinate officers not herein otherwise directed for the municipal year for which said Board of Aldermen are elected, define their duties, fix their compensation in cases where such duties and compensation shall not be defined and fixed by the laws of the State.

Sec. 20. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen shall, as the laws of the State or the orders of the State Board of Education may direct, provide by taxation and otherwise for a general and uniform system of public schools, wherein tuition shall be free of charge to all the children of the city between the ages of six and twenty-one years, for at least four months in every year: and if the said Mayor and Board of Aldermen shall fail to comply with the aforesaid requirement, it shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and they shall be liable to indictment and prosecution.

Sec. 21. Biennially there shall be elected by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, a committee to consist of one citizen from each ward of the city, who shall have charge of the public schools of said city, and shall be known as the School committee of the city of Wilmington. The duties of the aforesaid committee shall be such as are prescribed by the laws of the State, for township school committees, and said committee shall serve without pay.

Sec. 22. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen shall biennially elect some responsible and well qualified person as Superintendent of the free public schools of said city, at a salary not less than $50 per month, to be paid from the city treasury.

Sec. 23. The aforesaid City Superintendent shall act under the direction of the city school committee: also he shall faithfully observe and execute all rules, regulations and orders prescribed by the General Assembly, or the State Board of Education for the conduct of Free Public Schools and before entering on the discharge of the duties of his office shall take and subscribe the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the State for all who are elected to office.

Sec. 24. That an election for Mayor and Aldermen shall be held annually on the first Monday in January, under such rules as are hereinafter prescribed. The Mayor shall hold his office for one year from the second Monday in January, and until his successor shall be qualified: Of the two persons to be elected as Aldermen from each of the four wards on the first Monday in January, A. D., 1869, one of them shall hold office until the second Monday in January, 1870, and until his successor shall be qualified, and the Mayor shall of the two persons so elected as Aldermen from each ward, determine by lot, who shall hold his office for the longer, and who for the shorter term: At the place of holding said election, the Mayor shall declare who has been elected Mayor and Aldermen as aforesaid, and in the event of a tie between two or more persons having the largest number of votes, the Mayor shall by lot determine who is elected: Provided, nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall in any manner effect or repeal the provisions of an ordinance of the Constitutional Convention entitled "An ordinance amending the Charter of the city of Wilmington;" but that the same shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 25. That sec. 17 of that act of incoporation of the city of Wilmington is hereby repealed.

Sec. 26. That it shall be the duty of the Mayor and Aldermen to appoint, at least ten days before the annual election, three registers for each ward, who shall for the five days preceding the Sunday preceding the election, and on the day of the election, at some convenient place in their respective wards, register the voters of the city, under such rules as may be prescribed by the Mayor or Aldermen; said registers shall also act as inspectors of election, under such rules as may be prescribed by the Mayor and Aldermen, and they shall make the returns to said Mayor and Aldermen, who shall notify the persons elected of their election.

Sec. 27. That the fifth section of the aforesaid act of incorporation, after the words "General Assembly" on the twenty-first line, be amended so as to read as follows: "That there shall be provided by the city one box for each of the four wards and places of election in which the votes for Mayor and the Aldermen for their respective wards shall be deposited, and the voters of all the city shall vote for the Mayor and all the Aldermen on one ballot or slip of paper.

Sec. 28. That all laws and clauses of laws conflicting with or repugnant to any of the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 29. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified Dec. 18th, 1868.

CAPTIONS

Of Laws and Resolutions passed by the General Assembly of the State at its present Session.

ACTS.

1. An act in regard to obtaining license to practice law in this State. [Provides that all persons who have heretofore obtained license from the Supreme Court to practice in the late County Courts shall be allowed to practice in the Superior Courts.]

2. An act to provide for the collection of taxes in Carteret county for the year 1868. (The tax lists were not furnished the sheriff, and in consequence the county is without means of supporting the poor and for the county purposes. This act authorizes the Commissioners to furnish the list and the sheriff to collect taxes.)

3. An act to incorporate the N. C. Mutual Home Insurance Company. (Creates certain parties a body corporate under this name, to insure against loss by fire, lightning or tornado. Requires the deposit of $20,000 with Public Treasurer and a subscribed capital stock of $100,000 before any policy is issued, and authorizes the issue of policies on the mutual and Stock plans.)

4. An act to provide for the registration of voters in all special elections in the State. (Allows all persons heretofore registered to vote in all special elections, and requires all other persons to register before voting, subject to all the requirements of the general registration law of the State.)

5. An act to incorporate the Land and Lumber Company of North Carolina. (Authorizes a capital stock not exceeding $1,000,000, and requires $25,000 to be subscribed before the Company can organize. Purpose of the Company: Erecting saw mills, plaining mills and all kinds of machinery, for the manufacture of doors, sash, blinds, barrels boxes and agricultural implements.)

6. An act for the relief of James F. White former Sheriff of Gaston county.—(Authorizes the collection of arrearages of taxes for 1866–'67, provided that he shall not collect from any person who makes affidavit that he has already paid. Authority ceases July 1, 1869.)

7. An act to amend the charter of the Cheraw and Coffield Railroad Company. [Authorizes the construction of the road from such a point on the South Carolina line as may be selected to a point on the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad at or near Wadesboro', with the privilege of extending the same across the track of said road to the North Carolina Railroad at or near Salisbury. Allows the Company five years to complete road and changes name to Cheraw and Salisbury Railroad Company. Provides against discrimination in favor of either N. C. or S. C. Railroad.]

8. An act for the relief of P. T. Massey and E. G. Hill, of Johnston county. [Parties had been amerced in sum of $1,000 for non payment of taxes. This act remits the judgment and allows their fees.]

9. An act to provide for the holding of municipal elections in North Carolina.—[Prohibits non-residents from voting in municipal elections, and ten days residence constitutes a qualified voter.]

10. An act for the relief of James Ramley, late Clerk of the County Court of Carteret. [Releases him from judgment for failing to return to State Auditor abstract of taxables.]

11. An act to re-enact and confirm certain acts of the General Assembly authorizing the issue of State bonds to and for the Tarboro' and Williamston Railroad Company, and the Chatham Railroad Company.

12. An act to amend the charter of the city of Wilmington.

13. An act to amend the charter of the city of Newbern.

1. Resolutions in favor of Sheriffs. (Allows 10 cents mileage for each mile traveled for making election returns.)

2. Resolution allowing mileage and per diem to members banned by the Fourteenth Amendment.

3. Resolution for recess from December 21, 1868, to Jan. 4, 1869.

4. Resolution providing a Committee of Investigation.

5. Resolution on Tobacco tax. [Requests Senators and Representatives in Congress to endeavor to have said tax reduced to 10 cents per pound.]

6. Resolution for relief of James Cansler, Sheriff of Macon county. (Releases him from penalty for non-payment of taxes in the time prescribed by law.)

7. Resolution in favor of the Clerk of Haywood County Court. [Releases him from judgment of $1,000 for failing to make due return of abstract of taxation to the Public Auditor.]

8. Resolution to raise a joint committee to investigate the management of the bank of North Carolina and bank of Cape Fear. [Empowers the committee to examine books, employ counsel, and send for persons and papers, and report what legislation is necessary or practicable to secure the best interest of the State in these institutions.]

9. Resolution providing for the appointment of a committee to inquire into all the facts attending the purchase of the site for the Penitentiary and other property, with power to send for persons, swear witnesses, and report on or before January 15, 1869.

Wilmington District—First Round.

Magnolia and Kenansville, at Magnolia	January	7, 9 and	10
Clinton, at Clinton	"	16 "	17
Cokesbury, at Academy	"	23 "	24
Wilmington, Fifth Street	"	30 "	31
Bladen, at Centre	February	6 "	7
Elizabeth, at Wayman	"	13 "	14
Whiteville, at Whiteville	"	20 "	21
Smithville, at Zion	"	27 "	28
Onslow	March	6 "	7
Topsail, at Rocky Point	"	13 "	14
Wilmington, Front Street	"	20 "	21

The District Stewards will please meet me at the Parsonage in Wilmington, on Tuesday, February 2d, at 9 o'clock, a. m. Let every pastoral charge be represented.

L. S. BURKHEAD P. E.

STATE NEWS

MEETING OF THE BENCH AND BAR OF NORTH CAROLINA.—In accordance with previous notice, a considerable number of the Judges and Attorneys of North Carolina met in the Senate Chamber, at 2 o'clock P M on Wednesday.

On motion of Jas M McCorkle, Esq, the Hon T R Caldwell was called to the Chair, and on motion of Judge J M Cloud, J M McCorkle Esq. was appointed Secretary.

Judge Cloud stated that the object of the meeting was to interchange views with the Code Commissioners, and to make such suggestions in regard to changing the Code of Civil Procedure as were deemed necessary. He also called the attention of the meeting to several sections of the Code, which, in his oppion, required amendment, and concluded by offering the following resolution:

Resolved, That when the meeting adjourn, it will adjourn to meet on the 7th of January next, and that the Chairman appoint eight members of the Bench and Bar of the State, who are requested to report to said adjourned meeting what beneficial amendments, not inconsistent with the Constitution, can be made to the Code of Civil procedure.

An interesting discussion followed, which was participated in by Hons W B Rodman, J W Osborne and V C Barringer, J M Cloud, W M Robbins and J M McCorkle Esqrs.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, when the Chairman appointed the following gentlemen as members of said committee, to wit: Chief Justice R M Pearson, Justices Reade and Dick, Hons W H Battle, B F Moore, A S Merrimon and S F Phillips, and W H Bailey, Esq.

An enteresting and able communication was read from Chief Justice Pearson, which, on motion of Hon A Mitchell, was referred to the above committee.

W M Robbins, Esq, introduced the following resolution, which was adopted, to-wit:

Resolved, That the members of the Legal Profession of North Carolina be requested to communicate such views as they think useful, in reference to the amendment of the Code of Civil Procedure, to the Chairman of the Committee on that subject, appointed by this meeting.

On motion, the Secretary was requested to furnish a copy of the proceedings of the meeting to the *Sentinel* and *Standard* for publication, and the other newspapers of the State were requested to copy, when the meeting adjourned till the 7th of January next.—Ral. *Sentinel.*

STOCK FARM—DESIRABLE ENTERPRISE.—It will be observed, by the advertisement in another column, that Messrs. Jenkins & Skiles have inaugurated a most important enterprise at Thomasville, viz: A Stock Farm for the purpose of breeding and shipping improved stock. They are only prepared to furnish the Chester hogs at present, but their object and purpose are to supply improved Fowls, Cattle and Sheep by the coming Spring. The Stock they have is warranted to be as good and pure as the United States affords. Some of it was on exhibition at the late Henderson Fair, and received the first premium.

We regard this enterprise as a most important step in the right direction and can not too earnestly commend Messrs. Jenkins and Skiles for inaugurating it. Let our farmers and others at once give it a helping hand. The introduction of superior stock on all our farms will be a new source of wealth and improvement that will tell on the general prosperity.

Raleigh *Sentinel.*

THE DAILY CAROLINA OBSERVER is the name of a new Daily General Newspaper, proposed to be started in Charlotte, N. C., about the middle of January, provided sufficient encouragement be given, by Smith, Watson & Co. Its editorial columns will be sustained by contributions from Mrs. Fanny Downing, Col. H. C. Jones, and other writers of note. They will also issue as soon as possible a Tri-Weekly and Weekly transcript of the same.

Terms: Daily, one year, $6 00, Tri-Weekly, one year, $3 50, Weekly one year, $2 00.

Success to the enterprise.

HOMICIDE AT GREENSBORO'.—We learn that a negro man named Antony was stabbed in a grog-shop in Greensboro', on Wednesday afternoon, by a white man named Osburn, and died shortly thereafter. Both parties were intoxicated.

SUPERVISOR BENNETT.—General Bennett, who has been appointed Supervisor of Internal Revenue of the States of North and South Carolina seems to be in trouble. The Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* says: "Supervisor Bennett of the Carolina District has been ordered to Washington, to answer charges against him—in effect, that he procured his appointment by forged recommendations."

NEWSPAPER CHANGES.—Capt. R. A. Shotwell has disposed of the Western *Vindicator* to Maj. L. P. Erwin, who assumes Editorial control. Capt. S. made the *Vindicator* a sprightly and interesting paper, and we have no doubt that Major Erwin will render it equally so.

The Rev. J. B. Bobbitt takes charge of the *Episcopal Methodist*,—the Rev. H. T. Hudson retiring. Mr. H. has lobored earnestly in the interest of the paper and conducted it with ability and Christian zeal. Mr. Bobbitt has our best wishes for his success.—Ral. *Sentinel.*

SWISS IMMIGRANTS.—The *Standard's* great hullabaloo about the "shameful treatment of immigrants" on the Atkinson plantation, near Goldsboro', proves to be the same atrocious canard that everybody supposed it would. The statement is pronounced false by Mr. Atkinson in a letter in the *Sentinel*, with which a refutation of the charges signed by twenty-six of the Swiss immigrants is published.

THE CHARLOTTE TRAGEDY.—In alluding to this late melancholy occurrence, the Charlotte *Democrat* says "the testimony before the Coroner's inquest shows the murder to have been unprovoked and most brutal and *premeditated*. Not a particle of evidence was produced to show that Mr. Gleason assaulted the negro in any way whatever. A colored policeman and two or three other colored men have been committed to jail as accomplices in the murder."

A VILLAINOUS ATTEMPT to set fire to the Market was discovered by officer McGregor about 8 o'clock last night. A quantity of tarred rope, &c., had been thrown on the roof and there ignited; only the timely discovery prevented a conflagration.

Newbern *Republican*, 23*d*.

FORTY-FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT.—A correspondent gives us the gratifying intelligence, in another column, that R. L. Beall, Esq., the Democratic candidate in this District, has been triumphantly elected to fill the vacancy occasioned by the unlawful exclusion of Maj. Avery. His majority is considerably larger than that given for Seymour and Blair in the District, and in T. R. Caldwell's own county, although he left his official duties to interfere in the election, the Radical majority is greatly reduced. The people of the 41st District have thus signally rebuked the arbitrary and illegitimate action of the Senate in the case of Mr. Avery.—Raleigh *Sentinel.*

FAYETTEVILLE CORRESPONDENCE.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 20th, 1868.

Dear Journal:—A meeting of the citizens of Fayetteville was held in the Town Hall on the 16th inst. (Wednesday), for the purpose of nominating a white Democratic candidate for the office of Mayor, in the election to take place on the 4th of next month. The choice fell, by unanimous vote, upon our much esteemed and valued citizen, R. W. Hardie, ex-Sheriff of the county. Alas! how bootless such an effort to wrest our town from the grasp of ignorance, and corruption, and vileness! On the very day of the meeting the Raleigh papers contained in the proceedings of the General Assembly the substance of a bill designed to deprive a large portion of our good citizens of their rights, and to violate the charter of the town. It has since passed both Houses, and I am stating only the fact when I declare that, by it, the larger portion of our merchants and property-owners, who pay the bulk of the town and county taxes, and without whose aid Cumberland would be impoverished by thousands—yes, hundreds of thousands—of dollars, are not permitted to have a voice in the selection of municipal officers! The Lillys, Steele, Williams, Myrover, Troy, Haigh, Pearce, Hinsdale, Smith, Worth, Utley, Glover, Matthews, and many others not called to mind now, who for years past have devoted their time and means to the establishment of their own and the community's prosperity; who own much of the real estate, help to sustain the credit, and bear the financial burdens of the town, are banned! And this, too, when every dirty negro who loafs about the market place for a day or two can go to the polls and deposit a Radical vote! For who is to say where, and for how long, such beings have been abiding? This misfortune applies to Wilmington as well as Fayetteville; but we, particularly, are outraged, for, as you are perhaps aware, the real or financial unhealthiness of the town proper has rendered the practice of living on Haymount or in other suburbs of the town very common with those doing business here.

Some time since, you will remmember, I mentioned in one of my letters a suit which was alleged to be about to be brought against the "Eagle," published here, for libel and defamation of the character of Judge Buxton. A suit *has* been brought of that character by and against the said parties, though it is somewhat different in character to what was at first supposed.—Instead of being a civil, it has taken the form of a criminal, action, in which the penalty against a defendant would be not damages, but fine or imprisonment. A good many rumors are afloat concerning this case, but with these I have nothing to do. I only know that a preliminary examination has been held before magistrates, and the editor and one of the proprietors of the "Eagle" have been brought forward as defendants. The counsel for the plaintiff is Wm. B. Wright, Esq.; for the defendants, Messrs. T. C. and B. Fuller. It is said that the "Eagle" can bring a very strong counter-suit for libel, with some stunning points; but this is an *ex parte* of which I know nothing. Should the affair progress and actually come to trial, it will eertainly be novel and interesting.

We are now looking with much anxiety to the action of the North Carolina Legislature regarding the appropriation of funds to Internal Improvements. It would appear that at length we are about to have the aid proffered to us which will be requisite to extend our Western Railroad to some point (Salisbury probably) on the North Carolina Road. Such is the extreme weakness of human morality, that those deeply interested in the success of any scheme are little inclined to cavil at the mode of accomplishing it. But I must confess that I can but look with anxiety and foreboding at the spectacle of recklessness and prodigality in the administration of both National and State government.—Essential as the development of our resources undoubtedly is, and important as uninterrupted communication with the great markets of the world is to prosperity and wealth, a contemplation of the already vast debt with which the country has to deal, and the grievous taxes already imposed, may well cause hesitation and trembling at a further involvement where the issue is in the least uncertain. The party in power has somewhat improved on the former motto of faction—"Rule or Ruin." Its maxim undoubtedly is: "Rule by ruining." It is true that those in authority issue written and printed counsel, full of the wisdom of wordiness. Our "bright light" at the State helm recommends "rigid economy in the administration of the government!" What absurd platitudes! What mean mockery! Hosts of paid officers, large salaries for sinecures, $100,000 for the site of a penitentiary, a committee in the General Assembly "nosing" out bribery and corruption (who of the "loil" host at Raleigh is not shaking in his shoes?), a dreadful ten-figured debt, increasing every day—all this is *rigid economy!*

The big, bluffy clerk, Byrnes, at Raleigh, who was allowed to play the tyrant here for awhile, and who, at a past election, posted negro guards around the court house, will, it is thought, be the next President of our railroad. Well, if we get the aid a Radical must certainly get the office—that is part of the plan, and one Radical is about as acceptable as another. But if Byrne's office puts him anywhere near the funds they will be *leveled* as fast as the road.

Our market has been well supplied for the past two or three weeks with provisions. I have lately seen as fine beef here as can be found anywhere, and selling low—six cents for fore and seven cents for hind-quarter. I passed the store of Mr. E. P. Powers, on Upper Hay street, a few days since, and noted on the stalls in front of his door, fine hogs, beef, venison, wild and domestic turkies, ducks, chickens, besides eggs, opossums, squirrels, &c., galore. A good many deer and turkies have been sent down to you, and we get in exchange the inlander's great and rare luxury—the oyster.

Our people have been plesed to welcome on a short visit our patriotic and valued former citizen, Mr. E. J. Hale, Sr. He is looking well, and from what I have learned, is very successful in the change he