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A HOPEFUL SIGN FOR THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

It is much to be hoped that the country has and heard the last of the caucus that was held in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at Washington City, one evening last week. It is pleasant enough to us that talk, it seems, are being taken to bring into place and union the representatives of the people of the West and South. Our readers know that we look to the creation of more intimate relations, social, political and business, with the people of the West, as our Western friends know the evils that grow out of the control of the Federal Government by the money power of the country. We are heartily tired of being ruled by the manufacturers and money lords of the New England States. That rule can be broken up by a coalition between the States of the South and of the West. That coalition can and must be formed, and those of our Representatives in Congress who are wise will at once devote themselves to the task. The addition of a few figures will show, beyond a doubt, that a coalition between the Southern and Western representatives in Congress will control that body, and that this being so, and it being equally apparent that there is an identity of interests between the peoples of the two sections, it surely cannot be a difficult task to form that coalition. It probably must it be easy to bring the South and West together when both are suffering severely from the same cause and in the same way. The South demands a larger and more abundant currency; so does the West. The West demands more abundant and cheaper facilities for transporting its vast products. Southern seaports are even now anticipating their gains when these new lines of transportation shall pour into their warehouses their immense freights, brought from the great country of the Continent. What, then, is to keep us apart? At one time or another, sooner or later, the coalition is inevitable. If our public men do not soon move in the matter, of their own accord, the people will soon force them to do it through compulsion.

As we have said, the caucus on Saturday last was a step in the right direction. "Some six-y members," we are told, were present, and "there was an interesting comparison of views among them." Sixty members make a good beginning. We trust they will not weary in the good work, but trust they will act upon the resolution declaring it to be the purpose of the members of the House of Representatives, whose constituents are interested in the matter of cheap transportation, to direct their efforts to bring about a unity of action among them in regard to the legislation of Congress.

THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

In one of the letters or articles that have appeared in this paper, urgently disuading our people from taking part or lot in the so-called Centennial Celebration of independence, at Philadelphia, in 1876, says the Petersburg *Index & Appeal*, we argued that if the South desired in any way to honor the first announcement of Republican principles in this country, its people ought to honor the 20th of May—the anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration. This view we have again and advocated at various times, taking the ground that there was nothing glorious to us in all the rest of the country, we would, especially, commemorate and have in mind at the ceremonies of their appointed celebration that there would be many reminiscences, some harmful and all painful, of the fallen estate that has been visited on our section by war and conquest; and that it was the part of policy, as well as of dignity and self-respect, not to appear at Philadelphia, in the midst of enemies, to be jostled by their greater material resources and dazzled by their suddenly and suspiciously acquired gains. And though the Declaration of Independence of July 4th was mainly the work of Southern patriots, and the paper itself the production of a Virginian hand, we were willing to forego all these claims on the memories and honors of the day and the deed, so long as our "independence" remained dependence on Radical power, and the free institutions they first founded were mutilated and corrupted by Radical force and fraud. But the Mecklenburg Declaration was not only prior in point of time, but was all our own—all Southern; and here in Carolina, under the vines and figtrees of our own Southern brethren in war and peace, we could give our fathers of the revolution due honor and reverence, and forget for the while all fateful reminiscences of the recent past. We are glad to see that this proposition, which was first put forward in the *Index & Appeal*, has received favorable consideration at the hands of our North Carolina friends, and that a bill has already been introduced in the Legislature making provision for the celebration. The Raleigh News of Monday says:

We are glad that Mr. Johnston, of Buncombe, has renewed in the Legislature his proposition to celebrate the Centennial of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, at Charlotte, on the 20th day of May, 1875, by a grand exposition of the State's products and resources.

We hope the General Assembly will pass the resolutions and that the commission appointed under it will go earnestly to work. Mr. Johnston is entitled to much credit for his interest in this important and patriotic enterprise.

We again commend this motion of Mr. Johnston, and we invite our brethren of the North Carolina press to take up the proposition and to advocate it until it meets with a general favor and emphatic endorsation. The proposition, however, should be enlarged, in accordance with the views that have been already advanced, so as to embrace all the Southern States that do not desire to be present at Philadelphia. Our North Carolina friends are invited to take this modification and extension of their scheme under consideration; and to decide whether they cannot add to the interest and to the advantage of the occasion by making it an exhibition of products and people from all their sister Commonwealths of the South.

CIVIL RIGHTS.

There is considerable difference between theory and practice. Our North Carolina "trooly loil" whites, especially those who hold office by negro votes, are very loud in their protestations in favor of "equal rights." These loyalists, shunned by whites, court the favor of the blacks, and swear eternal allegiance to "civil rights," at least until after the election.

Recently a thick-headed negro, Eppes, the Senator from Halifax, introduced into the Senate of North Carolina resolutions in favor of what he and his negro constituents are pleased to call "civil rights." His resolutions came before that body recently for action. It was with considerable difficulty that the Conservatives of that body could force a vote, and when it did come there was considerable dodging and school-boy excuses from the miserable whites, who were ashamed to record their votes in favor of the proposition, yet afraid to vote against it. A scurvy set! Their very position a disgrace to their race—still wanting the manliness to acknowledge their indebtedness to the negroes.

When a direct vote was forced upon the resolutions out of the eighteen Republican Senators, but six recorded their votes in favor of them; three were absent and nine voted in the negative.

Let us analyze this vote. Of the six who voted in favor of the resolution, three—Eppes, of Halifax, Harris, of Wake, and Hyman, of Warren, were colored, and Hill, of Brunswick, McCabe, of Edgecombe, and Seymour, of Craven, were white. All of these white Senators owe their election to negro voters. Of the nine who voted against the resolutions seven, to-wit: Chamberlaine, of Camden; Ransom, of Tyrrell; Robuson, of Beaufort; Holloman, of Northampton; McCotter, of Pitt; Smith, of Granville, and Long, of Richmond, owa their election to the negro voters of their districts. Two only, Cresmer, of Davidson, and Walker, of Davidson, are returned by white constituencies, and were justified in their opposition to these resolutions, for the white Republicans of the West are hostile to the civil and the political aspirations of the Eastern negroes and their representatives will be sustained in their opposition thereto. Of the three who were absent Mabson was in Washington City appealing to a still higher power to grant them righ's which our Legislature was disposed to deny. We have no account of Grandy, the leader of the Republican party in the Senate and representing a negro constituency. Mr. King, the doughty Senator from Lenior was present but "dodged." When reminded by Mr. Troy, of Cumberland, that he had not recorded his vote upon a resolution involving such important questions to his negro constituents, he retreated behind his parliamentary rights, that being in the lobby "taking a dose of medicine," he could not be compelled to vote. Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. King has in his seat sufficiently recovered to make this point, and was well enough next day to correct the journal of the Senate in regard to his "dose of medicine," he never once recorded his vote.

Now this Mr. King is a Senator from Lenoir, and Collector of Customs at Newbern, receiving pay for both positions, and indebted to the negroes for each, yet was "too sick" to express an opinion upon the "civil rights" of the poor negroes. President Grant has issued an order against a man holding two offices, and the amended Constitution of the State says a man shall not hold two offices, yet King holds two notwithstanding, as sickly as he is, not being able to vote upon questions involving important and vital interests of his negro constituents, because he was called to the lobby to "take a dose of medicine." And his negro constituents will believe him, poor fools. In the face of such action, repeated whenever and whenever these unworthy whites are brought to the test, it is unaccountable to us how they can inspire the blacks with further confidence. Since negroes have been made citizens, and by their votes the State, in its general elections and districts and counties, have been carried for the Republican party, in no single instance has a colored man been put forward for a State office or for any position of profit. Indeed, when they demand of their party an expression of opinion upon which they deem vital, only six out of eighteen Senators are recorded in their favor. And yet only from such loyalists do the negroes of the State find "protection" for their rights and their liberties. God save the mark!

A correspondent of the Santa Rosa (Cal.) *Democrat*, writing from Sonoma, says of the grape crop in that section: Hundreds of tons of Muscat grapes are still ungathered, and the loss by drying on the vines will very sensibly diminish the quantity of the wine made in this vicinity. The quality of the wine will be excellent this year, although the quantity will fall far short of preceding years.

The Modoc war, for a comparatively "small war," attracted a vast amount of attention. Its progress was watched as closely in Europe as here, and the daily phases of the situation was the text at the time for telegrams across the Atlantic. They are now counting the cost of that little Modoc war in the war department at Washington. The quartermaster-general reports that with some as yet unascertained expenditures, which, however, are small, the Modoc war cost $335,009 78. This is exclusive of the pay, clothing and armament of the troops engaged. To catch these warriors, their squaws and pappooses, cost about $2,000 each.

MORE TAXATION—TEA AND COFFEE.

Now that the Radical party, by its ignorance and corruption, and extravagance, by its unlawful interference in the business affairs of the country, by its incompetence to administer the affairs of the government, has brought ruin and debt and disaster upon the country, the Secretary of the United States gravely proposes to increase the taxation! After thirteen years of unlimited power, after thirteen years of absolute Radical rule and dominion, both under Radical Courts, under Radical Congress, and under Radical armies, the country finds itself groaning under an enormous debt, a debt so great indeed that its very enumeration is bewildering, and in the midst of a terrible panic.

Not even the vast revenues of this vast country that produce annually three hundred million dollars worth of one article alone, was sufficient to satisfy the greedy maw of the Radical party. Extravagance and corruption have disgraced every department of the government. For thirteen years has the country been degraded by this humiliating state of affairs; for thirteen years have these people gloried in their shame.

But retribution has at last overtaken them. It is said that Mr. Richardson, the Secretary of the Treasury, can see the bottom of the money chests of the Government, and that the sight is not a pleasing one to him. He is now begging Congress to pass new tax bills to fill up his empty coffers. The business of the country has been so broken down by the Radical party, that the receipts from the revenue collections are wholly insufficient to meet the wants of a government administered upon Radical ideas of economy.

And what does Mr. Richardson the Radical Chief of the Federal Treasury propose to tax in order to raise the money necessary for Radical extravagance? He proposes to tax tea and coffee! And these articles are selected he says, because "taxes upon them are easily collected and are not burdensome to the consumer." It may be that the tax will be easily collected, and it may be that it will not be burdensome to the consumer because a heavy tax on tea and coffee will place these articles beyond the reach of all but rich people.

But the money must be raised and it matters little to the Radical Treasurer how or from what sources it may come. The government must have money even if the people do suffer. What do the sufferings of the people count for when they are necessary to insure the ease and comfort and luxury of Radical officials? Nothing at all.

More taxation! What a confession of incompetence? The business of the country has so fallen after thirteen years of Radical rule that the Radical government in the very midst of the most burdensome monetary pressure that has ever afflicted the country is obliged to raise its rates of taxation. It does not seem to have occurred to the Radical Chief of the Federal Treasury that as the revenue receipts diminished so ought the government expenditures to diminish. The only thing that occurs to him is that he must have a certain amount of money, and of course, this being so, just as the amount of business in the country diminishes must the rate of taxation increase. Congress is squirming at the prospect, but it is too late. A bankrupt government or an increase of taxation, or a new borrowing of money in some shape or other, or retrenchment and reform are the only alternatives. Oil and water will mix as soon as Radicalism and retrenchment will go hand in hand. Manufacturing New England and the money sharks generally would see everything brought to the sheriff's hammer before they would consent to any further increase in the currency. Nor will a bankrupt government be pleasant to Radical officials. Lookout for taxation then. All ye who love tea and coffee, but unfortunately have but little money wherewithal to spend for it, look out for the coming taxation.

ENGELHARD.

We notice in the proceedings of the House Thursday, that Mr. Carter introduced a bill to incorporate the town of Engelhard, in Hyde county.

This town is named in honor of our distinguished friend and *confrere*, Major ENGELHARD, of the Wilmington JOURNAL, and is a compliment to that gentleman which is doubtless duly appreciated.

Who knows but what the town of Engelhard, situated in the fertile county of Hyde, will be some day a great commercial centre! Stranger things have happened.

Our cotemporary, the Raleigh *News*, from which we extract the above, conveys to us the first information of the compliment which has been so kindly tendered the Senior Editor of the JOURNAL. The *News* is not mistaken in saying that it is "duly appreciated." Coming either from our personal friends in that County—many of them companions in arms—or from the numerous patrons of the JOURNAL in Hyde, it is a compliment which we most highly esteem and appreciate. It has never been our pleasure to visit that County, but we shall endeavor to be present at the first reception of the Mayor of the new town. May it prosper, is our wish.

A paper church building is said, by the *Journal of the Society of Arts*, to have been built in Bergen, Norway, a city of nearly three hundred thousand inhabitants. The building is circular within and octagonal outside. The pillars outside, the statues inside, the roof, the ceiling are all constructed of papier mache, made water-proof by saturation in vitriol, lime water, whey and white of egg. The church building has space enough to accommodate one thousand people.

The latest news from Salt Lake City represents that a number of newly arrived Mormons—converts from England and other European lands—are so impressed with the realities of Mormondom that they are going back to their old homes, disappointed and disgusted.

Circular Letter from Hon. A. M. Waddell.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 14, 1873.

Dr. W. H. Howerton, Secretary of State:

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of certain resolutions adopted by the Legislature of North Carolina, duly certified by you, expressive of the sense of that body in regard to the action of Congress in passing the act of March 3d, 1873, relative to the salaries of Senators and Representatives. As there is no resolution requesting the Representatives from North Carolina to present the resolutions to Congress, I apprehend that you forward them to me only as an act of courtesy and as information. If I thought you had been instructed to forward them, this communication would have been addressed to those who instructed you.

It is gratifying to know that even the consideration of those vital questions which affect the credit and character of the people of North Carolina, and upon the settlement of which her future prosperity almost entirely depends, was made to yield to the higher question of national morals involved in the Congressional salary bill. Republican institutions are said to rest solely on the virtue and intelligence of the people, and therefore those who exercise the most assiduous guardianship over these two fundamental elements of free government are the truest friends of the people. If their motives are questioned, as seems to be inevitable, they can at least console themselves with the reflection that virtue is its own reward. I regret, however, that in this instance I am compelled to the conclusion that the resolutions of the Legislature can only be justified upon the very doubtful theory that the moral has kept pace with the material progress of our country, and that the political ethics of modern State legislators are purer and higher than those of the fathers of the Republic and all their successors down to the year of grace 1873. The members of the Legislature had the same right to pass these resolutions which any other assemblage of citizens elsewhere had, but no more. They could give no greater force or dignity to their sentiments, by reason of their position, than the same number of their fellow-citizens not intrusted with the responsibilities of office could; and, therefore, only as the utterance of a respectable number of gentlemen their resolutions are entitled to consideration. I have considered them, and in the exercise of my right as a freeman and of my duty as a Representative, responsible not to the Legislature, but to the people of the Third Congressional District, I shall make such response to them as seems to me to be proper.

The first resolution alleges that the action of Congress "was indefensible in principle and tended to bring our Government into disrepute." That is a very plain statement. Is it true? Let us see. What is the principle involved? If there is one it must be either a legal or a moral principle. There can be no other kind of "principle" in the case. The legal principle is established by the Constitution, or it does not exist. The Constitution expressly and exclusively vests in Congress the power to fix the compensation of members during their term of service. They can fix it at any time during their term—the first, the middle, or the last day of the term, and at any rate they choose. The Forty-second Congress, therefore, had a legal right to do what they did—a Constitutional right exercised in a Constitutional way. Any person who would deny this is not fit to be a legislator anywhere. Very well, their legal right is established. Let us now examine the moral right. What principle of morals did they violate? And how did their action "tend to bring our Government into disrepute?" Admitting the moral superiority of men elected by the people to the Legislature of North Carolina over men elected by the people to the Congress of the United States, it will be difficult, I think, to show that even their superior moral sense ought to be shocked by the salary bill. The violation of good faith, first alleged against the Forty-second Congress, was that they had made an implied contract with the people to serve at a certain rate of compensation, and had violated that contract by increasing the rate. This statement—even if true, and it is not—involves an absurdity. In the first place, there was and could be no such agreement, but if there had been, and Congress had *reduced* my pay, instead of increasing it, would I have had legally or morally any right to complain? If there was an *agreement* I certainly would have had as much right to complain for the *reduction* as the people could have of the *increase*. But there could not be any such agreement; otherwise the pay never could be either increased or diminished.

Again, if there was a contract, such as alleged, have not the members of the Forty-third Congress, who were elected long before the increase was made, and who have been receiving pay ever since last March, been as guilty of violating the agreement as any others? There is nothing in the resolution about them.

There is a great misapprehension in the minds of the people on this subject, which, when I return to my constituents, I expect to show; but I do not propose arguing the subject in this communication. I shall content myself by saying that so far as "principle" is concerned, whether legal or moral, the Forty-second Congress did what they had a right to do, and exactly what every previous Congress which ever voted on the question did, except that they increased the pay less in proportion than any of their predecessors had done. As to their bringing our Government into disrepute, they must content themselves as best they can by remembering that although not so fortunate as the members of the Legislature, they find themselves in this respect the companions in iniquity of George Washington and James Madison, James Monroe and Nathaniel Macon, and other reprobates, who have at other periods of our history brought our Government into disrepute by similar conduct to that with which we are charged; that is, by approving similar bills, and voting for, and taking, "back" pay.

I would have been glad if the members of the Legislature could have been here last Monday to hear a great and good man discuss this subject—a statesman of the old school—a man without fear and without reproach—A. H. Stephens, of Georgia. Like all the other great men whom I have named, he has the misfortune to differ from the Legislature in their estimate of the action of Congress. It was very refreshing to listen to his analysis of demagogues and demagoguery, as illustrated by the history of this salary business. Perhaps some of them have read what he said, and have enjoyed it, as I did.

But if I and my colleagues have fallen short of our duty, or have incurred popular displeasure, there is certainly no body of men who ought to sympathize more deeply with us than the Legislature of North Carolina. I shall not set myself up in judgment upon them, as they have done towards me, but I extend to them my heartfelt sympathy in their earnest but fruitless efforts to adjust the public debt of the State; to relieve the people of the State from the burdens under which they groan; to arrange fairly the railroad system which threatens to be so disastrous to the people of my district particularly; to provide a rational system of common schools for the education and elevation of the poor children of the State; to arrange some system of immigration, and the various other measures which are of such vital interest to their constituents. Doubtless they have done all they could, although without benefit to the people, and it may have been a soothing solace to them in their dilemma to pause long enough to resolve that Congress was doing indefensible things and bringing our country into disrepute. I hope they feel better, and will continue to be virtuous, which is the only way to be happy.—I am satisfied that none of them would have received "back" pay or even "front" pay under the act which they condemn, and that the ambition attributed to some of them, of taking our places here, is prompted solely, if it exists, by a burning desire to aid in repealing all the wicked laws with which bad Congressmen have blackened the statute books. Before concluding, let me say that I heard when the Legislature first assembled that they were all in favor of reducing their pay per diem, but some how they have been unable to accomplish their good intentions. I have heard of whiskey so weak that wouldn't run down hill. How strong is a Legislature which is unanimous for a reduction of pay, but cannot reduce it? With this conundrum I leave you to wrestle.

Respectfully yours,

A. M. WADDELL.

Senator Merrimon on the Currency.

On Tuesday last, while the specie payment and currency question was being discussed in the United States Senate, Senator Merrimon said:

Mr. President, I beg to say a word before the vote is taken. I concur most heartily in what has been said in opposition to private banks. They ought to be regarded as a curse to the country rather than a blessing. The national banks without issue have the advantage, in the first place, of having the sanction of the Government. The public are interested in them because of the security that they afford to the depositor. This proposition, as I understand it, is to reduce the security that the public have in banks of the character under consideration.

Now, let us see how a bank of this kind operates. By the way, in a small town a national bank may be created with $50,000 capital, and the whole amount of stock must be paid in.—Thereupon the corporation has the right to receive deposits and to proceed with the regular business of banking, except that they cannot issue notes; but they may receive deposits, and may receive them to any amount.

Under the national banking system now, what protection has the depositor? First, he has the security of the integrity of the Board of Directors and the officers of the bank; next, he has the security of the paid up capital; next, he has the reserve of 15 per cent in greenbacks constantly kept on hand; next, he has the security of the amount of national bonds which the bank is required to keep on deposit with the Government, the minimum amount of which now is $30,000. This affords a great and important advantage to the public. I understand that this proposition is to reduce that amount to $10,000 so that a bank not of issue may proceed to business with a deposit of $10,000 of Government bonds in the Treasury instead of $30,000, thus cutting down the security to the public. Now, what is the motive for that? What reasonable demand is there on the part of those who desire to engage in the business of banking that this security to the public, to the depositors, should thus be cut down?

It is said that the present requirement of the law is unreasonable, and that is the only consideration I have heard yet suggested for it. Now, sir, I insist that the suggestion is unfounded; that the requirement is not unreasonable; that, on the contrary, so far from being unreasonable, it would be reasonable on the part of the Government, in behalf of the public good, to require a larger deposit of bonds when such privileges are granted. Why? The banker, while these bonds are on deposit with the Government, has not a dead investment. Twice a year he receives his interest at the rate of 5 or 6 per cent. on the amount of his bond deposit with the Government, and, in view of the present monetary condition of the country, and the condition that it has been in since the close of the war, every one of these bankers, from one end of the country to the other, has realized from 1 to 1½ or 2 per cent. profit on the money they bank upon, the deposits that they receive, and they have actually paid the legal rate of interest in many instances to depositors, and then made large incomes by reason of the deposits placed with them.

The point I rose to make is that this is a proposition to reduce the security to the public, to reduce the security to the depositor, and to that extent to do that much injury to the business of the country; to that extent to detract from the worth of the national banking system; to that extent to cut down the security that is provided by the national banking law. I am, therefore, opposed to it. The demand is unnecessary, and it is unreasonable, because the banker who desires to bank in this manner has all the reasonable profit that he ought to command.

I have another objection which I will mention, but one which I will not enlarge upon at this moment, and that is this: I think it is very manifest, not only from what we have witnessed here in the Senate to-day and during the present session of Congress, but also from what we see manifested in the newspapers, that there is to be a decided change in the monetary system of the country. I trust there will be; for while I believe that the national banks have been a great blessing to the country, while they have contributed very much to promote the industrial interests of the country, I think the time has come when there must be a change, and when a different system of banking in this country must be adopted; and if that is so it seems to me that it is exceedingly unwise to burden the country with a great number of banks which, we are told, will be created if this measure shall pass. I trust, sir, that the bill will not pass.

Of the European consumption of tobacco it is estimated that two fifths is furnished by the United States, and that from three-fourths to four-fifths of that consumed in France is rom the United States. This product is in request in Europe for chewing tobacco and snuff; the milder qualities which are obtained from Cuba and the interior countries of Europe, being those preferred for smoking. In many of the European countries the manufacture of tobacco is an important business, as may be inferred by reference to the statistics of tobacco exports.

LOCAL.

Navassa Guano Company.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Navassa Guano Company of Wilmington, held on Friday night, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: Hon. R. R. Bridgers, President, Donald MacRae, Secretary and Treasurer, Col. C. L. Graffin, Superintendent, Walter G. MacRae, Book-keeper.

Gift Concert Notice.

Many of the prizes drawn at the Gift Concert of the Cape Fear Agricultural Association have not yet been called for. Persons holding the tickets with the following numbers on them can obtain the prizes to which they are entitled by applying to Dr. T. B. Carr at his office, No. 38 Market street. Persons holding tickets with other numbers may know from this that their numbers were not drawn. Prizes not called for before January 12th will be sold for the benefit of the Association.

1 6 8, 91 97, 99, 100 101, 102, 2 3 294 298 294, 297 701 705 706, 710, 712, 803 806, 1192 1194, 1110, 1192, 1193, 1 1 1 73 1202 1211 1215 1214 1216, 1220, 1226, 1228 1226 1 29, 1237, 1246, 1 30, 1267 1260, 1262, 1265, 1270 1281, 1297, 1299, 1300, 1701 1304 1305, 1309, 1310, 1312, 13 4, 1315, 1393, 1396 1399 1701 1706, 1709 1710, 1718, 1717, 1718, 1719 1721 17 3 1724 1728, 1729, 1 31, 1732, 1734, 1743, 1752 1 55 1762, 1783, 20 0

Boiler Explosion at Argyle—Two Men Fatally Injured.

Yesterday morning, between 7 and 8 o'clock, the boiler of the steam saw mill of Mr. J. E. Eldridge, at Argyle, in Robeson county, on the Carolina Central Railway, exploded, tearing the mill to pieces and injuring four colored hands, two of whom will probably die. The explosion occurred just as the mill was being started for the day's work and it is not known, as yet, what was the cause. The mill is a perfect wreck and the loss is said to be about $3,000. The men were injured, it is understood, by the escaping steam, all more or less so.

Mr. Eldridge had been in operation with his mill but a few months and the boiler and all the machinery was said to have been perfectly new.

The Explosion at Argyle.

We understand that the two colored men at Argyle who were so badly injured by the explosion of J. E. Eldridge's steam saw mill at that place, on Thursday morning, are still in a very precarious condition, and that but little, if any hopes, are entertained of their recovery.

The explosion was a terrible one, throwing off the entire top of the building, and scattering timbers and irons in every direction, one end of the boiler having been thrown a distance of nearly two hundred yards.

The direct cause of the accident is said to be traceable to a defect in the boiler. We were in error yesterday in saying that the boiler was new. It is not said that it was an old one; that it was known to be defective; that the engineer or firemen had been sent the morning to Abbottsburg to get materials for its repair, and that he strictly charged them, before he left, not to attempt to set up steam until his return. It this is all true, it seems that some one is to blame for the disaster, and we should not be surprised if there was an official investigation into the matter.

THE MARYLAND MYSTERY.

Traces of the Supposed Murder—Tracks Discovered and a Bloody Jacket Found—A Ghost on the Scene.

The Denton, (Md.) Union, has the following in regard to the supposed murder of Phillips, by Blades and Dill:

No further developments have yet come to light by which to detect the hiding place of young Phillips. That he was murdered and the body secreted there cannot even be the question of a doubt. That he was heard to say on the night of the murder he was going to Dill's house, and did start in that direction, is abundantly proven. Since that hour he has not been seen or heard of. His hat was found on the river bank, some twenty yards in front of Dill's house, the next morning. There were marks and footprints near a footpath leading to the house of Dill showing there had been a scuffle as if some parties had been engaged in a tussle, and a fence rail near by freshly broken into three pieces. Also a hoe was found near this spot, supposed to have been used as a murderous weapon. Although the State's Attorney for this county has sent up several parties to drag the river and search the woods and cripples, who have labored diligently, no clue has yet been found whereby to lead to the discovery of the body.

One of the parties sent up the river last week found tracks leading from the river through one of the cripples to the main land, near a mile below the residence of Dill. One of the shoes taken from Dill's foot, having no heel on it, exactly fitted one of these tracks, and showed the impression in the soft mud of no heel on the left foot and other distinguishing marks left by the sole of the shoe. Other tracks corresponded exactly with a boot worn by Blades; the nails in the heel of the boot and a piece of leather which had been pegged on to one side of the sole having left the impression in the mud as clear and as distinct as ever a pattern was moulded in the sand by the most skilful moulder. These tracks, after leaving the cripple, led towards Dill's house. This party also found near the house, hanging to a tree, an old jacket, having on it spots of blood. It showed evidence of having been recently washed, no doubt, with the intention of destroying all traces of blood upon it.

Dill's wife is much troubled at the fate of Phillips, and seems to manifest great interest concerning his murder. She has been heard to say that she had rather lose John (her husband) and all the children, than that Phillips should have been murdered. There can be no doubt of the intimacy existing between Mr. Dill and Phillips, and this, too, with the full knowledge of Dill himself. She has frequently sent her husband from home to invite Phillips to the house when he has been in the neighborhood, and other times he would come and go at his pleasure.—Only a week before the murder, Phillips paid a visit to the house, stayed all night, and was ferried across the river by Dill himself the next morning.

The two prisoners now in jail, Dill and Blades, resided in the same house. Blades was only married last October and has no children. The wives of the two prisoners, since their arrest, have continued to abide in the same house until last week. At the witching hour of midnight they either saw or heard, or fancied they saw and heard, the ghost of young Phillips, which had returned to torment them. They then became terribly alarmed, deserted the house, and without waiting to fasten the door, fled in haste to the house of a colored man, a quarter of a mile distant, and there spent the remainder of the night. The next day Blades' wife gathered up her personal effects and left the scene of the murder entirely.

The two prisoners in jail are very reticent, and deny all participation in the crime or any knowledge of its perpetration. Blades is a young man, and from appearances we would not suppose him to be over 26. Dill is about 88 years of age. The character of neither is said to be above reproach.

APPOINTMENTS.

North Carolina Annual Conference—M. E. Church South.

RALEIGH DISTRICT.

W. H. BOBBITT, P. E.

Raleigh,
" Edenton St—A W Mangum,
" Person St—H P Cole,
Cary—T B Rocks,
Rolesville Circuit—J E Thompson,
Smithfield—J F Smoot,
Tar River—H H Gibbons,
Louisburg—F L Reid,
Granville—J R Griffith,
Rock Spring—M J Hunt,
Henderson—A A Boshamer,
Nashville and Ricketts—L J Holden,
Wilson Circuit—T C Moses,
Editor Christian Advocate—J B Bobbitt.

HILLSBORO DISTRICT.

J. P. MOORE, P. E.

Hillsboro—J F Harriss,
Alamance—R S Webb,
Chapel Hill and Haw River—J B Martin,
Pittsboro—W H Moore,
Yanceyville—J Tillett,
Deep River—H F Wiley,
Leesburg—J W Jenkins,
Person—W M Jordan,
Durham—J J Renn,
High Rock—C W King,
Flat River—Sup by W R Webb.

GREENSBORO DISTRICT.

N. H. D. WILSON, P. E.

North Guilford—S H Helsabeck,
South Guilford—R G Barrett,
Thomasville and High Point—C M Pepper,
Davidson—C H Phillips,
Trinity—J W Lewis,
Carraway—I F Keerans,
Forsythe—Z Rush,
Winston—J F Heitman,
Stokes—J R Scroggs,
Madison—L E Stacy,
Wentworth—W C Norman,
Trinity College—B Craven, and B B Culbreth, Agent.
Greensboro Female College—L L Hendren.

SALISBURY DISTRICT.

M. L. WOOD, P. E.

Salisbury—L W Crawford,
" Circuit—T L Triplet,
Mt Zion—T A Cash,
Statesville—J W Wheeler,
" Circuit—J N Somers,
Mocksville—L Shell, W C Wilson, Sup.
Iredell—T P Riesud,
Alexander—N G Whittington,
Wilkes—W M D Moore,
" Mis.—Sup by J W Cash,
Yadkin R—R T N Stephenson, J D Rue, Sup.

SHELBY DISTRICT.

L. S. BURKHEAD, P. E.

Shelby—H T Hudson,
" Circuit—J W North,
Double Shoals—R P Bibb,
South Mt Mis—D P Good,
Cherry Mt—J C Smith,
Rutherfordton—S Leard,
Columbus Mis—E Howland,
Marion—J C Crisp,
Upper Branch Mis—J M Lumley,
Morganton—J S Irvin,
Lenoir—J W Ivey,
Happy Home—J C Hartsell,
Newton—P L Herman,
Rock Spring—J W Puett,
South Fork—T H Edwards,
Dallas—P F W Stamey,
Lincolnton—V A Sharp,
Davenport College—W M Robey, F J Gattis, Agent.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT.

W. S. BLACK, P. E.

Wilmington,
Front Street—R S Moran,
Fifth Street—W N Conoley,
Topsail—John Jones,
Kenansville—C M Anderson,
Magnolia—James Willson,
Clinton—J B Alford,
Cokesboro—J Mahoney,
Bladen—Miles Foy,
Elizabeth—J T Bagwell,
Whiteville—W H Hoyle,
Smithville—I W Avent,
Onslow—W R Fergerson,
Cape Fear Mis—J W Abernethy,
Church of Strangers, New York—Charles F Deems.

CHARLOTTE DISTRICT.

JESSE S. NELSON, P. E.

Charlotte—P J Carraway,
Col Mis—Sup,
South Charlotte—P Greening,
Pineville—W D Lee,
Pleasant Grove—T P England,
Monroe—W V Sherrill,
" Circuit—M S Boyles,
Concord—D R Bruton,
Mt Pleasant—J P Simpson, W S Roan, Sup,
Stanley—W H Watkins,
Ansonville—A D Betts,
Wadesboro'—O J Brent,
" Circuit—Guyn,
Lilesville Circuit—J Sandford,

FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT.

S. D. ADAMS, P. E.

Fayetteville—E W Thompson,
Cumberland—W S Challin,
Robeson—I T Wyche,
Laurinburg—T W Guthrie,
Rockingham—J Wheeler,
Pee Dee—T A Boon,
Lumberton—G Farrer,
Montgomery—Sup by Minter Johnson.
Carthage—L H Gibbons,
Jonesboro—B C Phillips,
Buckhorn—J B Baily,

WASHINGTON DISTRICT.

WM. CLOSS, P. E.

Washington and Greenville—A R Raven.
Warrenton—R F Bumpass,
Warren—S V Hoyle,
Roanoke—R O Burton,
Tarboro—C C Dodson,
Williamson—W H Call,
Plymouth and Jamesville—F D Swindell,
Columbia Circuit—Sup by G W Heptinstall,
Bath—by L L Nash,
Mattamuskeet—S D Peeler, J A Hill Super,
Portsmouth and Ocracoke—Supplied,
Cape Hatteras—W B Maness,

NEWBERN DISTRICT.

E. A. YATES, P. E.

Goldsboro—J E Mann,
Wilson—F H Wood,
Wayne—R A Willis,
Mt Olive—J N Andrews,
Kinston—J R Brooks,
Snow Hill—M C Thomas,
Neuse—L W Pigott.
Swift Creek Mis—Supplied,
Contentnea Mis—Supplied,
Jones—W H Cunningim,
Lenoir—Sup by A J Finlayson,
Newbern—W C Gannon,
" Circuit—D Culbreth,
Beaufort—J H Wheeler,
Trent—N A Hooker,
Straits—A M Gault.

For Loss of Appetite, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Depression of Spirits and General Debility, in their various forms, FERRO-PHOSPHORATED ELIXIR of CALISAYA made by CASWELL, HAZARD & Co., New York, and sold by *all* druggists, is the best tonic. As a stimulant tonic for patients recovering from fever or other sickness, it has no equal. If taken during the season it prevents fever and ague and other intermittent fevers. 4w

Death in the Eye.

Colonel Bill Borlin was the *generalissimo* of the Texas Lynchers in the early history of that State. He well deserved the title which he had won by many a desperate deed. He possessed such incredible skill in the use of all sorts of murderous weapons, that it might be pronounced virtual suicide to even think of encountering him, so rapid was his motion, so unerring his mortal aim. The terrible *cognomen* "Death in the Eye," told truly the mark at which he always fired—a mark he had never once missed—while such was his astonishing quickness that his antagonists usually fell without pulling a trigger. An enemy stood no better chance by resorting to the sword or the bowie-knife, against one in whose hands the flash of steel was like lightning—as swift, as mighty to slay—one who appeared to surpass all other men as much in strength as in activity—a giant in stature, a fiend in courage. His biography in itself was more thrilling than a novel, wilder than the wildest romance; and the very first act of his dreadful daring revealed, in all their force and fullness, the two essential elements of his character—the ferocious ardor of his appetite for revenge, and the iron pertinacity of his indomitable will. At the age of twenty he pursued the assassin of his brother all the way from Carolina to Canada, and shot him dead at the dinner table of a tavern in Quebec; yet such had been the cunning of his previous arrangements for the event, that aided by numerous relays of swift horses, he effected his escape safely to the South. The achievement cost him ten thousand dollars.

From this time forward his life was one long war. Almost every month in the year saw him engaged in some fatal duel—fatal only to others, never hurtful to him—while each week witnessed the occurrence of casual affrays, often as bloody as his more regular combats. He was the Napoleon of the knife and pistol. But the truth of impartial history compels me to record that this man, so fearful in his deeds, whose right arm reeked with gore to the elbow, was not commonly the aggressor in his countless quarrels.—Often the friends of those he had vanquished in fair fight assaulted him, from motives of revenge. The fame of his prowess provoked the vain jealousy of others. He had acquired the perilous reputation of a matchless hero—the ardent, the desperate, the ambitious would win, if possible, his laurels. Every young Hercules longed to kill the lion, so as to clothe himself in his skin, and thus was Borlin forced to maintain an interminable war. It is so in all professions. There can be no peace in high places—storm, hail and thunder must break around the mountain's brow.

This duelist was one of the earliest in Eastern Texas, where he became the chief of the Lynching party. In his own county Harrison he possessed boundless influence; indeed, he would not suffer a foe to reside within its limits. Hence, he might have openly defied the officers of the law, had such been his pleasure; but his shrewd and far-seeing sagacity adopted a wiser and safer course. After perpetrating any homicide he invariably submitted his own case to the grand jury, sure of a triumphant acquittal by his friends on trial; and thus, should public sentiment ever turn against him in the future, he would be enabled to plead effectual verdicts in bar of all past offences.

At length the time arrived which the Colonel had so long anticipated. A wealthy and intelligent class of citizens began to so change the current of opinion in Harrison, that in the county election the friends of order, by a slight majority, gained their candidate for sheriff. This was a terrible blow to the Lynchers, as it