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MASSACHUSETTS RADICALISM.

The fabulous millions of debt into which the Southern States have been plunged by the extravagances, corruptions and crimes of the miserable adventurers who seized their governments immediately after the war has been and is the subject of serious consideration. It will stand a lasting disgrace upon the government which permitted it—nay which ordered it. Yet when facts regarding Radical administrations in States where local governments had not been overturned, and where tax payers and intelligent white people controlled affairs, and not ignorant and prejudiced blacks, are published, we find the condition of things but little better. The great extravagance in the Federal administration, and the unprecedented cost of the government are well known to our people. We have seen, however, a statement in regard to the debt of Massachusetts which is really astounding, and which is now claiming the thoughtful consideration of her people.

Massachusetts is, par excellence, the Radical State of the Union; that is she has been, but even among her people Radical extravagances and crimes are beginning to bear their legitimate fruit and we look to see her arrayed in strong opposition to a party which has inflicted so grievous a burden upon her citizens.

In 1865 the debt of Massachusetts was forty-three millions of dollars; in 1870 it was sixty-three millions, and in 1875 it is one hundred and eleven and a half millions. And it must be recollected that this terrible increase has been since the return of peace. The close of the war found the State burdened with forty-three millions of dollars of debt. After ten years of uninterrupted Radical rule in every department of its government, the debt has been nearly tripled.

In the face of these startling and alarming figures can it be wondered that a State which had been safe to the Republican party by majorities oftener exceeding seventy five thousand than falling below it, should now cause congratulation in the party by electing the Radical ticket by five thousand majority. If in the next five years, if that party can retain control of the State so long, the increase in the public debt is continued with anything like the former ratio, Radicalism will be buried in the same grave with the credit and prosperity of the State. In reading the statement of the public debt of Massachusetts we believe we know the cause of the rapid decline of Radicalism in that State.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

The foremost candidates for the Speakership of the House of Representatives are Randall and Kerr. A special to the Cincinnati *Commercial* says the friends of Mr. Randall are using the argument against Mr. Kerr that he is Tilden's candidate for Speaker, and that the plan is to make him a candidate for Vice-President next year on a hard money platform. Some of Kerr's friends think that he will make as much headway, and be quite as strong a candidate for the Vice-Presidency if he gets the position of Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, which will give him the leadership of the House. A gentleman who arrived from the southwest reports that three Democrats from Arkansas and three more from Texas are for Randall. Lamar, of Mississippi and Senator Gordon are throwing their influence for Randall, and this will have a very considerable effect. It is said that Ohio Democrats are all opposed to Mr. Kerr, while Illinois Democrats are all for him. The New York *Herald* makes the following points: "When it is argued against Mr. Randall that he accepted the back pay voted by the last Congress, it should not be forgotten that Mr. Kerr, his competitor, also accepted back pay when voted by a Congress of a few years ago. The difference between Mr. Randall's position and that of Mr. Kerr is the difference between 'cant and sincerity' and every sincere Democrat will rejoice in the opportunity to show his respect for courage and manliness of opinion by throwing Mr. Randall to the office of Speaker."

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

The Richmond *Dispatch* thinks that in regard to the construction of the Southern Pacific Railway and its bearing upon Mexican relations its importance is immense. Our intercourse with Mexico would be greatly increased by it to the especial advantage of the South. During the fiscal year ending June, '73, our imports from Mexico amounted to $1,360,720, and our exports to it amounted to $7,420,111. Since this time has increased, and the development of mines and fruits the demand is now taking a large part of our cotton crop. With reference to the raids of the Mexican Indians, and to the border troubles, which now involve the Government in immense expenditures, there will be important facilities afforded by the road. The government will be able to save millions by the greater economy in the use with which means of defence and punishment will be concentrated where needed. At present the outlying region of Mexican border should be an almost forbidden region. It will not be long after the Southern Pacific is built when there will be comparative peace and security where Cortinas' men now maintain a disorganized dominion and often in the name of public order. The road will traverse a region of developing resources, which has been little worked for long years. It is understood to abound in rich ores. When we consider the freedom of the line from climate obstructions, and its easy grades, we can see that at once that it must become the great highway between the Atlantic and Pacific—worth many times as much to people and Government as the present road, with its sharp grades; its summits in the skies; its one hundred and fifty miles of snow sheds; and its disability for all great service to commerce for months in the year.

The London tea merchants are considerably exercised over the new orders relative to the analysis of green teas, as it is well known that all this class of teas are colored artificially.

COTTON MANUFACTURE—ADVANTAGES OF THE SOUTH.

So far as it concerns the North, the Baltimore *Gazette* argues that the recent exportation of American cotton goods of the cheaper sorts to England, far from being a matter of jubilation, is, on the contrary, a sign of unhealthiness. Our Baltimore contemporary contends that it grows out of the depressed condition of our cotton manufactures; can only be regarded as an effort to get rid of a part of the accumulated surplus now on the market, and finding slow sale at unremunerative prices, and, if maintained at all, it must be by reducing the wages of the operatives. This the mill owners are trying to do. The failure of the Fall River strike resulted in forcing the operatives to accept a reduction of ten per cent. on the former rate of wages, and the mill owners, taking advantage of their victory, and the necessities of their work, people, now insist on a further reduction of ten per cent.

The same authority thinks, from these premises that two things are made apparent: "If cotton goods can be successfully exported to England, or to other countries where these fabrics come into competition with English goods, either there is no necessity any longer for a tariff to protect their manufacture, or the export must be at the expense of impoverishing the operatives."

The *Gazette*, however, believes that the present export is a ruse on the part of manufacturers, in view of the shrinkage in domestic demands and glut of the market, to get rid, even at a loss, of the surplus production. The object is stated as two-fold viz: saving of the interest on first cost and, by reduction of stock, to advance prices at home.

Illustrating the effect of this policy by a comparison with the iron and copper trade, the *Gazette* concludes thus: "When we set down our furnaces and our rolling mills in the midst of the coal and the ore, the limestone and the manganese, that are the raw material required to produce this most useful of all the metals, we shall be able to compete with the world without need of a tariff to protect its manufacture. So, too, when we set our cotton mills in the midst of the cotton plantations instead of transporting the raw material a thousand miles to be manufactured, we may hope to compete with England in foreign markets and yet pay our operatives good wages. But not till then."

WOMAN'S RIGHTS WHAT THEY LEAD TO

In various parts of the country there are Women's Rights Associations, and these convocations are usually engineered and presided over by men, who are half fools and half fanatics. Now and then, an explosion takes place which brings home to parents a practical exemplification of the doctrines insisted upon with so much eloquence and pertinacity. An ex-Congressman named RANDOLPH STRICKLAND, of Michigan, was a prominent character of the kind we have alluded to. He not only took conspicuous positions at Woman's Rights meetings, but allowed his daughter to prepare and deliver addresses on the hobby of his soul. The upshot of the matter is that young lady has applied her father's doctrines to her own course of life, and bids fair to drag his gray hairs down in sorrow to the grave. We read in the Western press, says the Augusta Constitutionalist, that within the past few days many of the people of St. John's Michigan, where her family live, have received printed copies of what was termed a contract—civil and conjugal—entered into recently between Miss STRICKLAND and LEO MILLER, a well know Buffalo Spirtualist. This contract is a curiosity in its way and begings as follows:

The undersigned, this 24 day of November, A. D. 1875, enter into a business partnership under the name of Miller and Strickland, on the following conditions, to-wit: That all earnings and profits arising from our individual and joint labors, whether in a department of literature, art, mechanism, agriculture or trade, shall be shared and held equally.

This is innocent enough on the surface, but, after declaring love to be the only biding law, it proceeds to state that "should this union be blessed by any offspring, we jointly and severally pledge ourselves, our assignors and administrators, to foster and support them during the dependent years of infancy and youth, supplying their physical wants and training in the principles of virture and knowledge, to the best of our ability and judgment.' In conclusion, the precious document declares that the singers "repudiate the laws and customs which men assume to make, and the control of an affection between the sexes, which we believe is, and of divine right ought to be free".

The publication of this extriordinary pronunciamento fell like a bolt of ice upon the hearts of Miss Strickland's parents, and they immediately began to weep for the public, and wipe their eyes on the press, thus:

We ask the sympathy of our friends in our sorrow for the course pursued by our poor, deluded, misguided and insane daughter, and we extend our thanks to the kind friends that have labored with us during the last year to save her. We bow our heads in grief.

[Signed] RANDOLPH STRICKLAND.
MARY E. STRICKLAND

We think the sympathy of the community should be tendered to "poor, deluded, misguided and insane" parents who bring up their children in defiance of the restraints wisely imposed by society, and arrogate to themselves a line of conduct which demolished the barriers established by the Christian churches. Curses, like chickens, come home to roost. There is but one end of the "isms" of the day, and that is free-love. If fathers and mothers desire their sons to be honorable and daughter's chaste, they should not only instruct them properly, but by precept and example, teach them that the path of duty is the path of safety. Any other course is certain to end in disaster. The way of the transgressor may be apparently prosperous, for the moment, but he or she is inevitable tripped up in the end. Sinners against society imagaine that their craft conceals them; but, on the contrary, a thousand prying eyes behold their secret machinations, and a sudden and unexpected explosions ends their game with ignominy, and often with a disgraceful death, the dreadful memory of which pursues their offspring to the third and fourth generation.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

GUSTAVE DORE received $50,000 for illustrating Shakespeare.

THE value of cotton lost this year for want of picking is estimated to be over $5,000,000.

GEN. SICKEL'S eldest daughter is said to be about to marry a Spanish nobleman.

IN 1766 there were only 25,000 or 30,000 Baptist communicants. They are now said to number about 2,000,000.

WM. C BRYANT, Whitelaw Ried and George W. Curtis will be the judges at the inter-collegiate oratorical contest in New York January 3d.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York *Herald* suggests as a popular Centennial ticket Gen. Sherman for President, and Gen. Joseph E. Johnston for Vice-President.

The Black Hills have been evacuated by the military, and miners are said to be going in by the hundreds.

THE length of deep sea cable laid in the world is 76,000 miles. The world telegraphic lines extend over 400,000 miles, and there are 160,000 miles of railroad.

THE skeleton of the horse that carried General Sheridan on his historic twenty-mile ride to Winchester, Va., during the war, is owned by a Rochester, N. Y., man, and is to be exhibited at the Centennial.

THE Western Union Telegraph Company are about to lay pneumatic tubes, two and a quarter inches in diameter, between some of their offices in New York, and are also preparing to put some of their wires underground.

TAKING photographs at night; who ever heard of such a thing! It is done, nevertheless, and by burning bisulphate of carbon with peroxide of nitrogen, a light is produced which has the same artistic effect as sunlight.

THE anonymous old gentleman who has been announced for some time as intending to establish a college of music in Central Park, with an endowment of $5,000,000, is now said to be Mr. Samuel Wood, of New York City.

A LARGE number of gentlemen, representing large iron works in the Ohio valley, are now in the vicinity of Lynchburg, Va., the object of their trip being to obtain definite information in regard to the iron deposits of the James river valley.

JOHN SURRATT married a Virginia lady last year, and is now teaching school at a village in Maryland, about twenty miles thence. Miss Surratt married a Treasury clerk, but immediately after the nuptials he was dismissed from the department.

THE experiments recently made by the Worcester, Mass., Railroad officials with petroleum as fuel for locomotives, have resulted successfully. An engine has been run from Providence to Woonsockett, petroleum being the only fuel used. Other tests and experiments will be made in a few days.

THE Philadelphia *Sunday Press* says in the Hon. Sam Randalls district a scheme is on foot to defeat him in the next Congressional Convention, State Senator Nagle, it is said, having lately come out as the candidate. It is rumored that he will be backed by Tom Scott and the Texas Pacific Railroad interest, and that Scott's hostility to Randall arises from the latter's opposition to the Pacific subsidy business last season.

THE Jackson (Miss.) *Clarion*, the leading Democratic paper of the State, draws up a bill of indictment against Governor Ames, upon it asks his impeachment. It charges that he has corrupted the judiciary and ignored the law in his appointment of Judges; that in defiance of law he has dismissed Judges who would not be his servile tools; that he has sought to control the decision of Judges of his own appointment; that he has placed the civil in subordination to the military power; that he has incited riot and murder for partisan ends; that in appointing certain revenue agents he violated the Constitution—art. 4, section 38.

The most notable indication of the keen interest felt in the political struggle of the next year is the call at this early date for the Republican State Convention of Iduana. The next election there does not occur until October 2d, 1876, but the Convention is to nominate a State ticket, and select delegates to the National Convention and Presidential Electors is called for February 22d, over seven months in advance of the election. The increasing talk of Senator Morton as a Presidential candidate may have some connection with this early movement of the party in his State, especially as the October elections in Indiana, Ohio and Illinois are reliable indications of how the country will go in the Presidential election a month afterwards.

IT is said that California comes nearest the mark of any commonwealth in the world as a State virtually without debt. A recent writer shows that nominally the State debt is nearly four millions, but of this sum she owes three millions or so to herself. She bought up her bonds and keeps them in trust for her schools, the university and other objects. The actual debt is only about $700,000, and for this she has the State Capitol, a very expensive building, paid for; the original Insane Asylum, Normal School, State Armory, and State Prison, etc. In the same connection, it is stated that the county of San Francisco does not owe one cent. The city of San Francisco owes $4,000,000, while New York, with only four times the population there, owes forty times as much money.

A WASHINGTON special to the New York *Times* says Mr. Ferry, of Michigan, who has become acting Vice-President by the death of Mr. Wilson, is not regarded as "in accord with the administration on the currency question," and there will "undoubtedly" be an attempt to displace him from the chair. Two years ago he was fierce for "more money," but we have seen newspaper statements this season that he has "modified" his views on that subject. The New York *Herald* is even more emphatic. It insists that unless Mr. Ferry makes a satisfactory exposition of his views the Senate shall cause him to step down and out.

A new line of fortifications is being built rapidly around Paris, including detached forts of the first class. The circle of the defenses around the city will extend over one hundred miles, and it is estimated that the lines of a besieging army would have to be developed over a distance of about one hundred and thirty miles. The present forts, which received such a battering from the Prussian rams during the winter of 1870-71, will be allowed to stand as the interior or second line of defense. Any future defense of Paris will require one thousand regular soldiers.

THE New York *Nation*, in a recent article entitled "The Winding Up of the Freedman's Savings Bank," urges upon Congress, at its next session, the duty of a thorough investigation into the manner in which the affairs of the bank were conducted while in operation and are being wound up, now that it is defunct. The subject, the *Nation* pertinently observes, is not a savory one for Republican newspapers, and exposure of it is not now to be expected at Republican hands. Therefore, it says, "we earnestly commend it to the notice of the honest men of the Democratic party when next winter in Congress they begin the great work of investigating the dark places in Republican history.

FROM a statement printed in a New York paper, it appears that the public servants of the metropolis receive salaries which compare very favorably with those paid many of the high officers of the Federal Government. The Mayor for instance, receives $12,000 per annum, or $2,000 more than a member of the Cabinet; the Comptroller receives $10,000, as much as the Secretary of the Treasury; while the Deputy Comptroller is paid $7,000 or $1,000 more than an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. These are good fat salaries for municipal officers, and it is not to be wondered at that some of the papers suggest the propriety of a reduction.

THE PRICE OF LABOR.

The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*, which has been investigating the present wages of local labor as compared with the wages of 1860, confesses to some surprise at the result, all the important branches of industry except railroad service showing an advance still retained of from forty to sixty-five per cent, and the average advance for all classes covered by the investigation being still fifty-two per cent. The general average of this excess of present over ante-war wages is given as follows;

Railroads.....per cent.	35
Cotton.....	50
Woolen.....	65
Paper.....	55
Ruttons.....	55
Cigars.....(36)	50
Whips.....	44
Domestic.....	65
Iron and wood.....	64
Day labor.....	40
Average.....	52

ABOUT THE GRANGERS.

Interesting Statistics of the Operations of Husbandry—A Reform Movement Inaugurated

The National Grange is now in session in Louisville. A correspondent writing in regard to the meeting, gives some statistics of the Order, as follows:

At present, in the Order, there is a total of forty-two State and Territorial Granges, and more than twenty-four thousand sub-Granges, comprising a membership of about one million four hundred and fifty thousand persons, this is an increase of two thousand Granges, and in the neighborhood of one hundred and thirty thousand members, over 1874. The work of the Order in the future will consist more in consolidating and strengthening those Granges already in existence than in organizing new ones; inasmuch as the territory in this country is pretty well covered. The following is a list of the number of Granges in each State in 1875, as copied from official returns:

Arkansas	63	Mississippi	603
Alabama	622	Missouri	2,[illegible]
California	152	Maryland	25
Colorado	69	Nebraska	62[illegible]
Connecticut	16	Nevada	1[illegible]
Dakota	26	New Hampshire	64
Delaware	22	New Jersey	93
Florida	142	New York	548
Georgia	705	North Carolina	535
Illinois	6	Ohio	1,266
Indiana	2,052	Pennsylvania	591
Indian T	15	South Carolina	350
Iowa	94	Tennessee	1,[illegible]
Kansas	391	Texas	1,196
Kentucky	1,68[illegible]	Vermont	296
Louisiana	314	Virginia	665
Maine	183	Washington T	66
Maryland	157	West Virginia	266
Massachusetts	99	Wisconsin	512
Michigan	604		
Minnesota	546	Total	33,925

The total number of Granges in existence since 1874 was twenty-one thousand one hundred and eighty-three.

The receipts of the National Grange for 1873 were two hundred and twenty nine thousand six hundred and thirty three dollars, and the expenditure one hundred and eighty thousand nine hundred and ninety five dollars. It is estimated that the Patrons have eighteen million dollars each capital invested in their various enterprises, which include railroad and steamboat lines, banks, fire and life insurance companies, cotton gins and mill, packing houses, flouring mills, elevators, grain warehouses, machinery, manufactories, shipping associations, foundries, tanneries, cheese factories, &c.

The correspodent says: Among the rank and file a powerful reform movement has been initiated whose objects are as follows: Limitation of the power of the higher Granges, reduction of dues and fees, and the return to members of all dangerous surpluses; amplification of the ritual. There are some men in the order, like the Grand Master, Adams, and Master Allen, of Missouri, who desire to make most of their class privileges, and to coerce into silence and submission all people and papers that do not think and say precisely what they wish. They have set themselves against the people and will smash them. The order is anti-American in its constitution. Thus the National Grange was first made up of some Government clerks at Washington, and, as the order widened, the same little ring kept itself in the place to which it elected itself. The last dodge was when too many elective and representative members began to get into the National Grange to create a Senate (Seventh Degree of Ceres.) Thus when a member of the ring was repudiated and retired from the National Grange, instead of stepping down and out, he stepped up and in, becoming a member of that Senate, without whose approval the action of the National Grange was void. This was coming it a little too strong even for the simple and long suffering American farmer, and now the reformers insist that all degrees above the fourth (the equivalent of Master Mason) be abolished or thrown open, so that any member of the order will be eligible to any office, and can attend any of its deliberations. This they will surely carry. Last year the State Grangers almost unanimously rejected a very cheeky amendment proposing to make certain founders of the National Grange for life; and so strong is feeling that Master Allen, of Missouri, the hottest advocate of Granger aristocracy, has been instructed by his Grange to vote for Grange reform. The dues and fees will also be reduced and the surplus returned, so that the National Grange will have no dangerous funds on hand. No simplification of the ritual is expected at present, but it ultimately there will be but one degree in the order, the feature of secrecy—which shuts out the Catholics, Baptists and Quakers and all who are conscientiously opposed to membership in secret societies—removed, and the Grange practically resolved into a series of independent country co-operative organizations, having a State Grange merely for consultation and uniformity, and a National Grange, wholly inexpensive, and limited in its functions to being a mere bureau of record. Indeed, plans for independent and simplified Grangers have already been made in Michigan.

ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE.

The telegram gives the names of the Democratic caucus nominees of the United States House of Representatives, except for clerk. These nominees will, of course, be confirmed at the meeting tomorrow.

The selection of Hon. M. C. Kerr, of of Indiana, will be accepted with pleasure by our people. A gentleman of eminent ability, of great purity of character, and a life devoted to the best enterests of his party and his people, he stands among the foremost statesmen of the country. And, too, his State has deserved the honor at the hands of the Democrats, for she has often faithful among the faithless.

With no stain upon his personal or political record, and with a recognized hostility to the "rings" which have preyed upon the very vitals of the Republic, he seems to be the very man to have charge of the appointment of the investigating committees through which a Democratic House will expose the crimes of those who have brought disgrace and debt upon a long suffering people. In the selection of its Postmaster and Doorkeeper from the South, and probably the Clerk, the House has shown a proper spirit toward our people, and a confidence in them which must be appreciated.

We regard the action of the caucus as furnishing happy auguries for the future conduct of the body.

A FORGOTTEN TRAGEDY.

Wandering among the graves in the cemetery of Frankfort, Ky., a correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* found a dark gray monument bearing the name of Solomon P. Sharp. The inscription states that he "was assassinated while extending the hand of hospitality, on the morning of November 7, 1825, in the thirty-eighth year of his age," with the text added: "What thou knowest not now thou shalt know hereafter."

Col. Sharp was in his day one of the foremost men of Kentucky. During the administration of James Madison he had served two terms in Congress, at which time he was the room-mate and intimate friend of Jno. C. Calhoun, who is said to have declared that Sharp was "the oldest man of his age that had ever crossed the mountains." He had previously been several times elected to the Kentucky Legislature, and, under Gov. Adair, was attorney general of the State. At the time of his death he had settled in Frankfort as a successful lawyer, but had been again elected to the Legislature as the champion of the "relief party." The "relief" and "anti-relief" of which I shall not attempt to sketch a history, had been for some time agitating the State, and the fact that Col. Sharp was regarded as the chief exponent of the relief movement, and that the session of the Legislature began on the day following his assassination, lent a peculiar emphasis to the excitement that followed. The story of his death, with its cause and consequences, I have learned from several contemporary personal sources. But first let me say, fronting the capitol square in Frankfort, on its northern side, and only a few steps eastward from the Frankfort and Louisville Railway, is a large brick mansion, three stories in height, extending far back, accommodations for the slave help of "good old times." This house is perhaps nearly sixty years old, and was the home of Col Solomon P. Sharp in 1825.

A few years previous Sharp had met a young lady named Ann Eliza Cook, and had seduced her. She was a young lady of good family, of fair cultivation with some literary talent. He met her at a party, I believe, and was under the excitement of the dancing and the wine, perhaps, that Miss Cook yielded herself to him. After the disgrace became known, she secluded herself; but it seems that a young lawyer named Jereboam O. Beauchamp, also of good family happened to see her, and, falling in love with her, succeeded in obtaining her promise to become his wife, on the condition exacted by her that he should kill Col. Sharp. This promise was made, and the marriage took place. Some time—a year or two, perhaps—passed, and Sharp still remained alive. Perhaps the trouble would have passed and been forgotten, had not the seduction been mentioned as against Sharp's character in the warm political campaign in which he was elected to the Legislature. On this charge being brought against him, Col. Sharp treated it slightingly, and stated in public, it is said, that a certificate was in evidence that he was not the only man who had enjoyed Miss Cook's favors before her marriage. This added insult to the original injury, and the secret writing of Beauchamp's promise came out distinctly at its breath. The Sunday evening before the Central Assembly met, Beauchamp (who lived in another part of the State) entered Frankfort, and, finding the hotels full, put up at a private house of a gentleman named Scotts, two or three squares south of Sharp's residence. Late at night he went around to Sharp's house—the large old brick one I have mentioned—and, going to a side door (although others say it was to the front door), he knocked. Sharp was awakened, and asked who was there. Beauchamp answered by giving the name of one familiar to Sharp—in another part of the State where the latter had formerly lived—but changed the second initial of this person's name—saying, "John A. Covington," and requesting to see him at once on important business.

"I know John W. Covington," said Sharp, deliberately opening the door, and advancing into the open air and darkness.

Beauchamp then lifted the mask that he wore, saying: "Don't you know me, colonel?"

"My God! it's B——!" exclaimed Sharp, but did not succeed in pronouncing his enemy's name before the latter struck him full in the face with his clinched left hand, and stabbed him to the heart with his right.

Col. Sharp was found dead on his door-step. Beauchamp returned to his lodgings, and left town early in the morning, without being suspected, I believe. It is related that on approaching his home he conveyed to his wife the intelligence of the deed by waving his handkerchief in the distance.

The death of Col. Sharp produced a profound sensation in Frankfort and throughout the State. The Legislature offered $3,000 for the detection and apprehension of the murderer. There was a disposition to make political capital of the affair, too, I am told, and to make the assassination appear to have been in the interests of the anti-relief party. One of the Frankfort editors was darkly charged with accessory knowledge—some were not indisposed, I believe to have him arrested. It was through this editor, whose name was Darby, that Beauchamp was finally pointed out and arrested, Sharp's family showing an indisposition to prosecute him, and thus make hopelessly public the cause of the act. But he was finally brought to trial, and sentenced to be hung. During the interval between the sentence and its execution, great efforts were made in his behalf, delegations of ladies dressed in mourning even going to the Governor of Kentucky to intercede for the condemned. A son of the Governor was imprisoned at the time for highway robbery, and it was supposed that when he was pardoned—as he ultimately was—that the Governor might do a gracious thing, lightening his selfish act of clemency by pardoning Beauchamp and his son together. But he was inflexible; political revenge, perhaps, had to be gratified.

The day of execution came. A short time before the hour designated, request was made by Beauchamp that his wife be permitted to remain with him alone in his cell, for the last leave taking, and this privilege was granted. After awhile, as the time fixed for the execution was at hand, the officers entered the cell, and found the wife dying with the wound of a pen-knife in her breast, while the husband was also fatally stabbed. They had determined to elude the law, and die together. But as the time for the execution had come, Beauchamp was taken in his dying condition out upon the scaffold and hung. The bodies of husband and wife were removed to their home, and buried together.

Subsequently this tragic romance of real life was made the basis of a novel which was largely bought up by Sharp's friends. Later, about eighteen years ago, a drama was written by John Savage the Irish poet, founded on the Beauchamp history, and was on the point of being produced at Louisville.

"I was at the Louisville theatre that night, I remember," a lady in Kentucky told me; "it was in September, 1858. The theatre was very full. I forget the name of the play, but it was understood that its incidents were taken from the Beauchamp tragedy, and Avonia Jones was to have the principal part. The curtain was about to rise; everybody was in expectation, when it was announced that a change of programme had been determined on, and "The Bride of Lammermoor" was played instead. Gov. Morehead, it was understood, had come down on the evening train from Frankfort, just in time to prevent the play, offering a large sum of money on behalf of the Sharp family to have it withdrawn and not produced in Kentucky. There was a great excitement; many insisted on leaving the theatre and having their money refunded."

STATE NEWS.

Mr. A. H. Tate, of Charlotte, has lost four children in one month from diptheria. Since last June he has lost four out of five children.

The Raleigh *News* says: Twelve new guests were registered at the (Radical) Penitentiary yesterday. W. D. Hedricks, white, and Henry Brinson, negro, from Forsyth county, were introduced to the keeper, and sheriff Hardie, of Cumberland, deposited ten convicts. It is understood that fifteen more will arrive from Mecklenburg this morning.

A large crowd of friends attended the marriage at Christ Church last night of Dr. Fab. J. Haywood, Jr., and Miss Nannie Grimes, daughter of Wm. Grimes, Esq., all of this city. Rev. Dr. Marshall officiated. A reception was given during the evening at the residence of the bride's father.

On Wednesday J. H. Taylor of Surry, paid over to the State Treasurer $3,815 16; James Kiff Tax Collector of Hertford, paid in $4,212 67, and L. F. Larkin, sheriff of Halifax, paid in $10,500 53. We should like to be the State Treasury for the next week.

The Goldsboro *Record* says: Deer seem to be plentiful in Onslow county. In addition to the twenty one killed in the camp hunt noticed in our last, our townsman, Mr. L. B. Forivelle, informs us that he has received a letter from his father stating that on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week, a party hunting with him killed seventeen and shot about twenty more. Eight of these were killed on Thursday within one mile of each other.

Mr. Joseph H. Pitman, one of the oldest citizens of Magnolia, died at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Jacob Baker, on the 24th ult.

From our correspondents at Faison and Mount Olive we have details of a cowardly assassination perpetrated upon the person of Mr. R. B. Hatch, near Faison, on Thursday night last. It appears that while Mr. Hatch was sitting before his fire, reading a newspaper, about bed-time, his wife having already retired, his daughter opened the front door for the purpose of driving a dog from the room, and as she stepped back to allow the dog to pass, some unknown party or parties fired through the opening in the door at Mr. Hatch, who jumped up and attempted to gain the room where his gun was kept, when he was again fired upon and mortally wounded. Mr. H died on Saturday night and on Monday a coroner's inquest was held over the body, but could find no evidence to convict any one of the murder. The missiles with which the guns used were loaded, were cut slugs. It is to be hoped the assassins will be caught and suffer the penalty they deserve.

Constitutional Amendments

1st Amendment: That section 4, of article 9, be stricken out and two new sections be substituted. The section to be stricken out is in regard to lands given to the state by congress and the appropriation of fines, penalties, &c. The section to be substituted gives all lands and proceeds of lands, given by the United States to the state, to educational purposes; and all swamp lands, fines, &c., are to be used for purposes of education.

2nd Amendment strikes out section 17, article 3, and substitutes a section providing for the establishment of a bureau of agriculture, immigration and statistics, and the protection of sheep husbandry.

3d Amendment adds to section 25, of article 1, that secret political societies are dangerous to the liberties of a free people and should not be tolerated.

4th. Amends section 10, article 3, by providing that the governor, with the advice of the senate, shall appoint all offices whose appointments are not otherwise provided for.

5th, Abrogates and amends section 15, 16 and 17, of article 4, and allows the general assembly to allot and distribute all judicial power among the several counties except that of the supreme court which is fixed by the constitution itself.

6th. Strikes out sections 1 and 2, of article 13, and forbids calling a convention without first consulting the people at the polls.

7th. Provides for submitting the amendments to the constitution to the people, at the polls, Tuesday after the 1st Monday in November, 1876. The amendments will pe ratified or rejected together.

8th. Provides for publishing the ordinances for the information of the people.

9th. Requires the judge to reside in the district for which he is elected and forbids his holding court in the same county more than once in four years.

10th. Reduces the number of judges from 12 to 9, and authorizes the legislature to increase or diminish the number.

11th. Provides for the assembling of the legislature in January instead of November.

12th Hits civil rights on the head by forbidding white and black children going to the same school, and providing that no discrimination shall be made to the prejudice of either race.

13th Fixes the pay of the members of the General Assembly at $4 a day and 10 cents mileage, and limits the session to 60 days. If the session is prolonged beyond 60 days, members receive no pay.

14th Provides that the term of office for the senators and members of the legislature shall begin at the time of their election.

15th, That section 29, of article 2, is amended to allow the general assembly to change the time of holding elections for the general assembly.

16th Strikes from the constitution section 4, of article 2, which is the old republican gerrymander of the senatorial districts in 1868.

17th Reduces the number of supreme judges from five to three, as our fathers had it.

18th Declares that the judicial power shall be vested in a court for the trial of impeachments, a supreme court, superior courts, courts of justice of the peace, and such others inferior to the supreme court as may be established by law.

19th Establishes the supreme court in Raleigh, until otherwise provided by the general assembly.

20th Strikes section 8, article 2, from the constitution. This section was the old republican gerrymander of the house of representatives, and the people can do without it.

21st Forbids vacating any office or term of office now existing under the constitution.

22nd Provides for the election of judges of the supreme court and superior court, by general ticket, or vote of all the people, but allows the general assembly to change the mode of electing superior court judges from general ticket to district elections.

23d Requires 12 months' residence in the state, and 90 days in the county, before a man can vote, and excludes felons and ex-penitentiary convicts from holding office or voting until restored to citizenship by due process of law.

24th. Provides for the removal by the legislature of any judge of the superior court; for mental or physical disability. It also provides for the removal of clerks of the supreme and superior courts by the same reason. Appeal in caseof removal is allowed as in other cases or suits.

25th Provides that article 7 of the constitution be amended by adding that the general assembly shall have power to modify, change or bregate any and all of the provisions of the article, and substitute others in their place, except section 7, 9 and 13. This allows the legislature to appoint magistrates as under the old constitution.

26th Gives jurisdiction to justices of the peace over civil actions founded on contract, when the sum does not exseed $200; and allows the justices to call in a jury of six men in certain cases.

29th Authorizes the employment of convicts on public works and highways.

28th Adds the following new section to article 4: "In case the general assembly shall establish other inferior courts, the presiding officers and clerks thereof shall be elected in such a manner as the general assembly may prescribe."

29th Forbids marriage between white and black and all persons of negro descent to the third generation.

30th Adds to article 1, section 24: "Nothing herein contained shall justify the practice of carrying concealed weapons or prevent the legislature from enacting penal statutes against said practice."

31st Abolishes section 31, of article 4; and provides for filling all vacancies in offices provided for by this article, by the governor not otherwise provided for.

32d Provides for paying officers and members of the convention.

23d Gives power to the supreme court to try issues and questions of fact as under the old constitution.

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