Wilmington Journal.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1876.

General Bragg is at the head of a new colony in Western Texas.

Just a year ago a Norwegian, when drunk, froze his hands and feet so badly near Decorah, Iowa, that they had to be amputated. His wife last week got judgment for $9,500 against the druggist who sold him the liquor.

What we cannot understand, says the Nashville *American*, is the assumed difference between Marsh giving Mrs. Belknap $10,000 for a post tradership and Tom Murphy giving President Grant a Long Branch cottage for the surveyorship of the port of New York. And it is what no other fellow can find out.

Ah Ki is the Chinese interpreter in the courts of Nevada. When business gets slack he goes into the Chinese quarters and stirs up disturbances among his countrymen. Then he interprets the testimony to suit the highest bidder. Genius of this order cannot have a chance to expand anywhere short of Washington.

When a Missourian was recently on trial for murder, he didn't say he was insane, but simply said: "If yer Honor please, I am guilty. I killed the man because he took my gal from me. She was about the only thing I had, an' I didn't want to live after she went, an' I didn't want him to live neither; an' I should be obliged to yer Honor if you would hang me as soon as possible."

A special dispatch from Washington says: There was a woman in the Belknap case, a woman in the Secretary claim, a woman in the French arms affair, a woman in the safe burglary, and a woman in almost every especially brilliant achievement in Washington rascality that has been disclosed. And now it is reported that the House naval committee has run across a woman upon whose testimony depends the fate of some one high in authority.

Boss Shepheard's Port Royal property lies about twelve miles from the town, and it has been discovered, since Shepherd made his investment, that the water thereabout is fresher and better for the fleet than the waters of Port Royal proper. The next move will be to order the fleet down to Shepherdtown or whatever it is called. The Charleston *News and Courier* looks upon this as a singular coincidence, but consoles itself with the reflection the the proper committee can put this and that together.

The total number of soldiers mustered into the service of the United States during the late war was 2,669,823, of which 296,000 were for sixty days, 108,416 were for three months, 85,507 were for one hundred days, 42 were for four months, 20,439 were for six months, 373,000 were for eight months, and 87,589 were for nine months, making a total of 302,661 men who were enlisted for periods less than one year. Pennsylvania contributed the greatest number of less than one year enlistments of any State in the Union, being credited with 53,773 such.

The arrest in Alabama, under the Ku Klux act, of a number of citizens (Democrats exclusively) who are accused of having committed acts of lawlessness six years ago, is sadly significant. It is stated that these persons have not been away from their homes for six years, but the officers, as was the case in the Bacon-and-Bread campaign in 1874, refused bail and took the prisoners to Huntsville. Alabama is a Democratic State, and has a Democratic government. The State election takes place in August, and the arrests are believed to be part of a plan to overawe the whites and turn the State over to the Republicans.

A Washington dispatch says: "Senator John Sherman, of Ohio, who came here with an income of $2,000, and is now said to be worth over a million, may as well wrap his political winding sheet about him and lie down and die. The attention of the Committee on Foreign Affairs is called to the present occupant of the Consulate at Bremen, John M. Wilson, late of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the manner in which this office was procured, as a bribe to vote for Sherman for Senator. If the committee will call the proper persons, it will unearth rascalities and corruptions that will make Belknap a saint as compared with Sherman."

The progress of Capt. Eads' work on the Mississippi jetties has been so favorable thus far that a lively interest is manifested in the work by the cities to be directly benefitted by the improvement. The plan of this work, as most readers are probably aware, is to make a channel of comparatively uniform width, by dykes controlling the current over the bars, and, where necessary, by dredging the bar to give the average depth of water. The mattress work has been sunk in the east jetty beyond the bar: the sea wall, it is reported, becomes more solid every day, and the current in the South Pass has been increased five to six feet per second. Indeed the work is already so far ahead that a three-masted schooner with a cargo of 2,250 bales of cotton, and drawing 18ft. in and a half feet of water, has been enabled to pass freely through the channel. The success of the work will doubtless add to the commerce of the Mississippi Valley.

The Boston *Advertiser* reads a severe lesson to those Republican Senators who made the introduction of resolutions by Senator Gordon, looking toward a more honest internal revenue service, the occasion of a partisan debate. It says:

"All the revenue officers are new Republicans. Is not General Gordon foolish to propose a measure which, if carried, would debar his party from doing more than fill chance vacancies? The fact is, as anybody can see, that Senator Gordon is making a proposition which, so far from exposing him justly to the charge of partisanship, would render it impossible to fill these offices on partisan grounds, and which gives them all in the first place, for an indefinite period, into the hands of the author's political opponents. But the only worthy reason for advocating the proposition is it that is wise and right."

On the Nord railway, in France, a new system of danger warning has been introduced, consisting of sixty signal stations along the line, to indicate danger, when there is any, in connection with which thirty-eight locomotives have been supplied with the electric automatic whistle. This is so arranged that when, day or night, a locomotive reaches a signal which shows "danger," that moment the whistle on the engine sounds.

WE DEMAND IT AS A RIGHT.

That the officers and agents of the Internal Revenue service, aided by the United States Commissioners, have been unparalleled in their tyrannical and despotic rule in North Carolina, no truthful man can deny. In many cases, especially in the Western part of the State, these representatives of "the best government the world ever saw" have been corrupt as well as despotic and partizan, and it is high time their villainies were unearthed.

This is the day for investigation and exposure and we venture to say, from what we hear, that no richer mine of frauds, corruptions and oppressions can be found than that which will appear when the operations of the Internal Revenue men and their partners in iniquity, the United States Commissioners, shall be uncovered. So say our friends from the West, and so we believe.

Touching this matter, the Charlotte *Observer* well says:

"We make the assertion that the revenue department of the government throughout the whole of Western North Carolina is a mass of corruption and is rotten to its very core. It is one vast combination, a gigantic conspiracy, and no one who is not admitted into its pale or in fellowship with its secret workings can prosper long or carry on his legitimate business with any satisfaction or peace. The whole system is unsound and diseased; it engenders vice, covers up fraud, oppresses the citizen, robs the government, and is a foul blot and a burning shame upon the country that tolerates it. It is a spread wealthy and its overbearing prostitution of the purpose for which it was created and designed. The revenue laws are both crude and oppressive in the extreme, and the penalty for the least technical violation thereof and rule virtually is the bankruptcy and ruin of the citizen; hence when enforced by the unscrupulous and bitter partisan, the revenue system becomes the most perfect engine of oppression now in existance. If there is one declaration in the bill of rights that should be considered sacred above all others, it is that clause which secures to the individual a freedom of all things that pertains to matters affecting his conscience and religion. All that a man hath will he give for his life, and his liberty is nearly as precious to him as his life. Any technical violation of this Revenue system—this paradise of petty tyrants and avaricious upstarts, places an American citizen within the power and at the mercy of bummers and spies. It is needless for us to dwell upon its cruelties, its oppressions, its notorious frauds and its reeking corruption throughout the whole of the Western portion of the State. Robbins, Ashe, Vance and in fact all of our Representatives know the base purposes for which the Revenue is used. Let them urge the House to send a committee who will unearth their dark doings, and hold up their infamy to the public gaze. We are tired of seeing freemen of North Carolina ruined and enslaved by "men clothed with a little brief authority," and we want to see the oppressors and plunderers driven from power, and punished as they deserve."

INVESTIGATION THE WORK OF THE HOUR—LET IT BE THOROUGH.

The New York *Bulletin* is of the opinion that much of the time of the present session of Congress will be occupied in dealing with the official corruption which exists to such an alarming degree in all departments of the government. Under all the circumstances, says the *Bulletin*, it is most desirable that it should be so, as there is no other work in which Congress is likely to mature a wholesome result that is half so important. The currency question has become the subject of a party wrangle out of which no proper settlement can possibly come. The tariff, if changed at all this session, should be reduced by a simple method that would need no lengthy discussion. The subsidy schemes have been shelved, and a vast amount of time thereby saved. There remains therefore few really vital measures that press settlement, while nine-tenths of the thousands of bills introduced may be disposed of without a moment's discussion. Let, then, the work of investigating go on without stint. The time is ripe for it. The public have long suspected far more than has yet been revealed, and they will not be satisfied without a thorough exposure of the whole system of corruption. They are not indifferent to the national disgrace of such revelations; but they are willing to endure the discredit, if thereby the evil can be remedied. They know that there is no escape from the evils of excessive taxation and onerous official exactions except through an exposure of the methods by which politicians fatten at the public expense, and that there is no possibility of getting a higher order of official administration except through purging the offices. For these reasons the people desire that the process of investigation be pushed to the utmost possible lengths, no matter who may be hurt. Honest men of all parties agree that investigation is emphatically the work of the hour, and all desire that it should be done thoroughly.

THE DESPERATE FIGHT OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

A Washington dispatch says: It is pretty definitely ascertained that the administration has urged its friends in the Senate to resist by every possible means the passage of the act passed by the House for the protection of witnesses who testify before Congressional committees. The effort to secure its defeat in the Senate will be headed by Conkling, who has been engaged for several days in looking up authorities to support his side. Whether Edmunds will second him or not is as yet uncertain. Logan is especially active to secure the defeat of the measure because there are several persons under indictment in Chicago for their connection with whisky frauds, who would be glad to get off by telling all they know about Logan's connection with crooked whisky to a Congressional committee. It is really a matter of life and death with more than one prominent Republican that this act should be defeated, and they will leave no stone unturned to accomplish it.

"This," said Major Voyer, of Quebec, to a visitor, "this is the pistol with which Prof. Varreau shot himself accidently three years ago, and this is how he did it." And Major Voyer proceeded to point the pistol just as Prof. Varreau did, and the pistol proceeded to go off accidently just as Prof. Varreau's pistol did, and Major Voyer proceeded to die—just as Prof. Varreau did.

A Northern exchange having said "the Treasury girls are called the Pretty Possibilities, since the Christiancy episode," a Southern paper replies: "And the bachelor Senators of Christiancy's age are called Old Probabilities."

THE SAMOAN EXPEDITION.

Like one of our exchanges, we had almost forgotten Steinberger and the Tuscarora, until the Louisville *Courier-Journal* again brought up the subject. And here is what that paper says: "Since Steinberger sailed away on the Tuscarora to the Samoan islands with a large supply of guns and ammunition furnished by order of the Secretary of War, and established himself at Apia, as an island monarch under the protection of the Administration at Washington, no report of the extraordinary mission has been placed before Congress; the President did not allude to the subject in his message, and no explanation has been received from any quarter. Thus far the Samoan expedition seems to have been organized for the express benefit of Colonel Steinberger, to whom President Grant is alleged to be under pecuniary obligations. He furnished Steinberger with voluminous letters of recommendation to the naked savages of the islands, and assured them of his kindly feeling toward them. The Navy Department not only provided this blatant adventurer and carpet-bagger with transportation, but left him in the possession of a steam launch, with which to plow the waters of his new dominions, and supplies of whisky and other 'provisions' were freely furnished. The last reports which came from this favored representative of the Grant group were to the effect that he was evidently in possession of a considerable sum of money, was compelling the natives to build him a palace, was enacting laws, bullying the native chiefs and the United States consul, and swaggering about the streets of his capital under the influence of gin and whisky.

"President Grant has been in the habit of providing 'missions' for his favorites, but in no case has he taken such extraordinary precautions to get any of them removed to such an obscure distance, or provided them with so many creature comforts. There must therefore have been some powerful reason in the Presidential mind for hurrying Steinberger off to the South Pacific. There are, doubtless Grant group secrets hidden away in Steinberger's breast which might prove damaging to the White House. Let Secretary Robeson be required to show the why and the wherefore of the use of the United States man-of-war Tuscarora in this connection. Let the President be requested to show his authority for using the property of the United States to establish a monarchical form of government. The Steinberger expedition is worth investigating. The President used Babcock in his attempt to acquire land in San Domingo for the benefit of himself and his friends, and Steinberger seems to have been his special agent to the Samoan group."

THE SOUTH CAROLINA IMPEACHMENT—JUDGE MONEY.

Impeachments are the order of the day. Mississippi has just concluded one and is about to begin another. At Washington one has begun and others will doubtless follow, how many Heaven only can tell. Our neighbor over the way, the gallant Palmetto State, has her trials too, as well as her tribulations. Just now the impeachment of Judge Montgomery Moses is being tried and a dirty case of corruption it is, if the testimony be true. But what else can be expected when ignorant negroes and a handful of corrupt white men banded together for pillage and plunder call themselves a government.

The following is a sample of the testimony against Judge Moses:

John G. Carrington sheriff of Newberry county, testified that he had frequently loaned Judge Moses money. On one of these occasions, at the March term in 1875, the Judge had told him that he must have money. He replied that he (witness) had none. The Judge said that from the decree that he had just made he knew that he (witness) did have some. Witness said he had official funds; but that he didn't know when the money would be called for. Judges Moses said the money was subject to the order of the court, and the court wanted it. He said further that he would pass no orders for witness to pay out the money until he (the court) had paid it back. That at this time an attorney in the case, out of which Moses wanted the money, applied to Judge Moses for a "consent order" in the case, for him (the witness) to pay out the money. Judge Moses refused to hear the order, and immediately adjourned the court *sine die*. Moses had then come to him (witness) and said: "I have refused the order. Now let me have the money." This the witness did. He had on two other occasions lent the judge money under the same understanding, and the judge had always protected him. He had never lent Judge Moses any but official funds, because he thought the court might go back on him if it was private funds, and consider well do so under the circumstances. He had never been "railed" but once about not paying out money, and he made the following answer to this rule: "The money is subject to the order of the court, and the court has the money." He had never heard any more from the rule. The conversations had always been private, and the judge would never receive a check, but always took the money and gave him due bills on his judicial salary.

LEGISLATION FOR TUESDAY IN SENATE.

The Baltimore *Gazette* says: A committee is now on the track of Lyman Williams, whom the President nominated to be Chief Justice. The evidence exists that while he was at the head of the Department of Justice he was bribed for the pitiful sum of two thousand dollars. The Democratic House is on the track of Schenck and Ingalls, and of a score of lesser corruptionists, who have been using their official positions to make money and bring disgrace and dishonor upon the country. And if we are not mistaken they are on the track of the President himself for his complicity in the misdeeds and wickedness of the late Washington ring. The House cannot and must not adjourn until stern justice is meted out to all the bad and corrupt men who have been elevated to place and position under the present rotten administration.

A New Orleans telegram to the Shreveport *Times* says: The rejection of Pinchback causes intense indignation among negro politicians, all of whom denounce the Republican party and express a desire for a coalition with the whites. Hewitt, Pinch's brother-in-law, says he will accept Penn for Governor and let him name the whole ticket. Antoine also talks of coalition. Nobody takes much interest except negro politicians. It is rumored that Kellogg will resign and let Antoine appoint him Senator. Casey, Packard and Warmoth are spoken of as Kellogg's probable appointees. Very few seem to think Eustis will be seated. The furor among the negroes is probably temporary. When the canvass opens they will, as usual, fall into line.

THE ROBESON COUNTY CASE—GENERAL COX DISCHARGED.

By reference to our local columns it will be seen that this case has come to an end so far as General Cox is concerned, he having been discharged from all arrest and accusation by order of Mr. Badger the United States District Attorney.

General Cox through his counsel distinctly stated to the Court that he asked no favors at its hands and his honorable discharge was granted as a matter of right and justice, notwithstanding the fact that Dr. Norment had solemnly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, most positively and unequivocally, that he had wilfully and corruptly conspired with certain of the commissioners of Robeson county to deprive the people of that county of their equal rights as citizens of the United States. And thus Dr. Norment stands convicted of having failed to make good that oath for the truth of which he appealed to God as the avenger of falsehood. There is no escape for Dr. Norment from this position. No man of his age, experience and intelligence can plead that he was ignorant of what he was doing when he made the affidavit upon which this prosecution was founded. Dr. Norment swore positively that General Cox had committed the offence charged and he must be held strictly to what he said. He has made his bed and he must lie on it.

And now turning from Norment to his would-be victim, what a different man is he, that stands before us! General Cox, when arrested, though most falsely and foully accused, at once, as every good citizen should do, obeys the mandate of the law. Disdaining all technical defences, disdaining even defences that were substantial and just, defences, too, that were amply sufficient for his discharge in Raleigh, he comes directly to Wilmington and boldly meets his accusers face to face upon ground of their own choosing. He recognizes that it is his party, and not himself, that is on trial; nay, more, he recognizes the fact that it is civil liberty itself that is put in jeopardy by this most infamous prosecution, and he hesitates not a moment, not in his own interest merely, but in the interest of the humblest citizen of the State as well, to bear in his own person the brunt of it. And right nobly has he done it. We congratulate him, we congratulate the party, we congratulate the entire people of the State, that he has thus triumphantly vindicated the liberty of the citizen in North Carolina. If General Cox could be dragged for a hundred miles from his business, from his home, from his wife, from his children, with impunity, what man in the State was safe from a like outrage!

But it was not done with impunity. The guilty authors of the outrage will curse the day when they hatched the foul conspiracy against the rights of the people, that culminated in the prosecution against the commissioners of Robeson county and General William R. Cox.

TROUBLES AT RALEIGH—PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

Metaphors are getting very much mixed at Raleigh. On Thursday evening the *Sentinel* published a card from Dr. Howerton, Secretary of State, in which he denies that he has been guilty of any corruption in office in the matter of buying stationery in New York, as has been charged was the fact, and alleges that these charges had their origin in his refusal to accept a corrupt proposition in regard to certain public printing made to him by Col. Clark, President of the *News* Publishing Company. On the same evening Dr. Howerton instituted suit for libel against Col. Clark and other stockholders in the *News* Company, laying his damages at $50,000. As soon as the *Sentinel* containing the Howerton card appeared Col. Clark sued out a warrant against Josiah Turner, Esq., the publisher of the *Sentinel*, and against Dr. Howerton for libel. The case was to have been heard before Mayor Manly on yesterday morning.

The *News* publishes the following card from Col. Clark:

CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

RALEIGH, March 16th, 1876.

In this evening's *Sentinel* Mr. Turner publishes in the interest of Mr. W. H. Howerton, a letter containing a conversation which Mr. Howerton alleges he had with me. In justice to myself it is proper to say *that no such conversation or any remotely resembling it* ever occurred. The charge is made by a man whose accounts are under investigation for swindling the State government and if base enough for that, he will certainly not scruple at a falsehood. A warrant for the arrest of Messrs. Turner and Howerton is in the hands of an officer and this conspiracy shall have full investigation. Respectfully,

WALTER CLARK.

We shall make no further comment upon the matter this morning than to say that upon an issue of veracity between Colonel Walter Clark and Dr. William H. Howerton no honest man will hesitate a moment in giving a verdict in favor of Colonel Clark. But independent of this the fact is that the allegation of corruption in office against Howerton does not rest upon Colonel Clark's testimony at all nor did he cause the charges to be made public.

But we shall refer to this point and others in the case in another issue.

It is said that the Committee on Printing is daily accumulating proofs to show that the government printing office costs $500,000 more than it ought to do. They have had proof of one bid from New York, where the Bureau went to exceed it by $16,000. The patent office report is printed at double its proper cost. Materials are purchased at 75 to 100 per cent. above the proper rates.

Floridians who happen to be at the seat of our National Government, must blush with shame to know that Conover, one of their State Senators, stands charged with the embezzlement of State funds to a large amount; that Purman, one of their Representatives, is accused of selling a cadetship, and other grave offences; and that the Governor of the State is denounced in Congress as a fool, liar and swindler. Thank heaven, the trio are carpet-baggers and Radicals! So says the Jacksonville *Press*.

The Sultan gave the physician who cured him of his carbuncle $4,000 in gold and made him a general besides.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.

Since the brief comment the morning after the election, in which we indicated what we thought to be the real cause of the result in New Hampshire, we have had little to say on the subject. As we said then, while the first effect of the exposures by the Democratic party of fraud and corruption in the Radical party was one of anger against those instrumental in that exposure, the final result will prove different.

We see no reason to chrnge the opinion then expressed, and just as we were about to set forth that opinion and the reasons for it, we found the thing ready done to our hand in the columns of the Macon *Telegraph*. Our Georgia cotemporary takes the true view of the question. It says:

"The sweeping Republican victory in New Hampshire, in the face of recent developments in Washington, will no doubt produce a great surprise and sensation all over the world—and more particularly in Europe. The worst auguries of Republicanism in America will be drawn from it; none of which, we trust and believe, will be sustained by subsequent political history. It will be asked what guaranty can possibly remain for honest government when convicted roguery carries the popular ballot? What can such a result possibly mean by a suffrage as corrupt as the public administration? Or what can it portend for the future but a government and a people swiftly descending in the scale of demoralization, until both are outlawed by all principles of common morality, and sink into anarchy as the inevitable result of their inherent rottenness?

The reader will bear witness that so far as we are concerned we have tried to prepare him for just such a result as has taken place; and we say now, though hoping and expecting the contrary, we shall *not* be surprised witness a like development in the pending Connecticut State election.

It is by no means certain that the fraud developements in Washington have not, to some small extent, impaired the Radical strength in New Hampshire, since it is impossible to tell precisely what the figures might have been in the absence of those discoveries. But there is no doubt on our minds that the mere fact of so many prominent Southern names reported daily as active in public affairs in Congress, has created a strong reactionary condition on the Northern mind. We may say, with justice, it *should not be so*; but it is so. The great mass of the Northern voters, looking on the Southern people and their representatives as enemies of the Government, rebels and traitors, are incensed to see so many of them in influential positions about the Government, and it will take some time to wear away the irritation of the spectacle. *That*, we are persuaded, is the real underlying cause of the general reaction in Northern elections since a year ago last fall.

And the national jealousy has been stimulated, and the exacerbation increased, even by the record of public crimes which the Southern representatives have aided in bringing to light. The people feel it as a sectional, as well as a party disgrace, and while they do not mean to sanction the crimes and acts the wrongdoers, yet passion and resentment are, for the once, more influential than reason and patriotism, and they vote to spite the South and the Democratic party, who are the active agents in bringing this bitter disgrace to light.

But by and by these people will realize the danger and error of their action. They will see the fatal consequences of sanctioning party malversation at the polls. They will see that it involves a more wide-spread and shameful disgrace than even the crimes themselves, and that the salvation of free popular government in America is dependent on hurling out of office and power, into disgrace and infamy, a public administration which has most evidently polluted and poisoned every channel of public authority.

But until the North gets accustomed and are reconciled to the sight of Southern statesmanship in Washington, we shall hardly expect to see a more healthful advancement of public opinion. We should endeavor to put ourselves exactly in their place in order to understand their feelings, and comprehend how much they do not foresee.

THE REJECTION OF MR. DANA.

The refusal of the Senate, says the New York *Evening Post*, to confirm the appointment of Mr. Dana seems a surprising bit of squeamishness on the part of an executive advisory body which has in time past confirmed some very extraordinary nominations. The mere fact of the pendency of charges against Mr. Dana is that he has been involved in a technical copyright difficulty. Nobody doubts his personal honesty, his high character, or his eminent fitness for the mission near the Court of St. James. The Senate's jealousy of the country's good name is a late coming sentiment, which might have been born sooner with advantage to all of us.

Mr. Lilly, the Washington attorney to whom Mr. Chartier paid the check for $3,000 given him to secure the appointment of young Beardslee, of Utica, to West Point, testified yesterday that he received the money, but denied that he paid any of it to Charles Hays, who recommended the appointment, and added that he had represented to Mr. Hays that Beardslee was an actual resident of his district and had lived more than two years in Choctaw county, Ala. Innocent Ananias!

Jeremiah S. Black, of Pennsylvania, James B. Beck, of Kentucky, and Chas. J. Jenkins, of Georgia, have been selected by the States of Maryland and Virginia, to settle the long-standing boundary dispute between them. They will sit in Washington, commencing in April, and the examination of the case, with the hearing of witnesses, is expected to occupy about three months.

In due time we shall make proper comment upon the Norman-Cass-Hay-Cantwell prosecution, its progress and conduct. As yet no result affecting the commissioners of Robeson has been reached. Let us rest awhile. We shall see what we shall see. Will they be bound over to appear at court? That's the question!

Mrs. Schurz, the wife of ex-Senator Carl Schurz, died on Wednesday at No. 40 West Thirty-second street in New York city. Mr. Schurz lost his father a few weeks ago, and is, therefore, doubly afflicted by this latest bereavement. Mrs. Schurtz belonged to a wealthy Hamburg family, and was most a devoted wife and mother.

It is now settled beyond doubt, says a Washington dispatch, that Boynton of the *Gazette* permitted himself to be used by Blaine in attacking Pendleton for the purpose of breaking the force of Belknap's degradation in Ohio, which holds the first election.

THAT SHOWER OF FLESH IN KENTUCKY.

The learning of the books" in regard to showers of blood and flesh it is said shows us, first, that they are a reality; secondly, that they are mostly due to dust taken up by the winds into very distant regions; thirdly, that they are not unfrequent, as they have occurred on no less than twenty-one occasions during the present century in Europe and Algeria. These remarkable showers mostly take place in the spring and the autumn at the epoch of equinoctial gales.

The same high authority tells us there are many instances cited in which nutritious substances have descended in a shower. Thus, in 1824 and 1828, there was a shower so abundant of this kind in one of the districts of Persia that it covered the ground to the depth of five or six inches. It was a kind of lichen of a sort already known. Cattle and sheep devoured it eagerly and some bread was even made of it. The descent of a soft substance Muschenbroeck states to have occurred in Ireland in 1675. This was glutinous and fatty, and softened when held in the hand, and emitted an unpleasant smell when exposed to the action of the fire.

But what a "Kentuckian" knows about the matters beats all the learning of all the books. We let him tell his own tale. Hear him:

NEW YORK, March 11, 1876.

To the Editor of the Herald:

Being a Kentuckian I can explain the late shower of flesh in my native State. In my young days I was out hunting on one occasion and I had just shot and killed a fine deer, when I saw a whirlwind a proaching. I caught up the deer and I barely escaped by stepping aside, as it passed me with terrific force. It was revolving with the fearful speed of a shaft run by lightning and I could see the deer growing smaller and vanishing away as it was being ground up in the jaws of the wind.

The whirlwind passed on, but to my surprise, from a returning upper current of air there came down a shower of the venison ground as finely as Kentucky hominy." For an hour afterward it sifted down, and I gathered it up until I had filled my game bag with the wonderful sausage meat.

The strangest part of this little occurrence was the fact that pieces of the bone came down curiously carved by the action of the air into buttons and other forms of use and ornament, among which I still retain in my possession a pair of sleeve buttons. I have no doubt but that many other persons have like myself witnessed similar freaks of the wind who did not think a little thing of the kind worth mentioning. It may be best to add that I might have been incredulous had it not been that I picked up a piece of the deer's meat containing a bullet with my private mark on it. That settled the question.

JOEL SLOPER.

THE KHEDIVE'S VICTORY.

A Virginian (?) Good at the Leading Hero.

From the Richmond Whig.

The signal victory achieved by the army of the Khedive of Egypt over the black hordes of Abyssinia, we are gratified to see, was due to the military skill of General Loring, of Virginia, formerly of the United States and subsequently of the Confederate States army, assisted by a corps of gallant American officers, many of whose names are very familiar to us in the South. The victory seems to have been quite decisive of the war. Eighty thousand Abyssinians, who attacked the Egyptian entrenched camp, were not only repulsed, but after a desperate battle completely routed and put to flight leaving five thousand killed in the trenches of the assaded camp. The Egyptian force as estimated at between fifteen and eighteen thousand, the officers all being foreigners except the Pasha, nominally in command. We congratulate the Khedive on his splendid victory, and General Loring and his comrades on the fresh laurels they have gathered in "the land of the Pyramids."

Is the *Whig* quite sure that General Loring was a Virginian? There is a tradition on this side of the line that the General first saw the light on the sacred soil of the old North State. Not even Lynchburg, that renowned mother of mighty men, can claim the honor of having given birth to General Loring, if we are correctly informed.

The Rev. Stephen Gary, a member of the South Carolina Legislature for Kershaw county, is now running from two constables who seek to bring him to trial on a charge of larceny. Stephen is of the colored persuasion.

The Greensboro *Patriot* says: Since Judge Kerr has been on the Bench he has never failed to be promptly at his post when the bell tapped. A striking contrast to the lack of punctuality heretofore witnessed, and a good example to judges generally.

The New York *Evening Post* thinks the New Hampshire elections ought to teach Democrats in Congress that they cannot rule into power solely on the backs of detected Republican thieves.

"Alphonzo," said Mrs. Taft sternly, when her husband told her he was going to be Secretary of War, "that is all right, but it won't be safe for any post trader to come fooling around here!" There was a hard glitter in her eye, and her fingers worked as if feeling around for the rolling pin.

From the Fayetteville Gazette.

"Another Suggestion."

In reply to our article of last week headed "A Suggestion" the following has been handed to us:

"We would respectfully suggest to the editors of the Gazette that there are quite a number of its readers who do not endorse their editorial of last week headed "A Suggestion," in so far as it applied to our next candidate for Congress. Without disparagement to Col. Waddell, there are other distinguished gentlemen whose claims will be presented to the nominating convention when it meets. We think your article may prejudice their claims, and hence this communication.

Very respectfully,

A VOTER IN CUMBERLAND."

In reply to the above, we have only to say that there is such a thing as taxing one's moderation, in what are generally considered legitimate expressions of newspaper opinion, beyond the limits of fairness. Abstaining as we have always done, from making any attempt through our columns to forestall public opinion in the interest of our political friends, and from even suggesting possible nominations for this or that office, we do not acknowledge the right of our correspondent to 'hector' us on a good word spoken for a public servant who has served the people of this district faithfully and ably in Congress.

With regard to the Congressional campaign in this district, we have this to say: While it gives us great pleasure to bear testimony to the admirable stand of Hon. A. M. Waddell in the House of Representatives, and while we do not hesitate to reiterate the opinion regarding him which we expressed last week, we intend to allow every man who may have Congressional aspirations a "fair hack" and an open field in the competitive race for the nomination.

General Gordon and Revenue Reform.

[From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel.]

Northern newspapers, it seems, have a different opinion of Senator Gordon's movement in the interest of revenue reform from that expressed by the weak kneed Democratic Congressmen in Washington. All the Democratic journals endorse his proposition, and the Republican papers, except a few of the most radical stripe, commend his proposition to the attention of Congress. Senators Sherman, Morton Morton and Edmunds are receiving some severe slaps from their party organs for turning the debate upon the revenue into a purely partisan discussion. They are told that there was nothing in General Gordon's opening speech to provoke such treatment as he received and that the speeches of the Senators alluded to betrayed an unworthy desire to evade the issue presented by opening a useless discussion upon the dead issues of the war. General Gordon has the satisfaction of knowing that he is sustained by the best journals of the Republican party and by the best men of the country irrespective of party. He does not seem to be discouraged by the manner in which the Senate received his resolutions and has determined to persevere in the good work of revenue reform. He has carried his proposition to the Ways and Means Committee of the Democratic House, where it will receive a more careful and a more courteous consideration. The recent whisky ring trials in St. Louis have had the effect of calling the attention of the country to a system of stealing that has been in successful operation for the past twelve years. Through the connivance and active co-operation of revenue officials the government has been robbed, since the adoption of the law imposing a tax on spirits, of enough money to almost pay off the national debt. The fountain of corruption is found in the appointing power. We hope that General Gordon will persevere in the good work which he has commenced in spite of the opposition of Morton & Co.

President Grant on the Investigations.

[Washington (March 10) correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette—rep.]

The President in a recent conversation with a private gentleman, expressed himself very freely and earnestly on the subject of the pending investigations in Congress and the party which is conducting them. The President said, in substance, the most of the investigations are to drag out without any definite end and are designed to accomplish a partizan purpose. The patriotic people of the country, he believed, would soon discover that the investigations instigated by those who had sought to dissolve the Union were undertaken for the purpose of destroying instead of reforming the government. Commenting upon the post-office investigations, the President remarked that it was a significant fact that the committee-man who is most active in his assaults on the government is the late Postmaster General of the Confederacy, Reagan, and that the witness upon whom the committee has most relied is a clerk who was discharged from the Chicago postoffice for cause, and who obtained a position in the Postoffice Department under false pretenses. "Why," added the President, "they are even trying to investigate the conduct of the war. A short time before Belknap's downfall the investigators sent to the War Department for all the records in the important McDonald investigation in the Quartermaster's Department in 1866. Belknap sent back word to the committee that there was not clerical force enough at his disposal to copy the records, and that he could not permit the originals, on account of their importance, to leave the department." The Presidently significantly added that he would himself have liked personally to have answered that application. It is evident that this is one of the investigations which the military committee has undertaken to conduct secretly.

Gambetta on the Policy of France.

Leon Gambetta in his recent speech at Lyons spoke as follows:

"It is as wise and statesmanlike as it is necessary that the republic should be considered as a republic of peace, order and morality. It is necessary that the world should be impressed with the fact that the republic's existence can give no umbrage to the powers on our frontiers. We have often sinned through a spirit of excessive propaganda. Let us begin by looking at home. Let us heal our own wounds, and leave the rest of the world to mind its own business without obtruding our interference.

"Moreover, for a long time past we have had nothing to teach foreign nations, but on the contrary much to learn and borrow from them—from England the freedom of the press and the right of meeting, and from our adversary of yesterday its military organization and its really universal compulsory service. On these conditions we may rely on the co-operation and sympathy of our neighbors. We must repudiate proselytism. We must repudiate that sinister policy of the Second Empire which involved us in the Mexican expedition, which betrayed Denmark, which allowed Austria to be crushed, and which dug under our own feet a gulf into which we all but disappeared. That doctrine of nationalities we must emphatically, heartily, and sincerely repudiate."

Balknap and Lord Bacon.

Gath in the New York Graphic.

The nearest precedent to Belknap's case in form is probably that of Francis Bacon, lord verulam, viscount St. Albans and lord chancellor of England, which corresponds to the mingled offices of vice president, chief justice of equity, cabinet minister and chief private councellor of the sovereign. To kill the chancellor is treason, as to kill the Queen. Lord Bacon was the greatest of English political intellects, the friend of Elizabeth and James I., a reputed author of Shakespeare, and patron of Ben Johnson, rich, learned and noble. He had the greatest office in the land, had beaten Sir Edwin Coke in rivalry, received rich presents and legacies, and married rich. Yet, giving way to voluptuous improvidence in the year 1621, he took bribes direct to the number of twenty-four cases, in one case receiving £400 and in another £700. Public excitement ran so high that Bacon's health failed like Belknap's spirit, and even King James was alarmed and insisted that he should plead guilty, which he did, as follows:

"I do plainly and ingeniously confess that I am guilty of corruption, and renounce all defense. * * * * I beseech your lordship to be merciful to a broken reed."

He was sentenced to pay a fine of $40,000 and to go to jail, both of which penalties were remitted, but he never recovered standing nor raised his head again, and died neglected and broken-hearted, although it was an age of presents and bribes. Bacon became so poor that he was refused beer by a nobleman near his obscure lodgings, and yet he protested that, though guilty, he was the most honest chancellor England had known.

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