Wilmington Journal.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1876.

A MUCH-NEEDED COMPILATION.

The New York *Public* is apprehensive that in the rush of later exposures the cases of McKee and Maguire, the St. Louis whisky ring convicts, who after failing in their attempt to procure new trials have been sentenced—Maguire to six months imprisonment and a fine of five thousand dollars—may be forgotten. McKee, Maguire, Avery, Joyce and McDonald were unfortunate in relying too much on Babcock's influence with the administration, and in being brought to trial before Babcock's complicity in the conspiracy became so manifest that the President and Attorney General Pierrepont were obliged to interpose to put a stop to the convictions. In fact, the conviction of these men looks very much like treachery on the part of Babcock, who could not have been ignorant of their danger. Had Babcock, instead of playing innocent, as he did in the commencement of the St. Louis trials, come up to the scratch like a man, made common cause with his confederates, and demanded the letter which the President afterwards ordered Pierrepont to write, warning witnesses against testifying in the whisky cases, and brought to bear upon their trials the influence of the government which he afterwards invoked so successfully in his own case, the ringsters who are now pining in the seclusion of the penitentiary would to-day be enjoying with Babcock, Boss Shepherd, Harrington, Williams and the rest of the ring their ill-gotten gains, and prosecuting new schemes of plunder in Washington. They have learned by sad experience the meaning of the admonition "put not your trust in Babcocks," and must content themselves with the hope of Executive clemency between now and the fourth of March next, the realization of which hope depends on their keeping close mouths.

But the *Public* is right in its surmise that in the rush of later and more astounding exposures of Radical knavery in higher administration circles, such minor villainies as those of the whisky ring will be overlooked by the public. The truth is, it is taxing the capacity of the press and the comprehension of the people to keep up the daily record of corruption and rascality which is being developed in every department of the government. It is impossible for the people to bear in memory the almost illimitable number of frauds, defalcations, embezzlements, briberies, forgeries, and cases of official malfeasance, corruption, peculation and plunder that have been brought to light within the last twelve months. From the disclosure of the Credit-Mobilier swindle down to the Belknap bribery, enough official fraud has been exposed to sink in infamy all of the administrations from the time of Washington to the present day; and yet there are few who, if called on to recount the villainies that have been exposed, would be able to enumerate one-half of them. Fraud after fraud and crime after crime have followed in such quick succession, villainy on villain's head accumulating, until the record has not only shocked credulity but literally wearied the public indignation. In the management of the affairs of the nation official rascality has become the general rule and honesty the rare exception; and so familiar has the public ear become with details of crime in high places that the daily recital has not only ceased to startle the public sense but fails to impress the memory. The danger is that the masses of the country will come in time to loose all faith and confidence in public men and all respect for government.

It would be a good office for some one who has the data at command to compile a chronological record, briefly and in order setting forth the cases of governmental and official corruption and fraud that have been brought to light during the last four years of Grant's administration. Such a record of crime, briefly stated, would make a volume larger than the last digest of the statute laws of the United States, and would contain more official villany than the criminal records of Europe for the same period. As a campaign document, or rather, as an inexhaustable magazine of campaign literature, it would be invaluable. It would not only convince the American people of the utter rottenness of the Radical party, but it would bury that party under such a load of infamy that no political resurrection could ever reach it.

South Carolina Republican Convention: As these words left Judge Mackey's lips, State Senator Swales, a negro man and a native of the State, who stood just beside him and not five feet from the table at which the representatives of the press were seated, asked: "To whom do you apply that language, Judge Mackey?" "To you, sir, for one," was the reply. "You are one of the thieves of South Carolina." "You are —— liar," was Swales' answer. At this point a crowd of the delegates rushed between the two speakers. Among the rest was Elliott, the negro Speaker of the Assembly, who, standing directly in front of Mackey, and looking straight at him said: "Do you mean to say that the majority of the delegates here are thieves?" Quiek as thought came Mackey's answer, "I mean to say that there is a band of public robbers in South Carolina, and that you, sir, are their chief." Elliott's black face became pale with rage, and without a word he draw his revolver. This was the only signal which seemed to be needed, and in an instant half a dozen pistols were out. Three or four newspaper correspondents who were directly in the way of the combatants held them back for a moment, and until they were more effectively separated by a number of the colored delegates. None of the pistols were discharged, but both Elliott and Mackey were severely shaken by the crowd which separated them. Elliott's wife, who was in the ladies gallery, seeing the pistols drawn, rushed screaming through the hall. Other women followed her example, and what with the yells of the maddened negroes and the cries of the women, the scene was almost indiscribable.

THE NATIONAL DISGRACE.

No patriotic or honest man can contemplate the exposures which are being daily made at Washington by the various committees of Congress without the blush of shame mantling his cheeks. From the the highest to the lowest, it seems that officials have vied with each other in defrauding the government. "Put money in thy purse" has been for years the object of those in power, and no set of men ever followed purpose with more devotion or with more success. Day by day, men high in authority and in the confidence of the President are found to be guilty of the most heinous crimes, and the skirts of that official are besmeared with the filth which his associates and confidants have spread broadcast through the White House, befouling even the chosen sanctum of the President himself.

It gives us little pleasure as American citizens to have these unwholesome facts thrust upon us at any time, but especially so now when the eyes of the whole world are turned to us upon the eve of our Centennial celebration, and when the best and purest of the representatives of monarchial governments are either visitors or are about to become the guests of our country. They come not only to congratulate us upon the material progress which our great republic has made, but to look into the system of government which has brought about this great improvement, and to model their own after the better features of ours.

What a sickening and disgusting spectacle must we present to the intelligent representatives of foreign powers who read of the disgraceful scenes which are daily presented at Washington. The late Secretary of War impeached for high-crimes and misdemeanors, the President's chosen secretary and an honored officer of the most exalted corps of the army, just escaped from a felon's cell for crimes, which later evidence shows that he was guilty of, again indicted for a still graver offence, the Secretary of the Navy and the Attorney General undergoing investigations which have already clouded their reputations, and may and will probably bring them to the criminal dock, the President, himself the companion and patron of thieves and burglars and spies and informers, if not even now protected from exposure of more guilty complications in the whirlpool of crime which has disgraced the National Capital, by the dogged refusal of Kilbourn to implicate him, for which he is now undergoing imprisonment, are ugly facts, which no honest man can look squarely in the face and feel proud of. American citizenship can and does cover a multitude of sins, but even the power of this potent title to respectability and recognition may be exhausted, and we confess that recent events have drawn largely upon its resources.

We herewith cull from one or two of our exchanges some facts proven and reports current for one day at the capital, and submit to any candid mind what impression these things are calculated to make upon an intelligent, disinterested reader."

As a matter of defence for the President it has been claimed that he had been blinded to the corruptions and scandals of his administration by those who immediately surrounded and controlled him, and that when his eyes were fairly opened he got rid of Babcock, Luckey and others, even if he does not say as much in his deposition in the Babcock trial. This defence, however, will not hold good. Evidence has now been produced that the President was earnestly warned nearly five years ago by his most intimate and trusted friend, the late collector Ford, of St. Louis, against General McDonald, the head and front of the whisky frauds of that city, and who a day or two ago entered upon his term of imprisonment in the penitentiary. Notwithstanding Mr. Ford's warning McDonald was a welcome guest at the White House, and on his last visit but one to Washington, the President had him on a buggy ride. It may be said that he literally stepped as a guest at the White House to the prisoner's dock, and from thence to the penitentiary. The following is the letter of Mr. Ford. We call attention to the fact of the close personal relations of President and the writer, the date of the letter and the sequel of McDonald's career and end:

ST. LOUIS, May 30, 1870.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I wrote you a few days ago about this man McDonald as supervisor in place of Marr. I inclose you a couple of slips cut from the Leathenworth Commercial. I understand McDonald was in the town of Leavenworth when these articles appeared, but offered no remonstrance or explanation in regard to them. The Democrat here has been McDonald's friend, and I think recommended him for the appointment.

McKee told me that he had called McDonald's attention to these articles, and asked what they meant. He answered very coolly that he did not read the newspapers, and they were of no consequence, and the Democrat has dropped him. McKee says he can't defend a man for such charges. They were unanswerable, and the Democrat has dropped him. McKee says he can't defend a man from such charges as these, who has nothing to say for himself. From all I can learn I am satisfied McDonald is a bad egg, and that so far as being any credit to your Administration he is a downright discredit to it. He is entirely without capacity as a business man, and the business community know it, and have no confidence in him whatever. You will pardon me for the interest I take in the matter. I do not want such a man to go about the country representing himself your special and personal friend, when I know, and others too, that you take no stock in such a character. He is no credit to you or your Administration, but an absolute damage, and I hope for your sake and ours you will have him squelched. You will pardon me for the interest I take in the matter, but I have, and so do all your friends, to see such a man as McDonald travelling through the country as your special champion and attempting to rule the interests of internal revenue in such a loud manner. A man that Republican papers denounce as being without sense, without truth and common honesty. I tell you this confidentially, having no doubt of its truth. We all hope you will satisfy yourself of the truth of it. If you have any doubts, do yourself justice and the country a service by squelching him at once.

(Signed) C. W. FORD.

If we turn from the sickening recital of the whisky frauds, in the exchanges which lie before us, the last echoes of the disclosures of the "safe burglary" present themselves to us. This terrible crime is also traced to the portals of the White house. Its ugly details are known to all, but we clip the following as the latest phrase of this transaction:

WASHINGTON, April 17.

On Saturday afternoon, immediately after the grand jury adjourned, one of the members called upon a prominent ex-official who is a personal friend of the President, and told him that the evidence before the grand jury against Babcock was not only circumstantial, but conclusive and overwhelming as to his guilt in connection with the safe burglary conspiracy. He said to Grant's friend: "I cannot tell you what transpired in the grand jury room, nor what was told by the witnesses, but I would advise you to go and tell the President that there is evidence of the most positive character against Babcock, and that in its variations it will even reflect upon the President himself, involving his signature or perhaps a forgery of it. The only way the President can forefend the blow is to promptly declare that he was ignorant of any attempt on Babcock's part to use executive influence. In addition the grand jury man declared that it was evident that there was another fox on this jury, as there was one in St. Louis, for it transpired that about the time the grand jury began an investigation of the safe burglary cases, Babcock and Harrington were anxious to get hold of evidence documentary, and had in fact possessed themselves of certain papers which had an important bearing upon the case.

We were in hopes that we had heard the last of the crimes of "Laudulet" Williams whose crimes did not deter the President from promoting him from the position of Attorney General to Chief Justice, but which promotion the Senate dared not confirm. But later investigations are bringing to light fresher and greater rascalities of this cabinet officer. We read:

WASHINGTON, April 16.

Every day's investigation by the Special Committee into the doings of ex-Attorney General Williams develops fresh infamies on his part during his official life. Two of the latest things discovered which he will be called upon to explain are as to what became of $750,000 which appears upon the records of the department to have been drawn by him, and concerning the disposition of which no vouchers can be found, and, second, why $5,000 of Government money was used to run Mrs. Williams' son out of the country.

One other, and we turn from the perusal heartsick and wearied, and cast the shameful record into the waste basket, wishing thereby we could hide the damning evidence from the world:

WASHINGTON, April 17.

The committee on printing to-day examined an expert in binding from Baltimore, who has made a careful examination of the work done by the government bindery, and gives it as his opinion that the government has been swindled out of twenty-thousand dollar a year on the cost of material alone. The uniform practice of Clapp has been to have all leather billed to him as sheep, low sheep and low calf, when, in point of fact, no such material was ever purchased.

The late chief clerk of the General Land Office, L. K. Lippincott, "Grace Greenwood's" husband, who was summarily dismissed by Secretary Chandler some weeks ago for defrauding the government by means of fraudulent Chippewa land scrip, is missing, and efforts to ascertain his whereabouts have failed. Lippincott was indicted by the District grand jury, but before he could be arrested fled, and is supposed to have taken refuge in some foreign country. A full investigation of Lippincott's rascality shows that he was paid about $25,000 for passing one thousand fraudulent claims for Chippewa land scrip through the General Land Office.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria has directed the following productions by herself and the members of her family to be forwarded to the exposition: Twenty-six etcetings by Her Majesty, two table napkins spun by Her Majesty, a banner screen embroidered by Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, a tablecloth embroidered by the Princess Louise, of Hesse, and Princess Christina, of Schleswig-Holstein, two drawings of flowers by Her Royal Highness Princess Louise, the Marchioness of Lorne. These articles will reach Philadelphia early next month; and will form an interesting feature of the exhibition. This example of industry on the part of the female members of the royal family is well worthy of record.

A Washington special to the Baltimore *Gazette* says: "The exodus of important witnesses to Europe is alarming. Lyman Elmore, who has been a notorious lobbyist for years, is now traveling on the continent for his health. Sam Smith, who knows everything, has the gout, and is now at St. Catherine's, Canada, for the benefit of his health. Marquis de Chambrun has very urgent business in France. Paige, the partner of the late Louis Dent, has gone to see Caleb Cushing, at Madrid, about cotton claims, and probably before the week out Dick Harrington will find foreign clime more congenial to his taste."

Bishop Quintard, of the diocese of Tennessee, in a letter to a friend in Nashville, denies the published report that the Bishop of London had refused to allow him to confirm candidates in the London diocese. He says that the amount of truth in it may be judged from the fact that he had twice confirmed for the Bishop of London, and that his lordship was the chairman of his committee and a liberal subscriber to the University fund. He had been treated by him with the utmost kindness and consideration.

A bill authorizing the taxation of stockholders of insurance companies was passed in the New York Senate on Friday last, by a vote of 24 yeas to 1 nay. Last session it failed in the Senate after having passed the House. The action has created quite an excitement in insurance circles in New York, and some of the companies threaten to move their quarters to New Jersey if the bill is approved by the Governor.

Would it not be as honorable, if not as patriotic, for Blaine to clear his own skirts of corruption, instead of denouncing men for treason just about this season? Harrison says that he has been faithful to his own trust, and is ready to testify. Is Blaine willing for him to do so? And if so, why not call upon Harrison?

WASHINGTON LETTER.

The Safe Burglary Investigations—Emancipation Day—Unveiling Lincoln's Statue.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, April 15.

The toils are gradually closing around Gen. Babcock, Harrington and other and more prominent District ex-officials. There never was a more elaborate and bungling conspiracy than that which has received the name of the "safe burglary."

Over two years ago prominent citizens of Washington, conspicuous among whom was Columbus Alexander, were pushing an investigation into Boss Shepard's administration of District affairs.

They had the District government by the throat and were making it hot and vigorous for it. It was becoming evident that unless the investigation could be paralyzed, Shepard and the ring would soon be in a situation *a la Tweed*. At that this juncture the iron safe of Richard Harrington, Shepherd's nearest friend, was blown open by two professional burglars and bogus books of District accounts with which Harrington had previously stocked the safe were taken out, and an unsuccessful effort was made to place them in the hands of Columbus Alexander. Let it be borne in mind that Alexander had, a few days previously, during the investigation, expressed the opinion that certain books and accounts produced in evidence by the Shepard ring were not genuine, and that it was the object of the conspirators to make it appear that he (Alexander) resorted to the crime of burglary in order to obtain what he supposed were the genuine books. It will easily be seen that the gentlemen who were investigating the Shepard ring would have been demoralized and paralyzed had the stigma of the burglary been fastened upon Mr. Alexander, and the investigation would have been paralyzed and failed.

The conspiracy failed of fixing the crime upon Mr. Alexander by being a few hours too late. It was planned to deliver the books to him at 10 o'clock, but the burglar did not reach Mr. Alexander's residence until 1 in the night, when he, not anticipating anything of the kind, was asleep, so soundly asleep that repeated ringing the bell did not waken him. His first knowledge of the so-called burglary was obtained from the morning papers.

I have endeavored thus briefly to give an outline of this conspiracy, omitting many interesting episodes, for recent developments prove, as has been expected, that it is of scarcely less importance in the moral and political bearings than the Belknap affair. Harrington, who it is said has fled to Europe, was Assistant District Attorney at the time. He is a handsome young man, and possessed of a shallow but brilliant theatric style of oratory. During his trial he spoke in his own defense, concluding, amid great applause, "I am innocent, so help me God."

It will be remembered that Harrington during his trial, received an invitation to attend a reception at the White House, and during the reception was in long conversation with the President. The impropriety of the Chief Magistrate of a nation placing himself on a social level with a man indicted for a criminal offense, did not fail to receive its comment from the press throughout the country.

And on the other hand, the incident was skillfully used by Harrington's lawyers as an emphatic recognition by the President of a great nation of his moral and social standing of the accused. The jury disagreed and the suit was dismissed.

Mr. Beck, of Kentucky, made dogged effort week after week to have a committee of the 43d Republican Congress investigate the matter, but, until Mr. Knott's committee took it up, Mr. Harrington and the more powerful men behind him enjoyed immunity. They are now called to their account, and the investigation promises to be one of the richest in starting results that the present Congress has taken hold of. I have deemed this short resume of the much talked and written of burglary not out of place, since it is a matter that promises to be of national and political importance, and it occurred so long since that many of its features are not remembered.

The present Congress is every day earning a place in history for economy and honesty. Demagogues like Blaine, Morton and Boutwell make spasmodic efforts to start new issues or to revive old ones ever and anon they galvanize, shock or thrill with malignant reminiscence or gloomy augury. But the constant determined tenor of of the present Congress, is so pronounced for the honest economical administration of the national government that it will be so remembered long after the silly frantic oratory of those gentlemen, mingled with the imprecations of thieves and drones burdens the air, there is silent in the land. There have been many objections urged against the policy of investigations with closed doors, but it is quite plain now that this is the wisest policy. In some instances already the point of investigation has been blunted or foiled through the enterprise of newspapers in publishing their secrets. Implicated parties anxiously following the investigations have learned that they were wanted two or three days before the issuance of the summons and have thus been enabled to get out of the way.

Secretary Delano's son John was summoned from New York but he pleaded sickness, and now one Reed by whom it was expected to prove that son John pocketed ten dollars per mile for surveys that cost only 75 cents per mile has been so unpatriotic as to sail for Europe in this Centennial year. But these exiles will be homesick before long and be safe for them to return, for it is now believed that the present Congress will remain in session, taking short recesses for the Exposition at Philadelphia and for the conventions at Cincinnatti and St. Louis, until September. If these gentlemen who have gone abroad are only half as avricious of silence money as the safe burglars it will deplete the Republican campaign fund no little to keep them from testifying.

The week in Congress has been quite dull. The Senate has been debating a bill for the repavement of Pennsylvania Avenue. This avenue was paved by the Shepard government with Nicholson pavement only a few years since, but it is now pitted with decay, and the worst street in the city, "almost impassable, scarcely jackassable." In the House there has has been nothing more interesting than debate on appropriation bills.

This is Emancipation Day, and a colossal bronza statue of Lincoln has been unveiled with much empty form in Lincoln park. The entire ceremonial seems to have been left to the colored population, and the management cannot be characterized as anything but niggardly. There was one small platform with seats occupied by the President, a few members of Congress and members of the diplomatic corps, and a good many beats and bummers. There were no other accommodations for the thousands who have been on their feet for two or three hours, anxious to see the monument, which was wrapped and concealed in American flags. The colored societies in their gaudy uniforms were there in force. Prof. Langston was Master of Ceremonies, and asked the President to pull the rope which removed the covering, and the statue was unveiled amid boom of cannon, applause of the surrounding multitude, and patriotic music from the Marine Band.

It is a very impressive work of art, representing the ideal Mr. Lincoln in the act of liberating the ideal African. The face of the liberator is full of benignity, while his left hand is extended over the head of a negro half rising as he gropes for liberty, or franchisement and the Freedman's Bank and political affiliation with Morton, Boutwell, Belknap and Babcock. C. A. S.

MILES RISES TO EXPLAIN.

The Story of the Chief Burglar—An Interesting Letter to Mr. Knott.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—The following letter from burglar Miles, who was used in the safe burglary conspiracy, was received by Mr. Knott a few days since:

WINDSOR PRISON, Vt., April 10, 1876.

—*Dear Sir:* You will pardon the liberty I take in dropping you this note, I trust, when I state that I feel I have borne the stigma of that nefarious Washington safe burglary affair already too long. I take this means to state to you the following facts: I am the principal party engaged in and present at the blowing open of the safe in the district attorney's office on the night of April 24, 1874. In the month of March of that year I was sent for by Colonel Whitely, then chief of the secret service division, detective department, and by him told there was an investigation then going on as to the District affairs at Washington, and he wished me to see Nettleship and go to Washington and see if it was not possible to do something to break the force of this investigation; that prominent officials there were involved, and that if I would go on there I would be well paid, &c. I met Nettleship several times in New York and finally went to Washington and met him there. He introduced me to Harrington, with whom I canvassed over the matter, and finally agreed to do the job on the 24th; but, as the time approached, Nettleship began to show the white feather, so much so that I did not feel warranted in proceeding further in the matter without some further assurances of protection, not wishing to embark in a job of that nature without being fully assured of his protection. This was finally promised by Harrington, Evans and Babcock. I then went ahead and did the job, but as they wished to make a sort of Fourth of July affair of it the matter became very much mixed up; however, I carried out my part of the contract to the letter. I see Nettleship and Mike Hays have given you their version of the affair, but as they took good care to place themselves safely in New York when the job was to be done, they cannot give you any of the details of that night's work. In fact there is no one that can but myself. The man (Benton) who was with me was not knowing to the details, and all that he done was under my direction. I am familiar with the details of the entire job, also with all that has been done in the matter subsequent, and had I not have worked like a beast and done very much dirty work, the result of that safe burglary trial would have been quite different. I have done all and much more than what I agreed to do. On their part, they have not paid me as per agreement, besides several other promises they made and which they have since broken. Had they done for me in July last what I asked, and which was not the one hundred and fiftieth part of what I had done for them, I would not to-day be here in prison, and this is not the worst feature in the affair. I learn that they have secretly connived at to keep me here with a view to getting me out of the way. As I now wish to relieve my shoulders of this scandalous affair and place it at the door of those to whom it rightfully belongs, I am at your service if I can, in any manner, assist your honorable committee in furthering the ends of justice. I remain your obedient servant,

G. E. MILES.

A Centennial Bale.

The Memphis Appeal says the premium centennial bale, in its beautiful dress of blue silk, golden hoops and rosettes of national colors, continues to draw at the rooms of the Cotton Exchange. A number of ladies called on the "Pride of the Valley" yesterday, and were much interested in its history and the part it is to take in the coming Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. Crowds have visited the Cotton Exchange daily since the bale has been on exhibition, and it will be the centre of attraction as long as it is allowed to remain therein. By the way, we notice that Superintendent Toof has been "marking" the bale, by causing the following inscription in gilt letters to be placed on both ends: "Memphis Cotton Exchange; Centennial Premium Cotton, produced by Wm. Taylor, of Phillips county, Arkansas, and awarded a premium of $1,000 by the Memphis Cotton Exchange as the finest and best bale of cotton produced in the Memphis District, crop of 1875-1876, for exhibition at the American Centennial." On one side of the inscription is the coat of arms of Tennessee, and on the other that of Arkansas surrounded by artistic decoration work done by skillful hands. The work was completed late yesterday afternoon, but when finished the premium bale of cotton will possess new attractions even for those who have seen it every day since it was first placed in position.

The Situation at the National Capital.

Special telegram to the Richmond Enquirer.

WASHINGTON, Aapril 17.

The debate in the House to-day upan Hallett Kilbourn's case was one of the ablest of the session. Hooker, of Mississippi, made an excellent speech against ordering the surrender of Kilbonrn to the court. The chief interest, however, gathered about the speech of Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, who made a strong argument for his amendment, directing the sergeant at-arms, by counsel, to ask for the quashing of the writ a improvidently granted. General Garfield came over and took a seat near Mr. Tucker and began a conversational debate in which he was soon worsted. Blaine, who had his plans fixed for a bloody-shirt display, next left his seat, and took a conspicuous place in front of the House and near to Mr. Tucker, with whom he soon managed to provoke a colloquial debate. His points were badly taken and he was easily embarrassed, Mr. Tucker telling him good humoredly that he already demonstrated that he was no lawyer. Blaine stirred over this for a while, and after thinking it over began a personal attack on Tucker, raking up the war record of the latter as attorney-general of Virginia. His manner was of the most pompous and inflammatory and dramatic order. Tucker had already been thrice applauded, and now Mr. Blaine secured partial applause; but when Tucker came to reply, the big bully of the republicans received such a dressing as has rarely been administered to any member in this chamber. The House and galleries enjoyed it to the highest degree. Blaine turned white with rage, trembled, attempted to retort and interrupt, but finally gave it up in despair. Blaine has now been completely vanquished in turn by Cox, Lamar, Blackburn and Tucker; his prestige has gone; his eager ambition has made him forgetful of dignity and decorum, and appears a mere ranting demagogue, ready to inflame the worst passions of the people in order to get the republican nomination for President. L. Q. W.

President Scott, of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and Senator Cameron, have invited the widow of ex-President Polk to visit the Centennial Exhibition. Should she accept the invitation, a sleeping car will be sent to take her to Philadelphia, where she will be hospitably entertained.

The levee south of Quincy, Ill., has broken and a large portion of the bottom lands are flooded. On the Illinois side, opposite Hannibal, houses and barnes floated off.

STATE NEWS.

From the Monroe Enquirer.

The Spring term of our Superior Court convened last Monday, his Honor, Judge Buxton, presiding. The attendance has been larger than usual, we think. Quite a number of cases were disposed of. The Criscoe murder case, from Stanly, was continued till next court and Criscoe taken back to Stanly jail. There were thirty-one convictions and submissions on the State docket, and 25 new bills found. The grand jury were discharged Thursday. Several important civil cases are set for this week. We will give a full report in next issue of both weeks' work.

From the Charlotte Southern Home:

Mr. J. H. Jones, the English miner, now in Charlotte, has bought the mines owned by the Rusell Brothers in Montgomery county, together with the land, houses, barns, &c. The whole cost $28,000. Mr. Jones expects to begin working the mines in three or four months. He pronounces them to be very rich.

The Concord Sun says:

On Thursday last intelligence was lodged with the clerk of the court that Mr. Calvin McGraw had hanged himself, and was found early that morning suspended from a pine tree, in an old field, about half a mile from his residence. Coroner Willeford summoned two jurors from Concord and the remainder from the immediate neighborhood of the deceased and proceeded with the inquest which resulted in the verdict "death from hanging—cause unknown to the jury." The reporter, upon hearing of the deed, immediately set out for the spot, which was about one mile this side of Cold Springs Arbor—seven miles from Concord. The news of the hanging had gained ground very rapidly and when we appeared at the spot a large crowd of people had assembled and at a "Prade Rest" were a respectable distance from the trees, awaiting the coming of the Coroner and at the same time watching the ghastly spectacle suspended from the tree as it swayed idly to and fro in the wind. The body of the man remained as it was when found, hanging from a limb of a pine tree, sixteen feet from the ground. Everything indicated that he went about this work of self-destruction with a very cool head. He had broken off all dead limbs that would have obstructed his fall and placed them against the trunk of the tree; his hat was laid at the foot of the tree, and his walking stick was placed about midway up the tree upon two dead limbs. The noose was adjusted in real hangman style and when he was taken down it was found that his neck was broken and that he probably died without a struggle, as his face clearly indicated. The deceased was an old man, being in his sixty-third year; and leaves a large family to mourn his loss. As he had been ill for nearly all spring and had been working in a field on the day of his disappearance from home, it is supposed that his mind gave way and that while laboring under temporary insanity he committed the fearful deed of self destruction. No other possible cause can be assigned for the act.

We are reliably informed by a party just from Stanly county that during last week, a gentleman living near Flat Fork Church had a presentiment that if he would dig up the ground near a certain rock on his land, he would find something valuable. Upon digging a pit about four feet deep, he found a basket filled with gold and silver coin. A few strokes of the pick and a fortune! The basket seems to have been placed there years ago by some one, name unknown. All of the neighbors have converted their farms into gold fields, but have found no more baskets.

The Polkton Ansonian regrets to learn from Mr. W. N. Parker, of that county that his new mill, on Rocky river, together with his cotton gin and saw mill, was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday morning, the 2nd inst. He is positively certain that it was fired after daylight. No insurance. Loss about $1,000.

From the Weldon News:

On Monday afternoon laist a difficulty occurred in the bar-room of Wm. Renfrow, in this place, between W. T. McMarks and John Faison in which the latter was cut about the face with a pocket-knife in the hands of the former. McMarks had a hearing before Justice Hill and he and Spivey, another man connected with the affair, were bound over to court.

The Norfolk Virginian says: The large quantities of fish from the fisheries on the coast of North Carolina has necessitated the running of boats daily on the Blackwater Line, to Franklin, and every day the freight trains on the Seaboard Road arrive with hundreds of boxes of fish, which are opened and iced by parties who make this a spring business and realize a very good percentage by charging commission per box, and are then shipped to the various Northern markets.

Monday night about 12 o'clock, the dwelling house of Mr. Geo. W. King, on the Chas. T. Alexander place about three miles from the city, was burned to the ground, with every article that it contained. Mr. King was awakened by the falling of the stairway, and barely had time then to arouse the family and escape from the burning building. So short, indeed, was the time allowed for the inmates to escape that two of the sons who were sleeping up stairs were forced to climb out of the chimney and jump to the ground. All the family escaped in their night clothes, and considered themselves fortunate that they were permitted to escape at all. Not a garment, except those in which the family was sleeping, was rescued, and not a piece of furniture or bed clothing. The loss is about $500 on furniture, wearing apparel, bed clothing, &c., and about $1,000 on the building, with no insurance on either.

Chas. W. Parks, a worthy farmer in Randolph county, died last week of injuries received from a vicious horse. An accident somewhat similar a short time before resulted fatally to Mrs. Raines, an aunt of Mr. Parks. The latter was injured by an attack from an enraged cow, and died soon afterwards.

The Robesonian says:

The statement going the rounds of the papers to the effect that Jim Matthews, who was convicted of burglary at the recent term of our Superior Court, is to be hung on the 26th of May, is incorrect. The statement is taken from the Robesonian, but another article, stating that he had appealed to the Supreme Court, was published in the same issue of the paper, but was overlooked by our exchanges.

What Judge Carter Would Have Done.

Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Gazette.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—It was stated to-day that if the House refused to surrender Hallet Kilbourn, Judge Cartter would to-morrow have issued an order for the United States Marshal to produce the prisoner, and if the warden of the jail had disregarded that order, he being an appointee of the District judges, he would have been promptly removed. Then had the order been opposed by force, Chief Justice Cartter would have issued a writ of *posse comitatus*, and appealed to the President for the services of the marine corps, and whatever force necessary to forcibly take the prisoner from the jail. If Judge Cartter does not promptly remand Kilbourn to the custody of the sergeant-at-arms tomorrow he will be impeached.

Professor Watson, at Ann Arbor, Mich., reports the discovery, on the night of the 16th inst., in constellation "Virgo," of a planet hitherto unknown.

from the Raleigh Sentinel.

A CARD FROM COL. POOL.

List of Peabody Schools.

MR. EDITOR:—Will the Sentinel and other papers in the State publish the following list of Peabody Schools in North Carolina for the year 1875, which were accepted, and having met the requirements, were paid:

Newbern, Tarboro (col.), Charlotte (white and col.), Raleigh (col.), Morgan Hill, Marshall, Pigeon Valley, Cullowhee, Buffalo, Edneyville, Fayetteville, (col.), Pleasant Hill, Laural Branch, Balsam Seminary, Rocky Hill, Ivy Shoal, Flat Creek, Granville, Cowee, Fleming's Chapel, Roan Mountain, Pisgah, Smyrna, Smithfield, Mill Shoal, New Salem, Laurel Hill (Madison county), Rocky Point, Reem's Creek, Nebo, Dick's Creek, Hickyville Academy, Oak Grove, Harrell, Laurel Fork, Blue Ridge, Laurel Hill (Clay), Cheoah, Warrenton, (col.), Hillsboro and Wilmington, aggregating $15,400. Of this amount Dr. Sears paid $3,000, and I paid $12,400 under his directions. Total number of schools 43.

If Peabody schools are a blessing, and well conducted schools on that plan I believe to be, then the children of North Carolina enjoyed more of these blessings last year than ever before.

As I stated in a card published some days ago, every teacher of a Peabody school in North Carolina, entitled to pay, has been paid with the exception noted in that card, and the balance due him has been and is now ready for him.

Further, I will state that any obligation of mine in the hands of third parties, which has any relation to this fund in the remotest degree, will be paid when presented, or I am notified of it.

It has been charged that efforts have been made by leading democrats to "cover up" my delinquencies, if any there be. A charge more unfounded was never uttered. A republican official could hope for such efforts, but no democrat can. S. D. POOL.

Raleigh, N. C., April 1876.

A SCENE IN THE HOUSE.

Tucker and Blaine Lock Horns.

Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Gazette.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—"Blaine was used up again to-day" is the remark you hear coming from almost every man this evening in the lobbies of the hotels. The story of the ex-Speaker's discomfiture in debate is as follows: The discussion of the majority report of the judiciary committee on the question as to the return which the House of Representatives should instruct its sergeat-at arms to make to the Supreme Court of the District in the matter of the writ of *habeas corpus* issued on the petition of Hallet Kilbourn, was drawing to a close. Mr. Tucker of Virginia had the floor for twenty minutes to offer a substitute for the resolution which came from the majority of the judiciary committee. This substitute was in substance to instruct the sergeant-at-arms to make answer to the court that under section 755, revised statutes, the court had no right to grant the writ of *habeas corpus* because the petition itself showed on its face that the party praying for it had no right thereto. This he supported by a very able and exhaustive argument, and in the course of it, in reply to an interrogation from Garfield as to how the House would act in the event the court would not receive such an answer, Mr. Tucker replied that the House of Representatives would make the court receive the answer. Thereupon, Blaine, who had come down in front of the Speaker, asked, in an incoherent manner, what force would be employed to *make* the court do it. Mr. Tucker replied, in a most dignified manner, "Legal force, of course." In a most taunting manner, Blaine said he could not understand such language when applied to a legal tribunal, and thereupon Mr. Tucker retorted that the gentleman from Maine had often demonstrated his inability to comprehend a legal subject. His exhibitions of ignorance on this subject had been frequent of late. This nettled Blaine, and he demanded to know how a court could be made to do anything except by violence. That, replied Tucker, shows the gentleman is no lawyer, or else he would have known that there was such a thing as a mandamus, by which courts were made to do things which they might not want to do. After Mr. Tucker had concluded his argument, Blaine begged for just one moment, which was granted, and thereupon he said that the language of Mr. Tucker was an intentional disrespect, that it was discourteous to taunt him with not being a lawyer, and, striking a tragic air, he exclaimed; "I thank God that I was not bred a lawyer in the school in which the gentleman from Virginia graduated, who, as Attorney General of Virgin a, gave an opinion that the municipal authorities of that State had a right to determine what sort of matter should be carried in the United States mails. Again Blaine exclaimed, "I thank God I am not such a lawyer," and then went on to talk about State's rights and claimed that Mr. Tucker was advocating a doctrine now which set the House of Representatives above and beyond judicial tribunal and made it a power absolute and beyond control. Every few minutes with stage parade he would exclaim, "I thank God I am not such a lawyer as the gentleman from Virginia." All the time Blaine was glaring at Mr. Tucker his face was livid with rage. Mr. Tucker, with perfect composure, looked quietly at Blaine and scarcely moved until he had concluded, and then with a quiet grace and withering sarcasm he proceeded to demolish the Maine statesman. Whatever else he might be, said Tucker, there was one thing everybody would admit Mr. Blaine to be. He was a Pharisee. He stood up in public places and thanked God that he was not as other people were. This application, in view of the stories now on everybody's lips about the $64,000 from the Union Pacific Railroad Company, brought down the House. This hit was followed up remorselessly, and in five minutes Mr. Blaine was driven from the bar of the House to his seat, and there was none so poor on his own side as to do him reverence. It was a most signal and complete discomfiture, and he plainly exhibited his pain and anguish at the chastisement he received.

Mr. Thurman on the Presidency.

The Cincinnati Gazette of Saturday has a telegram from Columbus, Ohio, where Senator Thurman is visiting, which says: "To-night a couple of democratic brethren gave it as Mr. Thurman's opinion that Gov. Hayes is most likely to be the republican candidate for the Presidency, and that as such he would be the most difficult of all to beat. The Senator said that Conkling and Blaine would much prefer Hayes to each other, but that neither would consent to Bristow, and, further, that he believed a large portion of Morton's supporters, while they would not be likely to wheel into line for any eastern man, would prefer Hayes to any one else from the West. Mr. Thurman thinks for the democratic nomination he will have practically but two competitors, Senator Bayard and Gen. Hancock. As against the former, he considers his own chances pretty secure, believing himself equally popular with Bayard in the east, and far st onger in the west, but he has some apprehension that Hancock, a non-committal compromise man, may carry off the nomination. At the same time he thinks that no democratic candidate with neutral or doubtful views would have any show before the people, and would lose heavily both east and west."

Yesterday was the last day of the great revival in New York. $160,000 have been collected and $75,000 is still needed.

A Mecklenburg Bank Decision.

From the Charlotte Observer.

Hon. R. P. Dick, Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, has just decided in the case of E. A. Osborne, assignee of the Bank of Mecklenburg, vs. H. D. Lee, that bills of said bank, bought after the suspension of that institution on the 17th day of August last, cannot be used to set off claims held by the bank against the defendant. This also decides the case of Osborne, assignee, vs. McDonald, and sets at rest a question which has been considerably discussed, unless, indeed an appeal is taken, which is not probable.

Mrs. Butler Once an Actress.

Mrs. B. F. Butler, the wife of Gen. Butler, who died a few days ago, was the daughter of Dr. Hilbreth, of Lowell, and while on a visit to Brooklyn, N. Y., became enamored of the stage. After being under the tuition of Mr. Vernon she made her *debut* August 10, 1837, at the Park Theatre, New York, as Marianna in "The Wife," for the benefit of Mr. William Abbott for the ju