

ROCK ME TO SLEEP.

Backward, turn backward, O Time in your flight;
Make me a child again just for to-night!
Mother, come back from the earthless shore,
Take me again to your heart as of yore;
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care,
Smooth the few silver threads out of my hair;
Over my slumbers your loving watch keep—
Rock me to sleep, Mother—rock me to sleep.

Backward, flow backward, O tide of the years,
I am so weary of toil and of tears—
Toil without recompense—tears all in vain—
Take them, and give me my "childhood" again!

I have grown weary of dust and decay—
Weary of flinging my soul's wealth away;
Weary of sowing for others to reap—
Rock me to sleep, Mother—rock me to sleep.

Tired of the hollow, the base, the untrue,
Mother, O Mother, my heart calls for you!
Many a summer the grass has grown green,
Blossomed and faded our faces between,
Yet, with strong yearning and passionate pain,
Long I to-night for your presence again,
Come from the silence so long and so deep;
Rock me to sleep, Mother—rock me to sleep.

Over my heart, in the days that are down,
No love like Mother love ever has shone;
No other worship abides and endures;
Faithful, unselfish, patient like yours;
Happy like a Mother can charm away pain
From the sick soul and the world-weary brain,
Slumber's soft calm o'er my heavy lids creep;
Rock me to sleep, Mother—rock me to sleep.

Come, let your brown hair just lighted with gold,
Fall on your shoulders again as of old;
Let it drop o'er my forehead to-night,
Shading my faint eyes away from the light;
For with its sunny edged shadows once more,
Happily will I close my eyes to the world;
Lovingly, softly, its bright billows sweep;
Rock me to sleep, Mother—rock me to sleep.

Mother, dear Mother, the years have been long,
Since I last listened to your lullaby song;
Sing then, and unto my soul it shall seem
Womanhood's years have been only a dream,
Clasped to your heart in a loving embrace,
With your light lashes just sweeping my face.

Never hereafter to wake or to weep—
Rock me to sleep, Mother—rock me to sleep.
FLORENCE PERCY

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Its Original Organization and History.
Very little is known, and less understood, of the New York Associated Press, than of the other great news organizations of the world. It was organized in 1847 by the Herald, Tribune, Journal of Commerce, Courier and Enquirer, Sun, and Express, then a morning paper, for the purpose of collecting the ship news. From that time it grew and expanded to its present proportion, and now consists of the same papers, with the addition of the Times, since established, and the World into which the Courier and Enquirer was merged. The Express, though now an evening journal, is still a member of the Association. The evening Post, Journal of Commerce, and State Gazette, are not, but they do not belong to the Association. The other two German morning dailies, the Democrat and Journal, and the Abend Zeitung, (evening paper), do not get their telegraphic news from the Associated Press, nor do the other evening journals in this city or Brooklyn.

James Gordon Bennett, Jr., represents the Herald in the association; John Russell Young, the Tribune; David M. Stone, the Journal of Commerce; Manton Marble, the World; Joseph E. Leonard and J. N. Ashley, New England agents; Myron H. Rooker and John H. Howell, New York State agents; Oliver M. Bradford, western agent; John Hall, ship news agent; Ferd. V. A. Barber, manufacturing direct; A. J. Moulder, accountant and E. C. Kemble, assistant. Mr. Leonard is the principal proprietor of the San Francisco Bulletin, one of the stockholders of the New York Times, and of the Western Telegraphic Company. He has been a journalist for twenty years, and is supposed to be quite wealthy. He works like a Trojan in his position as agent, and receives the slender salary of \$2,500 per annum.

Mr. Alpin is a printer by profession, having graduated at the case, is very energetic, capable, and intelligent, and a most creditable representative of the Faustian art. Mr. Leach is a literary man and classic scholar, who has written some clever poems and criticisms on literature and music. He is the son of Mr. George Leach, a leading Fourtierre in Boston, and one of the original members of the Brook farm company. Mr. Rooker was for a long time night editor of the Tribune, and is a practical printer. Mr. Howell was captain in the regular army, and distinguished himself for gallantry during the rebellion. He is a learned and old printer and journalist, having been for years connected with the Boston Press. He came to the Associated Press originally as their agent of the press of that city, and was one of the managers of the office during the Craig regime. Mr. Ashley was a telegraph operator originally, and for some time Washington correspondent, having been recently in the service of the Herald.

Mr. Bradford is also a Boston journalist, and has been in the Associated Press about eighteen years. Mr. Barber has been in the service of the Associated Press for fifteen years; in fact, has never had any other business. Mr. Hall, or Captain John, as he is styled, has gathered ship news for many years, and as personally known to every captain, pilot, mate, and sailor who sails from this port. He is a most charming character, way, and universally esteemed among the nautical fraternity. Messrs. Kemble and Moulder are Californians, old friends and associates of Mr. Simonott, and very pleasant and courteous gentlemen.

Henry J. Raymond was at one time an attaché of the Associated Press, as was Frederick Hudson, ex-managing editor of the Herald. George H. Andrews, our State Senator from Otsego county; Wm. Lyon McKenzie, deceased, son of the famous McKenzie, who originated the patriot war in Canada in 1838; Thomas W. Knox, R. T. Colburn, Junius Henri Browne, and other journalists have held positions at different times in the Associated Press. In addition to the persons named the association has ten to thirty manholders to "manifold" or "duplicate" copies of the original despatches received from the telegraph office for the different newspapers; also a number of messenger boys, who are under the direction of Mr. Charles Simonott.

The Associated Press has an agent in every city and town of importance in this country and in Europe, whose duty it is to forward intelligence as early as possible to the home office. The total number of persons employed is probably seven or eight hundred, and the expenses of the association are \$500,000 to \$600,000 a year.

The general agents have been, but three in number. Dr. Alexander Jones, afterward financial editor of the Herald, was the first general agent. He was so singular a person

he is now deceased—that a brief sketch of the man may not be uninteresting.

He was extremely quick-tempered, nervous, and excitable. The messenger boys and the various telegraph and newspaper offices used to play all sorts of tricks upon him. They would steal his hat, empty his inkstand and fill it with water, steal his pens, pencils, papers, and everything they could lay their hands on. In this way they nearly worried the Doctor out of his life. He has been known to fly into such a rage as to pull the hair out of his head by handfuls, and throw his hat upon the ground and dance on it.

He was of Welsh lineage, and wrote a book about Wales, the Welsh people and their descendants in this country. He also wrote a book upon the "Telegraph," which had quite an extensive sale. He claimed, and with great earnestness, that he had invented a system of telegraphing that would supersede the Morse, Bain and Morse systems. The principle upon which his system was operated he declared similar to that of photography, and he stated time without number that by his invention a whole newspaper could be photographed from the telegraph office in New Orleans in an instant. He died, however, without giving to the world the benefit of his most extraordinary invention.

D. H. Craig succeeded Dr. Jones about three years after the formation of the Associated Press. He is so well known to the history of his quarrel with the A. P., and his setting up on his own account is so recent that it need not be recapitulated, nor any particulars of his life or antecedents be given. Mr. Craig is wealthy, industrious, energetic, and an impulsive character. He reports himself as still in the field, and declares the Association will ere long feel his power.

Oliver M. Bradford was acting general agent during three months of Mr. Craig's suspension, but resumed his duties as manager when the latter gentleman was reinstated.

Swinton has held the position since November last, and resides with his family on Staten Island.

The first office was at No. 3 Hanover street, fronting Exchange Place, in a garret where colicows, rats, and vermin abounded, part of the premises being occupied by carrier pigeons, whose habits were not so cleanly a character as to entitle them to commendations. The attacks dubbed the place the "Chicken Coop," and for years it had no other name. In 1857 the office was removed to No. 38 Beaver street, where it remained three years. It was twelve months at No. 7 Broad street, nearly six years at No. 145 Broadway, and has for some time past been at No. 80 Liberty street.

The office hours are from 9 a. m. until the city morning dailies go to press, usually about 2 a. m., though the attaches often remain until 3 or 4, and sometimes until daylight. They usually wait until they receive the night dailies from Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington, which includes the South, and Cleveland, which covers the West, and keep the office open until a certain hour if there be any probability of a cable despatch.

The despatches come in from the telegraph offices in the cities mentioned, and are manifolded, and copies sent over the wires to the different sections. Messrs. Alpin and Leach acting as agents for the South, at the same time that they are transmitted by messengers to the city newspapers. The New York Herald, the New York Evening Post, the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, and the Southern agents see that their constituents are promptly served; albeit, it frequently happens when the wires are not working well, or the atmosphere is charged with electricity, that reams of "copy" are returned to the Association from the telegraph office, which adjoints the Associated Press building.

Strange opinions are entertained by many concerning the Associated Press. They imagine it is composed of the best brains of the city newspaper; that it is the most extensive and ablest of journalists are eligible to positions in the Association. The A. P. and the New York journals are so wholly distinct that the attaches of the former rarely enter the latter, and have little acquaintance with the writers of the Metropolitan establishments other than the regular representatives. The present quarters of the Association in the second story, in a room about eighteen by forty feet, filled with desks where the General Agent, the sub-agents, and the manifolders sit. On a long table messenger writes the manifold copy and puts a slip into the principal copy of the city papers. In a rear room files of the New York and leading London dailies are kept, and a number of juvenile messengers retained throughout the day and night.

Carrier pigeons were used up to the laying of the Atlantic cable to carry messages from the South to Sandy Hook. A number of them are kept at the Hook, but their vocation is gone, and they are retained as mementoes of the old "Chicken Coop" in Hanover street where the Association first saw the light, and diffused odors the very opposite of Sabeian.—*Wash. Express.*

A THREE HOUR'S COMBAT WITH AN ELEPHANT. Mr. Hyatt Frost, of Van Amburgh's famous elephant fight, was the proprietor of a terrible fight with Tipoo Sahib, the well known elephant, which occurred at Connersville, Indiana, last Tuesday. The menagerie has gone into winter quarters at that place, and the animal is chained in a building. Tipoo Sahib is now the largest elephant in America. He is 35 years old, and weighs 10,000 pounds. The fight resulted from a change of his keepers. Frank Nash, his keeper for 10 years, was recently supplanted by Charles Johnson, formerly of Barnum's menagerie. The elephant was in particularly bad humor with all mankind, and would allow nobody to approach him, striking at every intruder with his trunk and tusks most viciously. On Tuesday morning last, at 10 o'clock, the combat opened. The new keeper, with nine assistants, had fully equipped himself with cables and chains for tying him, and spear and pickaxe for subduing the Tipoo. The first thing done was to fasten a brickbat to the end of the rope, and throw it over the end of the tusk chain, which latter is fastened to one leg and one tusk. By means of this rope, a twenty-ton cable chain, formerly used to subdue the famous Hannibal, was slipped around the tusk. Next, an excavation three feet deep was made under the sill of the house, and while the elephant's attention was attracted to the other side of the room by a pail of water passed through the excavation and reaching to a heavy stake outside. All this time the infuriated monster struck all around him with terrible ferocity, and tugged at his chain with incredible momentum. The next thing accomplished was the snaring of his hind legs. This was consummated by the slinging of fresh ropes around the tusk, and two stately pillars of elephant hide, bone, and muscle, and, finally, by the stealthy strategy of the keeper and another man, these ropes were fastened to stumps outside. The elephant was now sufficiently pinioned to allow the order "charge pickaxe!" to be given. Ten men armed with these ugly implements of offence, plunged them into the rampaging beast, taking care, of course, to avoid penetrating his eyes or joints. The tenderest spot in an elephant is just behind the fore legs, and that locality was probed unmercifully. By means of a hooked spear sunk in his back, Tipoo was brought to his knees, but he surged up again with such awful strength that he swept his tormentors off their feet, and made his chains whistle like fiddle strings. After an hour's fighting, he was brought down on his side, but for two longer he tugged at his chains with frenzied obstinacy. He pulled so hard at times that his hind legs were straight out

behind him, and three feet off the ground. At the end of three hours the giant gave in by trumpeting, which is the elephant way of crying enough. The moment this peculiar cry was heard the battle ceased. The keeper made Tipoo get up and lie down a number of times, and he was as obedient to the word of command as a gentle pony. The animal was then groomed and rubbed off with whiskey. He allowed all manner of liberties without so much as flapping an ear. He was a subjugated elephant. At one stage of the fight the dog Jack (a companion of the elephant) thought some of the tying business foul play. He flew upon Johnson's back and tried to sink his fangs into his neck, but was pulled off and dragged out of the room. Jack evidently sympathized with his big friend.—*Cincinnati Commercial, Nov. 8th.*

JEFFERSON'S WEDDING.

The following scene is from the "Early Days of Jefferson," in the New York Century.
"Belinda (Jefferson's first love) had been married many years, and her old admirer was approaching thirty, when he met a young lady of twenty-two, who had produced a strong impression upon him. She was a little above the medium height, slender, but elegantly formed. A fair complexion, with a delicate tint of the rose; large hazel eyes, full of life and feeling, and luxuriant hair of rich, soft auburn, formed a combination of attractions which were eminently calculated to move the heart of a youthful bachelor. In addition to all this, the lady was admirably graceful; she rode, danced and moved with elegant ease, and sang and played on the harpsichord very sweetly.

"Add still to those accomplishments the possession of excellent good sense, very considerable cultivation, a warm, loving heart, and last, though not least, notable talents for house-keeping, and it will not be difficult to understand how the youthful Mr. Jefferson came to visit very frequently at the lady's residence, in the county of Charles City. I was called 'The Forest,' and the name of the lady was Mrs. Martha Skelton. She was the daughter of John Wales, an eminent lawyer, and had married in her seventeenth year, Mr. Skelton, who dying in 1768, left his young wife a widow of nineteen. As the three years of mourning began to expire, the beautiful young lady found herself besieged at 'The Forest' by numerous visitors. Of these three were favorites with the fair Mrs. Skelton, of whom Mr. Thomas Jefferson was one. The tradition runs that the pretensions of the rivals were decided either by the musical accomplishments of the young counselor, or by the fears of his opponents. The tale is differently related. One version is, that the two unfortunate gentlemen encountered each other on Mrs. Skelton's door-steps, but hearing Mr. Jefferson's violin and voice accompanying the lady in a pathetic song, gave up the contest theforeforth, and retired without entering, convinced that the affair was beyond their control.

"The other story is that all three met at the door, and agreed that they would take turns. Mr. Jefferson entered first, and the tones of the lady in singing with her companion deprived the listeners of all hope. If ever there was a marriage, it is certain that the beautiful widow consented to become Mrs. Jefferson, and on the 1st of January, 1777, there was a grand festival at the 'Forest.' Friends and kindred assembled from far and near; there was frolic and dancing after the abundant old fashion, and we find from the bridegroom's note book that the servants and fiddlers received fees from his especial pocket."

It snowed without, but within all was mirth and enjoyment, in the light and warmth of the great log fires, roaring in honor of the occasion. Soon after the performance of the ceremony the bridegroom and his bride set out in their carriage for Monticello, where Mr. Jefferson had commenced building in 1769, just before the destruction by fire of his paternal home of "Shadwell." The journey was not to end without adventures. As they advanced towards the mountains the snow increased in depth, and finally they were compelled to leave the carriage and proceed upon their way on horseback. Stopping to rest at Blenheim, the seat of Col. Carter, where they found, however, no one but an over-seer, the left it at sunset, resolutely bent upon reaching Monticello before night. It was eight miles distant, and the road, which was rather a mountain bridle path than an honest highway, was incumbered with snow three feet deep. We may fancy the sensations of the newly married bride at the chill apparitions of the night, and as she passed along the snow, but she was a woman of courage and good sense, and did not care for inconvenience. It was late when they arrived, and a cheerless reception awaited them—or rather there was no reception at all. The fires were all out, the servants had gone to bed, and the place was as dark and silent as the grave. Conducting his wife to the little pavilion, which was the only part of the house habitable at the time, Mr. Jefferson proceeded to do the honors. On a shelf behind some books, part of a bottle of wine was discovered, and this formed the supper of the bridegroom and bride. Far from being annoyed or discontented by the reception, however, it only served for a topic of jest and laughter. The young lady was merry and light hearted as a bird, and sent her clear voice ringing through the dreary little pavilion as gayly as she had ever done in the cheerful drawing-room of "The Forest." Thus the long hours of the winter night fled away winged with laughter, merriment and song. The vigil was a mirthful incident rather than a trial of their equanimity. They were young, and they had just been married. When hands are clasped, and hearts beat close together, there is very little gloom in darkness, and winter nights are not cold. This little mirthful incident will not, I hope, be criticised as too romantic for the "dignity of history." It doubtless explains how a young lady and gentleman, both used to every comfort and luxury, found the gloomy little pavilion in the midst of three feet of snow, neither dark nor cold, in that January night long ago.

A little girl walking one day with her mother in a churchyard, reading one after another the graves of those who slept beneath, said, "I wonder where they bury the sinners!"

For the Standard.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION IN BUREAU OF. Pursuant to previous notice the Republican Convention of Burke County met in the Court House in Morganton, on Saturday, the 9th inst., for the purpose of nominating a candidate to represent the people of Burke in the State Convention.

The Convention was organized by the unanimous election of Wm. C. Wise, Esq., President, and Frank D. Irvin, Secretary.

The delegates appointed to said Convention then came forward, and the Secretary enrolled their names as follows:
Zion Council—Jas. Benfield, J. M. Kirby, Jas. Fox, W. C. Secor, Walter Whisenant, Harvey Whisenant, T. C. Shull, Harvey Kincaid, (colored.) Sipio McGimsey, (col'd.) Rain Hill Council—Samuel Bawman, Marcus Whetstone, Jeunison Queen, Lewis Paine, (colored.) Isaac McElrath, (colored.)

Morganton Council—Jno. S. Parks, Thomas Wright, C. L. Parks, Sam'l Thompson, Charles Adams, (colored.) Peter Blackwood, (colored.)

Liberty Council—Isaac Franklin, Sylvanus Deal, S. K. Kincaid, J. A. Rector, Levi Franklin, Nicholas Thompson, Tyrell Clond, Ephraim Starnes, Andrew Alce.

Linville Council—Wm. C. Wise, S. C. Willson, Frank D. Irvin, N. C. Wilson, Sam'l Fullwood, (colored.)

Morganton Council—T. R. Caldwell, John Woodward, (colored.) James McElrath, (colored.) George Happpolt, (colored.) Monroe Irvin, (colored.)

Henry's Fork Council—Ezekiel Berry John Johnston, Daniel Huffman, Allen Berry, Henry Thorn.

The Convention being organized, Hon. T. R. Caldwell arose and addressed the citizens at some length, in a most appropriate manner, explaining the objects of the Convention.

Mr. Caldwell then offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted: WHEREAS, We believe it to be the best interests of the people of the State of North Carolina to re-establish equal political and civil rights to all persons without distinction of color; and, whereas, we further believe the speediest and surest way to accomplish this desirable end, is to accept, in good faith, the Congressional plan of reconstruction; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we will support no man as a candidate for the State Convention who does not present such a record as will warrant us in believing that if elected he will exert his best efforts to carry out the will of Congress as enunciated in their acts known as the Reconstruction acts.

Resolved, That having entire faith in the purity and patriotism of the Republicans of Burke County, and that they are in favor of extending and securing equal political and civil rights to all persons without distinction of color; that they will nominate no person for office who favors withholding these rights from any one on account of color; we do hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to use whatever influence we may have in favor of the nomination of this Convention.

Resolved, That as Burke and McDowell Counties are required to vote together for two delegates to the Convention, and as they are nearly equal in population, we believe it to be right that each County shall have the selection of one delegate, and, therefore, do hereby pledge our support to the good people of McDowell for their suffrages, and do hereby pledge our support to whomsoever their citizens they may commend to us.

Mr. John S. Parks was then put in nomination, Mr. Parks was called upon for nomination, and the vote being taken, Mr. Parks was unanimously nominated by acclamation.

Mr. Parks being present, accepted the nomination, thanked the people for their confidence, and for the honor they had conferred upon him.

It was then Resolved, That the proceedings of this Convention be published in the North-Carolina Standard and Asheville Pioneer. On motion of Mr. Caldwell, the Convention adjourned.

WM. C. WISE, President.
FRANK D. IRVIN, Secretary.

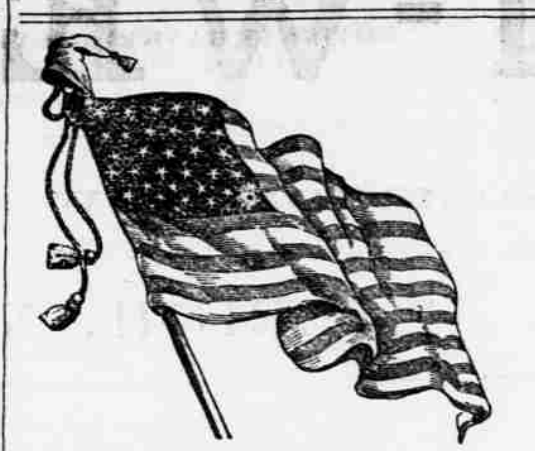
WHAT SHOULD THE SOUTH DO?—The National Intelligencer of Saturday has an editorial, from which we take the following: "Whatever may be the ultimate judgment of the people of the old free States on this subject, it is very certain that no immediate relief from the imposition of negro suffrage upon the southern States can be expected. What, then, is it asked, can citizens of the South do in their present situation? From what quarter can they expect relief? Not from the United States Senate, for that body will remain Radical for four years, and resist the repeal or modification of the reconstruction acts. The House of Representatives may be Democratic or Conservative in the next Congress through the elections in the States and Territories. But if the Radicals bring into the House, as they say they will, fifty Radical negro representatives, they will still maintain a majority. "The only salvation for the South and the whole country is to be found in the possible chance that the southern people will reject constitutions fixing upon them and upon the people of the United States the rule of the Radical party through the establishment of negro supremacy."

A NEW SUBSTITUTE FOR COTTON.—New Orleans journals contain advertisements of a new substitute for cotton, called the Ramie plant, a Mexican production, which yields a fibre finer and whiter than grass cloth, worth sixty cents in London. It is a bushy plant, and grows in a textile plant which, being perennial, growing from the roots from year to year, producing, after being well rooted, from two to four crops of 150 pounds of clear fibre per season, and this being vastly more and stronger than cotton of linen, sells at 60 to 65 cents per pound in specie, and having none of the vicissitudes of cotton, promises to become a chief crop in our cultivation.

FIGHTFUL REVENUE FRAUDS.—In a report which has been prepared by a collector of one of the largest revenue districts in the country, and which will be presented to Mr. Johnson in a few days, it is asserted that the loss to the Government from the non-collection of the tax for the last twelve months on the article of whisky alone has been upward of \$100,000,000, while the loss on tobacco is set down at \$25,000,000. These losses are, it is alleged in the report, to be attributed to corruption and mismanagement on the part of the collectors. The document referred to suggests an entire remodeling of the system, and a general dismissal of the present incumbents, to insure a full collection of the taxes and an effectual suppression of fraud.—*Washington correspondence of the New York Tribune.*

A good brother in the rural districts thought he had a call to preach. Being an indifferent speaker, he got a friend to read the Scriptures. The chapter on one occasion was 23d Genesis, which contains this verse: "These eight did Milch bear to Nabob, Abraham's brother." On this the preacher held forth as follows: "Brethren and sisters let us consider our blessings. Morning and evening our wives and daughters milk our cows and thus supply our wants. But in the days of good old Abraham, as you have just heard it took eight to milk a bear, and they did not get much at that."

Tri-Weekly Standard.



LIBERTY AND UNION, NOW AND FOREVER, ONE AND INSEPARABLE.—Daniel Webster.

RALEIGH, N. C.

Thursday, Nov. 21st. 1867.

Mr. C. W. HONNER is authorized to make business contracts for the Standard office.

The Election.

At the time of going to press we have but little information from the elections held in this State on the 19th and 20th. We have no doubt, however, from what we have heard, that the Republicans have carried the State by a large majority.

We learn that Wilmington has gone Republican by a large majority, and that Newbern has given 1,800 majority for the Republican ticket and for a Convention. We think it certain that a majority of the registered voters have voted on the question of a Convention, and that a large majority of the vote is for a Convention.

Wake County has no doubt elected the Republican ticket by a large majority. The pollholders at Raleigh are not permitted to announce the vote, and we are, therefore, unable to state the vote with accuracy, but we think it probable the majority in Raleigh is 800. We have heard from several other precincts up to Tuesday evening, and make our estimate as follows:

REPUBLICANS.	CONSERVATIVES.
Raleigh, 800 maj.	50
Forestville, 100	100
Dunnsville, 110 maj.	50
Wakefield, 50	20
Morrisville, 75	20
Eagle Rock, 140	10
Joel Jones, 50	21
Nat. Jones, 60	75
B. Jones, 100	80
Oak Grove, 160	42
1,645	298
298	
1,347	

The reports from Rolesville, Auburn, and other precincts are highly encouraging. The secessionists no doubt made an extraordinary effort to day, Wednesday, but the result will show the County decidedly Republican.—Our ticket is safe.

We learn that the Republican ticket in Johnston County was running far ahead of the opposition. At Clayton the vote stood ten to one and at Coats five to one.

Sheriff Ray.

This excellent and prompt officer, on Monday evening, received an order from Gen. Canby, instructing him to report to Headquarters, at once, all persons who are delinquent in paying their State and County taxes. He met with a number of colored people, soon after, and informed them of the order, and urged upon all of them, who were delinquent, to pay up their taxes at once, so as to avoid the necessity of being reported as delinquents. He told them that all delinquents, without regard to color, should be reported.

It was not long after this, that the report was started that Sheriff Ray had received an order from Gen. Canby, that all delinquent taxpayers would not be allowed to vote.—Who gave this coloring to the report, we are not advised. It is positively certain that Sheriff Ray gave no countenance whatever to this rumor, by anything he had said.

We learn that, on yesterday, a handbill was issued from the Standard office, charging this rumor upon Sheriff Ray. The statement is wholly false and unfounded.—*Sentinel.*

The above is a poor excuse for the conduct of Sheriff Ray in this matter. It was singular in him, as soon as he received this notice, it being the evening before the election, that he should at once go upon the street and read and explain the notice to the colored people. It has not heretofore been his habit to promulgate his orders in this way. But the above statement of the *Sentinel* is totally unfounded. We have the proof from credible witnesses, both white and black, that Sheriff Ray told the people, after reading the order, that they could not vote until they paid their taxes. Sheriff Ray knows he used this language. It can also be proved that one of our City officers joined him in this, and said, "that shows you can't vote until you pay your taxes."

The Extra Standard referred to by the *Sentinel* appears in the Standard to-day.—Every word in that Extra is true.

We learn that Sheriff Ray has denied this statement to Col. Bonford. That officer will no doubt give him a fair hearing. The proof against Sheriff Ray is conclusive. Witnesses were sent to Col. Bonford, and others were in readiness, to prove this gross misconduct on the part of this officer, the effect of which it was hoped would prevent many Republicans from voting, and thus obstruct reconstruction.

We have no personal feeling in this matter. We are simply discharging our duty to the country. The Sheriff might as well be quiet. His threats amount to nothing.—No one fears him. The day of bludgeons and fistfists has passed away. Loyal men intend to rule in peace, and malcontents and traitors will be made to know their places.

Alabama.

In the reconstruction Convention on the 19th the Committee on the Militia reported an ordinance to organize a State Volunteer Militia force, to be subject to the orders of the Governor.

The question of substituting the minority report on the franchise question for the majority report was decided in the negative by a test vote of yeas 19; nays 76. The majority report will carry. It disfranchises all persons who do not vote on the new Constitution, binding the voter not to contest negro suffrage hereafter, and not to maltreat any person on account of past or present support of the United States Government or the policy of Congress.

The Grapes are Sour.

The *Sentinel*, speaking of the election in this City, says:

"White men found it difficult to urge their way through the crowd, and many abandoned the effort for the day, in despair. The whole spectacle was revolting in the extreme."

The *Sentinel* labored for a long time to get the colored vote, and failing in that, it now says the grapes are sour. They would have been sweet to the *Sentinel* and its friends if they could have reached them.

The scene, so far from being "revolting," was highly interesting. Every patriot was pleased to see so many votes going in for Liberty and Union. The country is to be saved by such scenes as those witnessed on Tuesday and Wednesday last.

The quiet and good order maintained by the colored people at the election, is remarkable. There were not less than twelve hundred in this City on Tuesday last, and not one among this large throng behaved in any respect improperly. We saw none intoxicated. We heard no hawling or swearing. Good humor and a fixed determination to vote the Republican ticket prevailed. There was no intrusion on the rights of the white man, but the two races exercised together for the first time the right of suffrage in a friendly and becoming manner. We have no fears of what may call the experiment of negro suffrage. We feel sure it will nobly vindicate itself. It was necessary to the nation, and indispensable to the proper reconstruction of these recently insurgent States.

ILLEGAL TICKETS.—A large number of tickets were voted by the negroes, on yesterday, on which the Christian names of the Radical candidates are not given, but simply the initials, according to Gen. Canby's order, these votes are not entitled to be counted. They were printed at the *Standard* office, we presume, as they have on the promised "device"—a blue nondescript something, probably a symbol of the League. *Sentinel.*

No order by any officer, not even President Johnson, can make null and void the law of Congress. There is no law to the effect that a voter shall not vote for J. P. Andrews, or B. S. D. Williams, or James H. Harris, or B. D. Franklin. The custom here has always been to vote with initials as well as full names. The persons voted for are known. There can be no mistake in this respect. Gen. Canby will direct all votes cast according to law to be counted. We warn inspectors that our loyal people will not be trifled with and deprived of their precious right of suffrage by a mere technicality.

SARGENT.—In another column will be found the advertisement of Sargent, the Wizard of the South. From our cotemporary in other cities, we learned weeks ago that this famed scientific illusionist was delighting large audiences with his incomparable performances. Sargent will give three exhibitions at Tucker Hall, on the evenings of the 21st, 22d and 23d.

Members of Congress have arrived in considerable numbers, and members of the "Third House," the lobby, have also come in tolerably large force. The principal feature of the third house legislation, in which large sums of money are invested, is the prevention of the passage of an act of Congress to reduce the tax on whisky. The whisky distillers having reduced to a science their plans for evading the tax, they fear any legislation which shall disturb the system as it exists under the present law.

The Hon. Thaddeus Stevens informed a gentleman who called on him to-day that he feels stronger at present than he has felt at any time during the last five years. He also stated that he is in receipt of letters from all parts of the country indorsing the financial views put forth in his recent letter.

FINANCIAL.—The finance bill to be presented by Sherman at the next session of Congress proposes to convert the debt as it matures into a long consolidated bond, running not less than thirty years, at six per cent., with one cent tax, equivalent to a five per cent. loan. Mr. Sherman, it is said, intends to press this matter upon the Senate with a view to securing early legislation on the subject.

NEW MODE OF NAVIGATION.—An Englishman has recently patented a fantastic mode of impelling vessels at sea. It consists in doing away with the masts for carrying the sails and placing toward the head of the ship or boat, a sheet of square sail, distended by yard-arms and fixed by ropes to the different sections of the State, and he requested a Texas editor to furnish him with all the information obtainable bearing upon the question.

Lord Mayor's inaugural dinners are got up under a curious arrangement. A committee settles the whole affair, the magistrate is presented with forty tickets (for which there are four hundred expectants) the sheriffs have as many, and Lord Mayor and sheriffs pass between them for a dinner to which the committee invite their personal friends. The cost is between three and four thousand pounds.

The Iowa *Teller* tells the following good religious anecdote: "At a prayer-meeting recently, some 14 miles from Pella, in this county, a brother Hoskins in his prayer petitioned the Lord to 'bless brother N. [the pastor], and to make him a better man.' Amen! and brother Hoskins, too, responded the pastor with amen."