Weekly Standard

Official Organ of the United States.
Official Organ of North Carolina.

H. L. PIKE, - - - Editor.

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

Grant is hoarse.—*Wil. Post.*
He always was a little ho(a)rsey.

Why is Mr. Welsh unlike the Prince of Wales? Because he's no *hair* apparent.

Strange as it may appear the parent of the infant orator of the Senate wants no Love wasted on his son John.

We don't know how much education Seward has got, but one thing is sure—he is a man of *letters*.

Mr. Robbins of Rowan has been absent from his seat. He went home to write up. He scattered so much that his pond ran out quicker than he expected.

Look out for a cold snap! The sun has entered *Sagittarius*.—*Wil. Post.*

In which case, instead of cold, we should think Saggy was having a warm time of it.

Burlingame has arrived in Berlin.—*Exchange.*

Yes, Burlingame having finished his Paris affairs now wants to begin his Berlin game.

In the town of Rutherfordton a paper called the *Star* is published. One of its editors is crazy because he wasn't appointed engrossing clerk.

Paper wash-boards are an actual fact.—*Exchange.*

We should think they would be excellent to wash paper collars on.

Uncle Sam has put lamp-post letter boxes in Richmond and the green natives think they are contribution boxes and wont go near them.

The New Orleans *Times* thinks this "an age of can't." That is what all Democrats think, for they are trying to beat the Republicans, and it always turns out that they *can't*.

The Nashville *Union* puts the indebtedness of Tennessee at $44,410,067, which is greatly larger than that of North Carolina. Yet Tennessee has indignantly spurned the dishonor of repudiation.

The Louisville *Journal* accepts Dent as "a compromise between hell and the iron works." We are of the opinion that whatever may be the result of the "compromise," it will get its first choice.

The Weldon *News* wants the STANDARD to stir up the Legislature "animals." There are too many "Democrats" there, and we are afraid of encountering the usual fate of those who rashly fight skunks.

McCoole is about right when he says he won't fight Allen for honor, for there isn't any honor in it.—*Exchange.*

Yes, and now he wants to fight him for *fun!* We shouldn't think there could be much fun in it, either.

A box is coming from Paris for Mrs. President Grant which, it is said, will enable her to dream well.—*Exchange.*

We don't want anybody to send us any such boxes. We are afraid we might not be able to wake up again.

Great activity prevails in our departments of the Navy. Never before has the United States been so well prepared for an emergency as now. If the present system is continued our navy will soon be the best in the world.

Grand tournament to come off at Kinston on the 15th inst.—*Exchange.*

If Stone, who is now in captivity, can only be ransomed, there may be a chance for that speech, and Stone may be happy yet.

Rev. R. Deal, a Methodist minister at Elkhorn, Wisconsin, has fallen heir to an immense fortune.—*Exchange.*

That was a "winning Deal," sure. We suppose his voice will fail now so that he will be forced to quit preaching.

Dr. Mary Walker is again a martyr. A policeman in Kansas City took exception to her pants and arrested her the other day.—*Exchange.*

We verily believe that that woman *pants* for notoriety.

Gold has been lower for the past week than it has been for seven years. This shows that the financial policy of the Administration is a good one, and indicates that a resumption of specie payments will be more easily attained than is generally supposed.

Lines

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO EX-GOV. GRAHAM.

Hi diddle dumpling my son John,
Went to Raleigh with his speeches on,
He'd one speech out and one speech on
When up jumped Love and laid out John.

"Oh, me prophetic soul—me Kuzzin." The *Sentinel* claims to be prophetic. Something happens. The *Sentinel* hears of it and immediately prophesies that it *will* happen! It waits three days, and then with a great flourish of trumpets announces that its prophecies have been fulfilled! Brilliant sheet, that *Sentinel*.

We are astonished to hear that Mr. Malone is a carpet-bagger. Probably it was at him Mr. Robbins was aiming in his remarks concerning carpet-baggers. We have several times thought that Messrs. Jarvis and Durham treated Mr. Malone very cavalierly, but we never before knew the reason.

Alcorn the Republican candidate for governor of Mississippi, has been elected by a majority of between twenty-five and thirty thousand, a Republican gain of over twenty thousand. This is a splendid Republican victory and against the hopes of the "Democracy" who were sanguine of electing Dent.—Grant's repudiation of Dent and his followers did the work.

A wave of magnetic light will reach our earth from the sun sometime next year.—*Exchange.*

Yes, and we are worried about it. We want to know what it is going to do to the earth. Why don't Greeley write it a letter, just like the one he wrote Ben. Butler, and tell it to go some other way?

North Carolina Bonds.

The low market price of the State bonds is a matter of general regret. It is regretted by the people of the State regardless of party: first, because of the utterly inadequate amount received in return for the amount which the State pledges itself to pay; secondly, because the depreciation of the bonds renders their amount too small to effect the purpose for which they were issued; and thirdly, because our people know they are good, and feel a sense of shame that bonds, which bear the promise to pay of North Carolina, should be treated with so much suspicion by capitalists.

The people are astonished that the bonds command no better price, and ask why such is the case.

The answer is easy.

It is because of the course of "Democratic" papers and "Democratic" politicians, who have raised the cry "Repudiation" for the sole purpose of destroying the market value of the bonds. This they did in order that they might charge the lowness of the bonds as an evil result of Republican rule, and by thus deceiving the people make party capital. That was and is the sole purpose of the "Democratic" cries, "repudition," "fraud," "extravagance,"—which, for the last six months have filled the columns of "Democratic" papers and the speeches of "Democratic" orators. There is hardly a "Democratic" paper in the State which has not done its utmost to depreciate the bonds, but no one of them has done more than has the *Sentinel*. Day after day, week after week, and month after month, it has been filled with the vilest abuse of nearly every State officer and prominent Republican in the State. Their every act is studiously misrepresented, and the most trifling circumstance proclaimed as evidence of fraud or corruption. In this manner has the *Sentinel* endeavored to destroy the credit of the State, that its party may be able to use the result of its own actions as a weapon against Republicans. Now, then, do the people of North Carolina see why their bonds are no higher, and that the "Democrats" are the enemies of the credit of the State.

If not let them take up a file of the *Sentinel*, or of almost any so-called Democratic paper, look at the lies it contains—the assaults upon the soundness of the bonds—the declarations that they will not be paid—and then let them wonder—not at the depreciation of the bonds—but that they have any market value at all.

Let the people remember the speeches of Senator Robbins and other Democrats last winter, in which he predicted the repudiation of the bonds and warned the capitalists of the North not to buy them—can they see now who it is has been doing all in their power to ruin the reputation of North Carolina bonds?

Let the people remember that all the false predictions and false warnings of "Democratic" speakers—all the slanders, false accusations, charges of fraud and threats of repudiation of the "Democratic" papers—are copied by Northern papers and read by Northern capitalists and can they think it strange that the credit of North Carolina is doubted when its bitterest assailants are her own children!

We tell you, people of North Carolina, that the "Democrats" are doing all in their power to ruin the credit of the State. The "Democrats" are acting like the hypocrites they are, and, while loudly lamenting and denouncing the low price of your bonds, are using every means to bring them still lower.

We tell you that every energy of the "Democratic" leaders is being used to destroy the credit of the State.

Why?

For the miserable purpose of making the depreciation of your bonds a means of deceiving you into voting for the very men who have wrought the evil. Yes, for the sake of political power these bad men have been willing to sacrifice every interest of the people and State and to bring distress upon a helpless and innocent people.

And now the people of the North as well as of our own State know why the bonds of North Carolina, a state whose honesty no man ever yet dared to impeach, are selling at prices far below their proper figure. And now the people may know what mean the articles about repudiation which fill the columns of the "Democratic" papers. And now they know the object of the scandalous speeches made by certain "Democratic" members of the Legislature.

Let the people bear this in mind and let them, regardless of party, remember that the "Democratic" leaders are trying to secure power and place at the price of the dishonor of North Carolina and the ruin of her people. When "Democratic" papers and speakers talk to you about the depreciation of your bonds curse them for they have betrayed you.

A Short Session Wanted.

The people of North Carolina are poor. Four years of fierce civil war and the consequent changes have made them so. It then should be the aim of all the servants of the State to cut down to the lowest possible point every necessary expense, and to prevent entirely any unnecessary expense. This is the duty of every man who really wishes to serve the people of this State.

To the Legislature the people naturally look for relief. By its acts it can do much to help the people, or much to distress them. We have every reason to believe that the present Legislature wishes to do all in it power to aid the people, and to add to their prosperity. It has already given proof that the people can trust to its willingness to do anything to advance the interests of the State.

We wish, however, to call its attention to one point which it seems to have forgotten—and that is the propriety of holding a short session. The *daily* expenses of the Legislature are not less than fourteen hundred dollars, or forty-two thousand dollars per month. This is a large amount in the present impoverished condition of the State, and its payment should not be continued a day longer than is absolutely necessary.

The business which is to come before this session of the Legislature is of a simple nature, being mostly matters concerning the amending and elimination of the law. Business of this nature can be quickly disposed of, and will not give rise to extended debates. Therefore it is manifest that the present session of the Legislature should be a short one.

We suggest to the Legislature the propriety of passing a resolution fixing the time for its final adjournment. Such an action would have a tendency to greatly facilitate the dispatch of business, and would do much to prevent that press of business which caused so much hasty and ill-advised legislation during the latter part of the last session. We think that the Legislature, if reasonably diligent, should be able to dispose of all the business before it, or likely to come before it, by the last of January, and think that it should pass a resolution fixing the first day of February as the day upon which it will adjourn.

We feel certain that such an action would be appreciated by the people, and do much to prove to them that the Legislature is working for their best interests. Let the resolution be introduced without delay.

The Chicago *Republican* says "North Carolina has a man with brass enough in his face for two full bands, and cheek enough to blow them, and yet isn't quite up the demands of the paper which employs him." The fame of our neighbor-in-law of the *Sentinel* has extended to Chicago.

The Issue.

Advices from the money centres of the nation, like the song of Cassandra, have but one burden to their chorus, and that is that the credit of North Carolina, which has been the shield and buckler of former administrations of her affairs, has been riddled by the poisonous darts of the repudiators. Surely there is no son of the Old North State in the grand metropolis of New York to-day, whose cheek has not been mantled with the burning blush of indignation. And we who remain at home, far as it seems to be from the din and turmoil of Gold street, will yet be taught the story of their shame, and learn how hard it has ever been and will be hereafter for us to remove the stains that have been cast upon that escutcheon, which it was the pride of our forefathers to keep brilliant and glowing as the sheen of the sun. We say that the head of every man in North Carolina will yet be bowed in humiliation, because of the misdeeds of her unnatural offspring, who like the hounds that haunt the womb of Sin, creep in and gnaw the vitals of their mother.

It was a sad day when Mr. Seymour's resolution went down in the House of Representatives, falling softly as it were without a knell or a sigh save from the lips of the man, who pronounced it a humiliating defeat; but though it fell so softly there and no one heard the crash afar off, yet there was spot and a place, where the king-merchants of the world daily convene, in whose precincts the crumbling fabric of our credit crushed down that day into a heap of dishonored rubbish. There it now lies, the reproach of every passer-by and the theme of every heartless scoffer.

Is it too much to ask a son of the North State to say that her honor shall be maintained? Is it too much to demand of a Legislature that authorized the issue of millions of bonds, that it should reaffirm its plighted faith against the assaults of every enemy? If it be indeed too much to ask these things, then the supreme hour in our history has arrived, when Dogberry should be gratified in his desire to be written down an ass, and the ass turned out, empty and unladen, "to shake his ears and graze in the common."

We can permit no compromise in this matter. Either the bonds are constitutional and valid, or they are worthless as the paper which has been consumed in their publication. We stand for the bonds, for honor, faith and North Carolina! Upon this rock we build our fortress, nor shall the powers of dishonesty prevail against us.

Frauds have been alleged in their sale, but not a scintilla of proof has been advanced to sustain the allegations. And the men, who now proclaim these frauds, were the avowed enemies of the issue of the bonds, they gave notice that they would pursue and drive them from the market; and, as events have proven, they have kept their faith in this league of darkness with the same zeal that has ever characterized them in the prosecution of nefarious designs, even to the point of utterly destroying the fame of the State for honesty and integrity. Well may we exclaim, "these considerations for the public woe, should give us pause!"—Pause, to survey for a moment the handiwork of the architects of ruin! pause, but for a moment to gather strenght to turn and oust the foe.

The weapon that was wrested from the hands of Mr. Seymour by a majority of the House, led by Mr. Durham, is useful to us no longer. What can it benefit to declare our intention to pay now, after we have cast a doubt upon that intention? We have only the recourse left *to pay*. Pay or repudiate is the issue. And to this condition we are brought at last, notwithstanding our delay hitherto to face the question, by the unalterable laws of justice and probity between man and man, nation and nation, to test us to see if in the son the honesty of the sire remains, and that he wears not unworthily the mantle of his forefathers.

We have probed the matter to the bottom. Legislators, it is pay or not pay, that is the question. Under which standard shall the majority of you be found marshaled? Can the wily enemy deceive you any longer? Can his allegations of invisible fraud continue to divert your attention from the grand issue of the hour, while he stabs the credit of that State which you love with unutterable affection, and for whose restoration to the Union you labored with a zeal worthy of your revolutionary ancestors? North Carolinians, will you pay? Aye, though it cost you dearly, you will pay; and while you do, there will be but one bitter pang in the performance of your duty, and that will be that your burdens have been doubled and your name tarnished by repudiators.

A Word to Our Legislators.

We wish to say a word to the members of the General Assembly, irrespective of party, on a subject of vital importance to them and to their constituents.

Many of you feel the inconvenience very sensibly of a lack of mail facilities; your families, in most instances, in order to hear from you, must send a number of miles to the nearest post office, and then, if they do not happen to hit on the right day for the mail, must return without the coveted letter. We think it lies within your power to remedy this evil, and with all due defference to your sagacity and wisdom, we suggest that the two Houses pass a joint resolution, setting forth the grievance, and ask the powers in Washington City to restore to the State of North Carolina the old mail routes.

To our own knowledge, in Western North Carolina, away from the Railroad lines, there is a great lack of mail service; perhaps more so than in any other portion of the State—while in the East, the suffering in this respect is bad enough.

In some counties, there is only *one* post office, and one mail a week; consequently the people are buried alive so far as the news of the world is concerned. We believe if the matter is fairly represented—if all the facts are properly set forth, the post master general would not hesitate to restore the mails heretofore enjoyed by our people.

There is not a day that we do not receive letters calling on us to agitate this subject and ask action. Persons living in the interior write to us, and send their letters twenty and thirty miles to mail them, stating that their people all want to take the papers but cannot do so for the want of post offices.

Congress will assemble in a few days and the subject if acted on promptly, would no doubt, if such a course is necessary, be brought immediately before that body.

Indemnity to Loyal Citizens.

We observe that Mr. Moore, of Chowan, introduced into the House on Tuesday a series of resolutions, looking to the indemnity of loyal citizens by the National government for property other than slaves, taken during the war for the use of the National forces. This is a step in the right direction. Citizens who remained loyal to the government during the war, of whatever political opinions they may now be should be fully paid for their losses. Mr. Moore will receive the commendations of all fair minded men for the interest he has exhibited in this matter, and we only trust that he may be entirely successful in his efforts.

Forney's autograph recently sold for ten cents. It is now more precious than gold—it's a dime 'un.

Making Slander a Misdemeanor.

If there ever was a period in the history of the South, and especially of North Carolina, when the protection of private character called loudly for a special law, that time is *now*; and it would seem from the proceedings of the General Assembly that that body have become aware of this, and have taken steps to make slander a misdemeanor, and of course punishable by fine or imprisonment, or perhaps both. Liberty of the press, liberty of speech! These *liberties* have taken a remarkably wide scope, when editors and others are allowed to charge corruption, theft, swindling, and other crimes of a heinous character upon individuals without the least foundation in truth.

Men in the ordinary pursuits of life cannot feel that they are safe from the attack of the low and vulgar, unless they too lower themselves to pander to their sordid wishes and become "hale fellows," in their career of crime

The best men of the times, and even the memories of the dead, are slandered by being dragged by these penny-a-liners into the dirty arena of politics, to confront the grossest charges, and suffer because there is no law to punish the hyenas who rob the graves of their dead, and howl at the heels of the living.

Vengeance has stood trembling, eager to strike the blow demanded by injured innocence, but prudence, and a proper regard for the peace of society, have stepped in and counseled peace, and the terrible blow has been warded off, to be stricken by the legitimate law-makers, who, with a charity and forbearance truly commendable, have, or are about to make the slanderer guilty of a misdemeanor.

Private character in North Carolina is worth but a mite, if the foul breath of slander could find confidence among the masses; notwithstanding this lack of credit, the annoyance has reached a most intolerable point, and the tongue of ridicule, low vulgarisms, calumny and poisonous counsel, is aimed at the humble, the high and the low, who dare ally themselves on the side of truth and justice. Our Legislative body—its Republican members—have been openly accused of receiving bribes! They are constantly being told that they are convicts, or escaped penitentiary birds! They are represented as loafers in rags and ignorance, and all belonging to a ring of thieves! The Supreme Court judges are taunted as ignorant and unworthy the confidence of a people!—The chief Executive of the State is hounded down by the lowest epithets known to the English language! The Judiciary of the State are held up to ridicule, and the Justices of the Peace are stigmatised as the veriest dolts!

And all this, is to be called a *misdemeanor*, when, in fact, it is criminal, and is intended to subserve a criminal end; for, abroad, where it is absolutely necessary that our credit should be maintained intact, it has the effect of bringing down our standing as a solvent people, and reducing our bonds to a most ruinous standard.

Bankers from neighboring States, seeing these slanders in the public prints, come among us, with pockets crammed with our paper, and ask our Legislature, for the credit of the Old North State, to protect her interests, to pay her indebtedness, and to cast aside the Democratic doctrine of repudiation.

We have to-day, this humiliating spectacle staring us in the face; and with all the solemnity that the Legislature can bring to bear, they pledge, and re-pledge, the good faith of the State!

To-morrow, the forked-tongue of misrepresentation and venom, reiterate the off-repeated falsehood of plunder, and corruption and bankruptcy, and our creditors hold us at a small price.

Individual character is nothing—a mere secondary consideration, compared to the good name of the great State! If North Carolina, as a State, suffer, every individual feels the blighting effect, and it must take years of energy, and hard toil, to win back that confidence which was once the pride of our people.

We are glad, nevertheless, that this subject has been brought before the Legislature; and we hope, the Republican party, who have been made the butt of ridicule, will not hesitate to throw the proper safeguard around, not only individuals, but the honor and credit of the State, and make slander odious in the eyes of the law.

The Political Trapeze.

Liberal as the free winds of Heaven, we are always ready to accord praise to merit, and to applaud the perilous feats of those who venture for our amusement; and thus we find ourselves disposed to express approbation of the great success of the Democratic party in the Legislature, in their daring acts of the "flying trapeze," although we must be allowed to say, by way of criticism, that there was some bungling and mixing the ropes—a mistake not to be seen in a well regulated circus.

Now, it is evident that the Democrats were not anxious to go into Committee of the Whole last Saturday, notwithstanding they called for such an arrangement—they were accommodated, but made nothing, and were greatly relieved when the farce ended.

We find them voting, in many intances against their own avowed schemes, and throwing "cart wheels" and "back somersaults," whenever they are pursued by the Republican party with a proposition of general amnesty, or with a proposition to stand by the credit of the State.

In truth, their leaders have "taken water," and they swim off as smoothly as a puddle duck on the placid face of a mill pond. Their position is truly amusing to the Rupublican party, but embarrassing to themselves; and the end of the whole matter is, the Democratic party have been caught in a trick to embarrass and harrass the Republican party—to throw obstacles in their way, and they, the Democrats now throw up their hands and acknowledge their own duplicity.

What seemed a few days ago a mist, is now a plain noon-day fact—that the Democratic party with their cunning leaders, do not intend that the present General Assembly shall transact any measures tending to alleviate the burdens of the people, or to advance the interest of the State—*if they can help it*; and it is equally plain, that the Republican party see this, and will join in no "log-rolling" to please a set of men who are never so happy as when acting the part of "worm wood" in the play.

We have watched these political jugglers with a silent tongue, confident, that by giving them rope, they would hang themselves most effectually, and thus save our party the disagreeable duty of so unpleasant a political wholesale execution. They have accomplished the deed, and it is now with the Republican party to follow up blow with blow, and drive the last man to the wall.—We say, let it be done.

Our friends throughout the State are doing nobly towards increasing the circulation of the STANDARD. Last week we put nearly two hundred and sixty new names upon our books, and we hope to receive a large number the present week. We credit our friends with the number of names sent by them that they may stand a chance to receive our prizes which will be distributed at the end of next month. In the meantime we hope our friends will continue to do their best to extend our circulation and to induce others to do the same. If they will do as well as they have done we will be satisfied.

Stop Where You Are!

The gigantic brain of Mr. Durham has developed another idea. Of course it is about a committee—equally of course it is a committee to smell out Republican frauds. Mr. Durham dreams of nothing else, although Mr. Malone says the "Democrats" have Democratic swindlers in view as much as Republicans. This new committee is to be composed of three individuals, headed by the redoubtable Durham, who are to go to New York to find out what fraudulent transactions North Carolinians may have been engaged in! To attain this end the committee are to examine the books of the leading bankers and brokers, and are to demand their testimony! Truly the business knowledge of this Democratic Solomon is as totally without precedent as is the legislation which he so seriously proposes to the General Assembly of North Carolina!

Such a committee would be treated as a pack of fools, and would bring upon themselves, and the Legislature and State who sent them, the ridicule of the whole country. The bankers and brokers, too, whose books are to be so unceremoniously examined would have a few words to say in the matter, and we candidly tell Mr. Durham that their most probable answer to any such demand would be one which would give him a fine opportunity of determining the feelings of a person who gets kicked out of doors.

We tell the Republican members of the Legislature that their complaisance has attained such an extent as to bring them into reproach. Do they not see that they are suffering their unscrupulous enemies to bring them into contempt? Do they not see that they are allowing the "Democrats" to arouse every manner of suspicion against the Republicans, and against every Repnblican official? Do they not see that they are seconding the "Democrats" in their every plan? Do they not see that they are allowing themselves to be branded as swindlers without offering a word in their defence? If they do not, then they are blind to that which is seen by every citizen of the State.

We have no hesitation in saying that it was wrong to allow the committee of the whole business to ever be started.

Upon what grounds was that committee based, was there any proof that any fraud had been committed?

No.

Was there a single specific charge made against any man or any body of men?

No.

Why then did the Legislature consent to waste its time and the people's money in pursuing an investigation into nothing?

We tell the Republican members of the Legislature that the resolutions offered by Messrs. Durham, Jarvis, Malone & Co., were so many direct insults to them, and instead of an easy acquiescence, should have brought upon these men the censure they so richly deserved.

There was an investigating committee last session which continued nearly to the end of the session. It made a *sworn* report in which it declared that, with the exception of one "Democrat," no person had committed any fraud. And now, Messrs. Durham, Jarvis and Malone have the effrontery to ask another one, a similar committee.

Why?

Not because they have any proof of the committal of any wrongful deeds—

Not because they have reason to believe that such have been committed—

For they cannot even make a charge of fraud upon anybody or anything—

But because they wish to make political capital, ruin the credit of the State and injure the Republican party.

Virtually, they say to the Republican members of the General Assembly, "we do not *know* of anything wrong—we cannot point to anything that is wrong—but you Republicans are such a set of rascals that we demand that you turn out your pockets that we, the incorruptible "Democrats" may see that you havn't stolen anything."

And the Republicans are fools enough to meekly follow the orders of these 'Democrats,' and, stand like whipped school boys before their master.

Shame on such servility—shame on such a policy.

Republicans, if you must yield to the "Democratic" howl for a committee, at least let that committee have some certain purpose.

Mr. Malone says he expects to catch Democrats. Then he must have some certain Democrat in view. Let him make his charge, and then, let that 'Democrat' be tried. Or, if he can make a direct charge against any Republican, try the Republican, but for the sake of your honor, for the sake of your manhood, for the sake of your good name, allow no more committees to be formed simply because the 'Democrats' desire to drive you into doing so.

No matter whether there can be no fraud discovered, the "Democrats" will have attained their purpose if this committee business is allowed to proceed. During all the time it will consume in its pretended investigations the public mind will be in a state of suspense. Nothing definite being known, or alleged, the minds of the] people will become accustomed to view the Republicans as guilty of the greatest crimes. Having nothing to rest upon, the suspicions of the people will take the wildest latitude and no guilt, no crime, will be too great for them to believe to have been committed. Thus the "Democrats" will attain their purpose, for they will have poisoned the minds of the people against every Republican.

The policy of trusting in your innocence and allowing the "Democrats" to go ahead is a fatal error, for, be you now as stainless as the driven snow, the suspicions to which such a committee will give birth would blacken you forever in the minds of the many thousands who could never know the truth. Away with such a policy! When your accusers make a definite charge, let its truth be investigated. Until then, refuse to act upon the orders of those who are your enemies. Do this and you act wisely and well. Do otherwise and you sin against yourselves and your party.

Taxes.

We see that many private bills in relation to taxes are already being introduced into the Legislature. Some are to enable sheriffs to collect arrears of taxes, some to enable sheriffs to do this others to enable sheriffs to do, or not to do, something else. All this is wrong. If a sheriff has been prevented by sickness or some other unavoidable cause from collecting his taxes in full, we have no objection to his being allowed time to do so. But we are opposed to this pernicious system of allowing sheriffs or ex-sheriffs to go back two, three or four years to collect arrears of taxes. In nine cases out of ten such cases the sheriff did not collect the full amount of taxes because he wished to be popular that he might secure a re-election.

The fault was his own and he should not be allowed to bother the people, who have paid their taxes once to pay them again People do not, as a general thing, keep their tax receipts more than a year, and may be forced to pay again taxes which they paid long ago. The people cannot perceive the beneficence of such acts nor the wisdom of the legislation which allows them. We hope that any such bill will be killed at once

There are also other bills to suspend the collection of taxes from certain corporations. We do not like such bills. The State needs all the money she can raise, and we do not think it proper nor wise to allow any corporation to escape the payment of its proper amount of taxes. With the interest on our bonds unpaid such a course would militate greatly against the interests of the State.

Better.

We are rejoiced to see that the Republican members of the Legislature are becoming more harmonious, and more willing to sacrifice petty personal considerations when opposed to the good of the party. We are rejoiced to see this because the good of the people demands that the Republican party shall lose no strength, but rather that it shall increase in power and be able to wrest from the opposition the little foothold it still retains in North Carolina. With a united party the work will be easy. With a divided party it would a herculean task—even if possible.

The Republican party now controls North Carolina, even as it controls the United States. In the North and West its power is steadily increasing and the Democrats look with despair upon its onward march—a march they are powerless to successfully resist. Everywhere but in two or three Southern States the party is rapidly gaining.

Here in North Carolina it is receiving accessions of strength. Almost every day we hear of some prominent member of the opposition giving in his adherence to our party. Numerically, we are stronger to-day than ever before. It remains for the members of the Legislature to say whether, they will, by their acts render the party invincible, or whether, by wrangling and coquetting with the "Democrats" they will do all in their power to weaken it, and give the whipped "Democracy" a chance to renew the contest with a prospect of success. Members of the Legislature, the fate of the Republican party of North Carolina, rests with you.—Your actions each day either benefit or injure it. By the end of the session the balance will have been determined and the people will know whether to applaud or curse you. Upon you rests the fate of the State. If you are true to your promises, true to the honor you pledged the people who elected you, the Republican party will still hold the reins of Government, and the enemies of progress and freedom will remain as powerless as they now are.

This result you can accomplish by a thorough party organization and a united support of party interests. Upon State, local, or non-political measures we would have every man follow his own judgment and act for what he considers the best interests of the people and the State. Upon party matters—measures which affect the welfare or strength of the Republican party—we consider it to be the bounden duty of members to support the course which may be selected by a majority of the party.

To determine this it is necessary to hold caucuses that each member may be allowed to discuss the question to be disposed of in all its party bearings—a thing which could not and should not be done during a legislative session. When all have spoken who desire let the vote be taken and the wishes of the majority be regarded as the wishes of the party. In such a manner only can the strength of the party be brought to bear, and the cunning and unscrupulous minority be defeated. Party measures should be carried by a party vote, and that Republican who persistently votes against the interests of the party should be cut off from membership.

Happily they are few who have done this, and they seem to be ashamed of their sins, so we will say no more. The majority of the party, with hardly an exception, are now resolved to stand together, and we hope to hear of no more bickerings and divisions.

Let Republicans work together in harmony and all will be well. We believe from present indications that they will do this, and we, as well as the Republicans of the whole State, are glad of it. We wish to see Republicans working with all their energy for the good of the State and the Republican party, heedless of the howlings and snarlings of the powerless 'Democracy.' Then will the power of the Republican party be secured and the State be certain of a prosperous and glorious future.

Mr. Jarvis has Some Reasons.

We have received from Mr. Jarvis, of the House a letter in which he thinks we have misrepresented his position concerning the removal of political disabilities. We said he voted against the Senate substitute for the bill praying the removal of political disabilities. He did. The reasons he gives are as follows:

"I preferred the House resolution for two reasons:

1st. The House resolution *instructed* our Senators—the Senate resolution *requested* them.

2nd. The House resolution had no high sounding, fulsome preamble about the Sun, Moon or the Stars—the Senate resolution did.

We do not think Mr. Jarvis' reasons of much weight, or that they in the least explain his course or affect our previous remarks.

In the first place a legislative request is virtually an instruction to the Congressmen to whom it is directed. The word "requested" in such cases is oftener used than the word "instructed." Therefore we take the first reason of Mr. Jarvis as a mere quibble suggested by his legal brain, and as amounting to nothing.

His second reason is even more absurd than his first. High sounding language in the preamble could not invalidate or at all injure the text of the resolution itself, much less render worthless the great principles therein contained. The Republicans preferred the Senate substitute because it provided for the removal of political disabilities from every man in the whole South, while the House resolution but referred to the State. Therefore we cannot but think that in voting against the substitute Mr. Jarvis and his fellow "Democrats" *did* vote against the removal of political disabilities. "The sun, moon or stars" would scarcely be affected to any perceptible degree by the language of the preamble, while the Southern people are severely affected by the political disabilities now imposed upon them. We think it would have been much better for Mr. Jarvis and his fellow "Democrats" to have shown less solicitude about the sun moon and stars and more for the banned and proscribed people of the South.

The Militia Law.

It is singular to see how unanimously the "Democratic" papers oppose the suggestion of the Governor that the militia law be so amended as to give the power to make it effective. As the law now stands the militia is a useless organization, for it cannot be used in the very localities where it is needed. For instance, take the county of Orange. It is infested by Ku Klux, who commit most outrageous deeds. There is no security for the life or property of any man to whom the Ku Klux may be opposed. Yet the Governor is powerless to prevent their outrages or to remedy the existing state of affairs.

Why?

Because the country is controlled by Democratic officials, who will not *request* that militia be sent to them, and the Governor cannot send militia into the county except at the request of the magistrates. Thus, the officials do not enforce the laws upon the pretence of being unable to do so, and will not permit the Governor to do it for them.

Again. By the present law any citizen can refuse to serve in the militia, and upon payment of two dollars cannot be forced to do so. All this is wrong, and the Legislature should immediately so amend the militia law as to make it answer the purpose which it was intended to answer. The interests of the State require this.

[Reported for the STANDARD.]

The Opinion of His Honor, Judge G. W. Brooks, in the case of the United States vs. The Hornet, alias Cuba.

The question submitted to the Court is—can this Court recognize as existing, any government or organized body of people, or element known as the Republic of Cuba, to the extent of allowing that as a body politic, or government to come through an agent into Court and be admitted as claimant of the property libelled in this cause?

The capacity of this struggling element in Cuba, styling themselves the "Republic of Cuba" to take and hold property is not a question for consideration. But it is now simply for this Court to declare to what extent it may properly go (if to any extent) in declaring how far any revolutionary element or people have succeeded in their efforts to seperate and free themselves from any established and acknowledged government.

I feel that I have been aided materially in coming to a correct conclusion upon this question, by the very clear and able arguments of the Counsel who addressed the Court—both for the United States and for the individual who styles himself the "agent of the Republic of Cuba"; yet I am embarrassed by the importance of this question, in its connection with this cause. Were I satisfied that my opinion would be revised by the Supreme court and be by that body corrected if wrong I would announce the conclusion to which I have come with less reluctance than I do.

It was contended by Mr. Phillips, the counsel who submitted the argument on the part of the United States—that this Court would exceed its power in recognizing to any extent or for any purpose—the existence of any mere revolutionary body, such as that styling itself the "Republic of Cuba" in the absence of any act, resolution, proclamation of the Legislative or Executive Department of our government, declaring or admitting to any extent, the existence of such a government. That there is no authority to show that such power was designed to be allowed the Courts, or were ever exercised by the Courts of the United States, but on the contrary there is abundant and conclusive authority—both of our Circuit and Supreme Court to show that they have not only declined to claim or exercise such power—but declared it to exist with and to have been exercised by the political departments of the goverament alone. That a power or government must necessarily be recognized to have existence before they can be admitted as claimants to defend or be in any way heard in the Court.

Other objections were urged by the counsel to the sufficiency of the evidence offered by J. Moralles Lemus, to show that he was authorized to represent and claim for the Republic of Cuba.

This like the question of title, the Court regards as not now necessary to be considered.

I listened with care and much interest to the argument of the learned counsel who addressed the Court in behalf of the party who asks to be admitted as agent, and to claim, and to authorities read and commented upon by him.

I have examined the authorities cited on both sides, and considered these authorities and the arguments with care and have been forced to the conclusion that this question is with the United States, and I must so declare.

I confess to some degree of hesitancy in so declaring because, partially cosidered it may seem as if it recognized to some extent, a right in the strong to deny justice to the weak. But if anything should be yielded for such a consideration, it would be altogether unjustifiable on my part. Less defensible for me would such a cause be for the reason that I entertain so clearly the opinion, that Courts have no right to consider any question of law submitted to them in a policy view.

Courts should construe the law—ascertain and declare the law, as it is, without reference to any opinion of the Judge as to what the law *should be*.

Though no case parallel to this case has been cited, yet cases have been referred to and commented upon by the counsel for the govement, which in my opinion conclusively settle this question.

I will first refer to the case of the U. S, v. Palmer 3d. Wheat 610. This was an indictment against the defendant and others under the Act of Congress for robbery upon the high seas—in the Circuit Court for the District of Massachusetts. The Judges were not agreed, and certified eleven questions for the opinion of the Supreme Court. That eminent Judge, Chief Justice Marshal delivered the opinion of the Court. I will only refer to the remarks of the learned Chief Justice upon the tenth question so certified.

"The question is certified in the following language." "Whether any colony, district or people who have revolted from their native allegiance and have assumed upon themselves the exercise of independent and sovereign power, can be deemed in any Court of the United States an independent or sovereign nation or government, until they have been acknowledged as such by the government of the United States; and whether such acknowledgement can be proved in a Court of the United States otherwise than by some act, resolution or statute of Congress or by some public proclamation or other public act of the Executive authority of the United States, directly containing or announcing such acknowledgement, or by publicly receiving or acknowledging an ambassador or other public minister from such colony, district or people; and whether such acknowledgment can be proved by mere inference from the private acts or private instructions of the Executive of the United States, where no public acknowledgement has ever been made; and whether the courts of the States are bound judiciously to take notice of the existing relations of the States as to foreign States and soveignties, their colonies and dependencies."

That great Judge and the Supreme court declares as follows: "Those questions which respect the rights of a foreign empire, which asserts and is contending for its independence and the conduct which must be observed by the courts of the Union towards the subjects of such sections of an empire who may be brought before the tribunals of this country—are equally difficult and delicate.

As it is understood that the construction which has been given to the Acts of Congress will render a particular answer unnecessary, the Court will only observe that such questions are generally rather political than legal in their character.

They belong more properly to those who can declare what the law *shall be*, who can place the nation in such a position with respect to foreign powers as to their judgment may seem wise, to whom are intrusted all its foreign relations; than to that tribunal whose power as well as duty is confined to the application of the rule which the Legislature may prescribe for it. In such contests the nation may engage itself with one party or the other—may observe absolute neutrality—may recognize the new State absolutely, or may make a limited recognition of it. The proceedings in courts must depend so entirely on the course of the government that it is difficult to give a precise answer to questions which do not refer to a particular nation.

This Court is of opinion that, when a civil war wages in a foreign nation—one part of which separates itself from the old established Government and erects itself into a distinct government—the Courts of the Union must view such newly constituted government as it is viewed by the Legislative and Executive Departments of the United States."

Then the same learned Judge, in the case of the Divina Pastora, (4 Wheat. 52,) decided at the next term of the Supreme Court, says that "the decision at the last term, in United States v. Palmer, establishes the principle that the Government of the Union having recognized the existence of a civil war between Spain and her colonies, but remaining neutral, the Courts of the Union are bound to consider as lawful, those acts which war authorizes, and which the new Government in South America may direct against their enemy." Hence I conclude that *for the reason* that the Government of the United States had recognized the existence of a civil war between Spain and her colonies, the Courts were forbidden to say that the act of capturing the Divina Pastora was unlawful. That the Court could not say, after such an acknowledgment, if the capturing ship had come within the jurisdiction of the United States, that she was a piratical vessel, and treat her as such. That the effect of this acknowledgment was to accord to the new power belligerent rights, so far as the United States were concerned; one of which is to grant letters of marque and reprisal, one of the important advantages arising from which (to such as act under them) is exemption from the penalty for piracy."

This is but saying to such a people that we see and understand that you are struggling to seperate from the mother country.

That whether a revolted colony is to be treated as a sovereign State even *de facto* is a political question and to be decided by the government and not the Court has been decided in effect in several other cases that those before mentioned, as in *Kennett* v. *Chambers* 14 Howard 38. *Clarke* v. *United States*, 3. Washington, C. C. R. 101.

And in the great case of Luther v. Borden in the agreement of which the great American Constitutional lawyer, rarely if ever displayed more learning, the Supreme Court unmistakably declare against the view urged by Mr. Webster. That Federal Courts have no jurisdiction of the question whether a government organized in a *State*, is the duly constituted government in the State. That is a question which belongs to the political, not the judicial power. In that case any disposition of that question could not have disturbed our relation with any established foreign power. No power with whom the United States was at peace or to whom our government was solemnly pledged to a just and clearly prescribed course, as by our neutrality acts, could or would have complained of a contrary decision in that case—and still that was a question