THE CHRONICLE

R. W. THOMAS, Editor.

TERMS: $2.00 IN ADVANCE.

CLARKSVILLE: : : MARCH 25, 1876.

TO PAY, OR NOT TO PAY!

Unfortunately for those who indulge in ill-natured flings at the advocates of State credit they leave no room for any other inference than that they themselves are the advocates of unconditional or modified repudiation. Did we advocate repudiation in any form, we should insist that it be absolute and unconditional, because to repudiate half the debt would insure the full measure of dishonor and only half the pecuniary profit of a clean sweep. To save money at the cost of honor will have the same effect upon the State which the same course would have upon an individual—loss of credit, followed by a distrust fatal to future hope of pecuniary assistance in the hour of need.

It is not true, however, as charged, that those who insist upon the payment of the whole State debt contend that it can be done on a 40 cent tax, after meeting interest and current expenses. Their position, as we understand it, is that the debt must be paid because the State is able to do it, and because honor demands it—leaving the rate of taxation to be determined by the amount annually required to pay the interest and current expenses. But before such rate can be fixed, with any degree of certainty, every available source of revevenue must be made to pay its fair proportion of taxes.

The crisis is one which demands the exhibition of the most enlightened patriotism and the practice of the most rigid economy, and there must, in addition, be perfect concert of action between the administrative and legislative departments of the State government in order to derive the greatest amount of revenue from the property subject to taxation. If the State be worth six hundred millions, as we have seen it stated, a fair assessment on that basis will make a vast difference in the volume of revenue; but if assessors, at their own option, depreciate the value of property to about half the amount above stated, it ceases to be strange that the tax fails to meet current expenses and pay the interest on the debt. And unless the Legislature does something to prevent this rapid depreciation in the value of property, as shown by the assessors' books, it is idle to hope that a higher rate of taxation will supply the deficit, because that higher rate will be urged as the cause of a proportionate depreciation in the immediate future. Nor can it be long before this cross purpose between the law and those selected to execute it, will be followed by disastrous results—the State will be bankrupt and the people dishonored.

What is needed to be done in view of the crisis is to enforce a fair assessment of all property subject to taxation, trim exemptions down to the smallest point; hunt up new sources of revenue--for instance, the consumption of liquors distilled in the State—and then, with the lights before the legislature, it can safely adopt a sliding scale of taxation, moving up, or down, as necessity may indicate. The impatience of the people under the burden they now carry is due in our opinion, not more to the weight of that burden, than to a want of confidence in those who enact, and those whose duty it is to interpret and execute the laws. Want of confidence generates discontent, and discontent breeds demagogues who glory in political schisms, hoping that the storm of popular excitement may lift them to positions unattainable in times of harmony and safe counsels. Hence the questions of high or low taxes? the payment, or non-payment of the State debt? Hence too, the question—who's to blame for not paying the interest past due? The true answer is that the people are to blame for electing incompetent law-makers, and this is the root of the evils complained of. But the demagogue flatters the people that they have acted wisely, and that the fault lies in the legislature, or in the Executive, or anywhere except in their own ignorance of their most important interests, or criminal indifference to the means whereby those interests may be most effectively advanced.

We are for the payment of the State debt because it is the only honorable solution of the financial conundrum, and because the State is able to pay it; but in dealing with the subject, we see no wisdom in singling out this, that, or the other department as the scapegoat of a condition of affairs resulting from a general inefficiency in the administration of the State government. Who struck Billy Patterson? is a query of far less importance than the question—where shall we find the skill and ability to heal the wound inflicted by the blow? Crimination without discrimination, is unjust and impolitic, and it should ever be borne in mind that bare suspicion is no warrant for grave and direct charges, nor should acts of indiscretion be accepted as positive proof of corrupt motives and criminal intentions.

ALTHOUGH the Centennial is clearly the mercenary speculation of a ring, yet the South is interested in it as a mammoth celebration of the most important rebellion on record not excepting that of the Barons of England against King John. This celebration of an act of rightful resistance to tyranny is, however indirectly, an endorsement of the effort of the South to stay the ceaseless encroachments of the tyranny of New England fanaticism upon the rights and privileges guaranteed by the "Magna Charta" of American liberty. Tyranny, whether exercised by one man, a faction, or section, is tyranny still, and whatever may have been thought of the causes which impelled the South to act, the sequel of the war has demonstrated that its resistance was against a spirit of tyranny vindictively reduced to practice during and since the war. And if the South got up a rebellion, Radicalism has demonstrated that there was ample cause according to both the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

GRANTISM will go down to posterity as the most comprehensive term for official meanness. Shall repudiation descend with it to designate Tennessee's failure to pay a debt of honor, unsupported by the plea of inability?

IN a pecuniary point of view what do they expect to gain who are most eager for repudiation? A very large proportion of our population pay none but a poll tax and that they can't repudiate because they can be sued and forced to pay it. Those who are worth $1,000, or under, pay only a poll tax, and can gain nothing by repudiation except the distinguished honor of having aided in swindling the State's creditors. And what will the substantial property holders get as the price of their vote for repudiation? The pitiful sum of 40 cents on the hundred dollars, which is the tax imposed by the State. The burden of which they most complain is imposed for counties, towns and railroads—these they can not shake off by repudiation because the courts can reach them and enforce their payment.

It seems, then, that the thousands who pay only a poll tax and those whose property is tax free because of their thousand dollar exemption can not make the fraction of a cent by repudiation, and therefore can have no other inducement to vote for it than a more than willingness to disgrace the State "free gratis, for nothing." And since the real property holders can not make by their vote for repudiation more than the fortieth part of one per cent. on their entire property as assessed, it is pertinent to ask whether this pitiful saving is an equivalent, weighed by their own consciences, for their services in the repudiation of a debt of honor. If all concerned will view the subject in the light of facts and from the standpoint of plighted faith, we have no fears that the State will be dishonored by repudiation.

IT is said a rule is not a good one which does not work both ways. If this be so, with what show of plausibility even can repudiationists point to the corruption of the Radical party as a sufficient cause for its ejection from power when they—the repudiationists—are contemplating an act of moral and legal perfidy as disgraceful as that perpetrated by the rings. Those swindle the government out of revenues which it is entitled to by law. These would swindle the creditors of the State out of the bonds held under the guarantees of law and good faith. In one respect the crime of repudiation is greater than that of Belknap, because the State can not be sued and therefore its debt is a debt of honor, and to repudiate it is not only a criminal violation of plighted faith but a dishonorable act done under cover of immunity from punishment. There is boldness and risk in the case of the rings, because the members thereof can be reached and punished by law; repudiation has not even the merit of bravery but fights under cover of impregnable defenses. Let us then hear no more of Radical corruption from so-called Democrats who are trying to bring about what a professional gambler would scorn to endorse, the repudiation of a debt of honor.

THERE is no use in speculating about the result of the New Hampshire election when the cause sticks out as plain as a pike staff. The intrinsic beauties of Radicalism were not appreciated by the majority in that State, until they were developed by the Democratic investigation committees, when they burst upon the vision of the average New Hampshire man in all their splendor and evoked a spirit of enthusastic admiration and devotion which was irresistible. And when viewed through the delicate coloring of the Radical greenback, the picture sent out from Washington and illustrated by committees, captivated all save the intelligent and honest patriots whose noble examples of integrity were as pearls cast to swine. The moral is that those who make a traffic of the honor of the government and the rights and liberties of the people will not only buy the votes of the ignorant and dishonest, but steal the money to pay for them.

MUCH of the Federal debt, amounting to more than two thousand millions, is due in no small degree to fraud in the beginning and to thieving since. If divided by thirty-seven, the number of States, it will show what proportion is due from each State. Will the repudiators of Tennessee include this debt and repudiate the obligation by refusing to pay the State's quota in the shape of federal taxes? Go the whole hog, gentleman, there is no use in degrading the State for so small a consideration as the saving a few cents by the repudiation of its debt. Repudiate the Federal debt, repudiate every moral obligation to pay debts of honor, throw society back upon the innate depravity of nature, and we shall have a glorious government and glorious times generally.

THE endorsement of a majority of the Democratic caucus, of the Payne bill, which recommended the repeal of the resumption act and a gradual preparation for specie payment when the country is prepared for it, is about the best disposition which can be made at present of the vexed questions. The proposed repeal will throw the responsibility for contraction on the Radical party and, in any contingency, intervening developments must control the final adjustment of the currency. Democracy, just at this juncture, should avoid every cause of internal dissension because without success it can consummate no scheme for the reformation of the currency or the morals of the country.

THE Commercial and Law Reporter heads an able editorial thus: "Who governs us?" We answer without fear of successful contradiction that we are governed by ignorance and corruption. The people take so little interest in the administration of their government that they neither read nor reflect upon the subject, and their leaders, taking advantage of this stolid indifference, run the machine in their own interest. This explains both the ignorance and corruption and the consequent bad government.

THAN is a contemptible Radical dodge which seeks to break the fall of the party by attempting to pull down prominent Democrats. We hope, however, the committees of the House will promptly take up and thoroughly investigate every charge preferred against leading Democrats, and if guilty expose and punish them.

THE McMinnville New Era says that Col. Savage, in a recent speech, took ground in favor of State and Federal repudiation. It is a savage position and unworthy of civilized men.

IT is sometimes asked—what good will all this exposure of crime at Washington do? It may not change a single Radical vote, but it will show to foreign visitors to the Centennial how prolific free institutions are of all the virtues which should characterize both a free people and their trusted officials. Such a lesson is needed to unmask the hypocrisy of that which whilst loudly boasting it integrity and piety, has infused the grossest corruption into the administration of every department of the government. Therefore, we say, push on the investigation and if the government is to be run by thieves let it not be said that the people are ignorant of the characters of their agents.

IF the committees keep on digging up Radical villainies, that party will sweep the whole North in November. It has long had a majority and all that is necessary to secure the devotion of those already enlisted and to enlist the entire "riff raff" of the northern population is to show how stealing is made easy and, by example, made respectable. The committees are doing the first and the administration is doing the last.

OUR talented young friend, T. F. Henry, publishes a card to-day, in which he modestly but firmly declines the call made upon him last week to have his name used in connection with the candidacy for the Legislature. Whilst we consider the only reason he gives for his decision as insufficient, we admire the candor with which he gives it.

THE Washington Republican says: "There was little glory in the publication of the fact that Gen. Rufus Ingalls gave Mrs. Grant a watch."

How much glory was there in giving Ingalls the position then held by Gen. Meigs, in payment for the watch and then sending Meigs to Europe on a fool's errand and at the cost of the people?

THE indications are that the payment or repudiation of the State debt is a question that may create a breach in the Democratic party through which Radicalism may enter and possess the State government. That party has anticipated such a rupture and is prepared to avail itself of the oppportunity offered by the sheerest folly if nothing worse.

IT is said Ben. Butler is to go to Mississppi to defend his son-in-law Ames. He had better change his name and the villainous caste of his countenance or he may carry back another bloody shirt. In the Democratic search for thieves he can hardly escape strong suspicion, or some of his dearest New Orleans friends may wish to exchange courtesies with him.

IT is rumored that Col. Colyar will run for Floater and advocate the dog tax and lease of the Penitentiary as beneficial to the State. We can see how the latter may be beneficial to the mines, but incline to the belief that the State had better try to save the large profits made by the lessees.

GRANT, thinking he would get an honest Minister to England, reached down into the very centre of puritanism and drew out a man previously convicted of literacy piracy. So strong is the affinity between him and villainy that it is impossible for him to select an honest man for any position.

THE value of New Hampshire voters, in money, ranges from five to fifty dollars and no doubt there is a still lower stratum whose price ranges all the way from fifty cents to four dollars and a half. All of them are dear at any price, and their purchasers are the meanest of the whole lot.

THE Senate has set its face against the retrenchment proposed by the House because it cuts off too much of the corruption fund. But the House holds the purse strings and with firmness can enforce compliance with its demands.

A CARD.

EDITORS CHRONICLE: Noticing the article of Capt. Elliott in your last issue, I take this opportunity to express to him and others who have spoken to me on the subject, my acknowledgments for the compliment intended in soliciting me to become a candidate for the next Legislature. Under certain circumstances I would delight to be the standard bearer of the Democratic party in the next canvass. My too-generous friend does me the honor to compare me to Chevalier Bayard, but I must acknowledge the "bar sinister" to which he vaguely alludes (and which would seem to require of me a personal explanation) effectually places me *"hors de combat"* in the coming contest—a contest to sustain the faith and credit of the State. Of such vital importance do I consider this question, that I would personally be willing to submit to a tax of 60 cents rather than see our fair escutcheon soiled by one stain of repudiation. Under peculiar circumstances, in which were presented to me two alternatives, I felt my honor impelled me to choose the least evil, and I took the benefit of the bankrupt law—thus placing myself in the unfortunate position of Launcelot,

"Whose Honor rooted in dishonor stood,
And Faith unfaithful made him falsely true."

Without arraying my private matters before the public by any justification of the act, I merely state the fact with the remark that the Democratic party in seeking to rebuke a repudiation of her debts cannot afford to select as a standard bearer a man who had repudiated his own.

Another reason why I should be proud to represent Montgomery county would be to assist by my vote in elevating to the United States Senate our worthy fellow-citizen, Col. Jas. E. Bailey, who would stand in the seething mass of corruption at Washington a pillar of light and morality to which the honest people of the country could turn with confidence and hope; but believing there are others of more extended acquaintance and larger influence, who could better aid him as well as the general interests of the State at large, I decline to allow my name to be used in that connection, but reserve to myself the privilege of working to the best of my ability as a private in the ranks under the leadership of the choice of a convention whoever he may be. Again returning my thanks to Capt. Elliott, I am respectfully, yours, &c.

T. F. HENRY.

LETTER FROM HOT SPRINGS, ARK.

EDITORS CHRONICLE: There are periods in our lives when we indeed "take no note of time but from its loss." When I last wrote for the columns of the CHRONICLE I thought the article should be followed up, in a short time, by another and perhaps by several in succession. But weeks have grown into months and no communication has been written you. These have been months of unusual activity—months in which head and hands have been full and consequently time has flown rapidly. During this period many things have occurred about Hot Springs that might have been of interest to your readers. Events, however, crowd upon one another in such rapid succession about this "fountain of youth" that unless they are chronicled as they pass they escape the pen of the newspaper correspondent. Hence it is now a question with the writer where to commence and where to end.

Permit me to say, by way of introduction, (as the preachers express it) that my lot is cast again, for another year at least, with this people, my interests identified with the growing interest of Hot Springs. It might be thought a strange fancy to say that I like the place, but such is nevertheless the case. With all the suffering that one is compelled to witness, and with some of the darkest pages of human nature so prominently before your eye that you cannot escape reading them, yet the place possesses a singular attraction for myself and most persons. The activity of our citizens, displayed in the erection of new buildings, the improvement of our streets and general improvement of the place, the coming and going of the multitudes who throng our streets from all parts of the world, give us not only a city-like appearance, but keep interest and expectation alive and make one feel as though he belonged to a world wide awake and moving. It could not be expected of course that the place would be a paradise, or that it had reached the standard of morality that belongs to some other towns; yet the place will compare favorably in this respect perhaps with any other watering place. It is a matter of astonishment that there is as little thieving and robbing as there is.

Our people have been for months in daily expectation of the settlement of the title to the Springs. It is still thought that a decision will be received soon. In spite of this unsettled state of the property, the place continues to improve. Among the noticeable buildings that have been erected lately is the Smith House, or "Avenue Hotel," as it is called. It is quite a commodious and elegant building—is well manned and well furnished.

The completion of our branch railroad is another indication of permanent prosperity, and is a cause of great rejoicing on the part of our visiting population. The Hot Springs railroad is no longer a thing of the future, but a pleasant reality. We hear the whistle of the locomotive twice a day coming to the valley with crowds of pleasure and health seekers. All honor to the president, Mr. Reynolds, or "Diamond Joe," as he is popularly known. Consequent upon the completion of the road we have had a very great increase in the number of visitors. There are more here now it is said than has ever been known at any season before. Once but few came who were not seeking health, and these came only after all other remedies for disease and means for health had been tried in vain. A trip over these mountains in our clumsy stage coaches to these waters was the last resort. But now, since we are easy of access, our hotels are filled, not simply with the afflicted, but with pleasure seekers—mostly Northern and Eastern people who spend their winters South.

You know that we have persons afflicted with every imaginable disease. I have just met with a man most singularly afflicted. From his waist up his flesh is as hard as a piece of wood. I felt of his face and neck and found them about as smooth and hard as marble. Some parties call him the petrified man. He has commenced bathing in the hope of recovery. Now for a fair test of the waters. If they affect a cure you may send some of your Tennessee *fossils* down and we will try the rejuvenating waters on them. But perhaps I have said enough at present.

Col. Paine, one of your citizens, is rapidly regaining his health and expects to return home soon, a sound man.

S. G. COLBURN.

Hot Springs, Ark., March 15, 1876.

LETTER FROM ASHLAND CITY.

MESSRS. EDITORS: Lately we have seen several communications in the CHRONICLE, from "Anon," of this place, and it seems that he takes special pleasure in keeping your readers posted with regard to the acts and doings our C. and M. and our clever old Circuit Clerk, Nick. Now we ask to enter our protest against this course of Anon. It occurs to us that he might write sometimes about others; for instance he might tell of some of his own mishaps, as we are credibly informed that not long since he went to the well for a bucket of water and after having raised the fluid from the well and started to pour it into his bucket, he found that instead of a bucket he had brought his market basket, which of course would not hold water. He sat down the well bucket as easily as possible and attempted to get away without being seen, but Judge C.'s lynx eyes were too quick for him and he had to own up. This absent-mindedness of Anon calls to mind something of similar character that happened not long since. A clerk in one of our dry good houses was asked by a young lady for a spool of No. 20 Coat's cotton. With all dispatch possible he went to the other end of the house and soon returned with twenty hanks of No. 500 spun cotton, and remarked that that was the coarsest thy had. The lady of course was astonished to see such a bundle for one spool of thread, the necessary explanations were given and received and so the matter was adjusted by furnishing the spool. It is also reported that this same clerk has fallen into the habit lately of making out bills of parcels and heading them Oak Hill, North Carolina, instead of Ashland City, Tenn. This fit of temporary or *paroxysmal insanity* (Lurton) or absentmindness is to be accounted for upon the hypothesis that where the treasure is there will the heart be, and it is said that the one who has the keeping of that organ has recently removed to the above place. As cold as it was last Saturday, a young man of our town had his hair shingled to the skin and wasted a sitting or more of eggs in having his head shampooned, because he was looking for his dulcinea who had been gone some two or three weeks. The consequence is he is now so hoarse that he can't talk above a whisper, and is threatened with pneumonia. But then he is cured of almost as bad a case of absentmindedness as the clerk aforesaid, as he has not been heard to speak unless spoken to and then only in monosyllables; but now he is all smiles and jokes and the barber gave him to understand that he would reduce the price of shaving to the old standard.

March 21, 1876. FAIR PLAY.

From the Columbia Herald and Mail.

OUR STATE DEBT.

To the Editors of the Herald and Mail:

The discussion of this most important and dangerous subject has become unavoidable. It is too late to doubt the wisdom of forcing the question into the politics of the coming campaign. The issue has been thrust upon us by certain imprudent advocates of partial or total repudiation, each eager to propose his own little pet scheme, heedless apparently or ignorant of the tremendous gravity of the crisis he was helping to hasten. A matter more important than any other that can now occupy the attention of Tennesseeans, more likely if ignorantly or intemperately handled, to prove fatal, not only to the present unity of the Democratic party but to the future prosperity of the State, deserves the careful and dispassionate study of every good citizen. If the facts I propose to lay before your readers, shall arouse the attention of others more competent to suggest measures suitable to the emergency, induce any of my neighbors to lay aside minor differences and join in a hearty effort for the good of the State, or elicit other facts of value, the object of this letter will be fully attained.

Everybody knows that we have failed to meet the interest on our State debt and that the State officers hold out no hope of meeting it at the present rate of taxation. How and why that debt was created may not be so well known.

As far back as the year 1836, the State of Tennessee began a system of aid to internal improvements, issuing her bonds in favor of various turnpikes and railroads. No very large amount was issued, however, until the year 1852, when an act was passed providing for the *loan* of bonds to railroads for the purpose of ironing and equipping them, the State being secured by a first mortgage of the roads. This Act gave a great impetus to the building of railroads and at the outbreak of the war in 1862, all now in operation in the State (with one or two unimportant exceptions) were completed and most were paying well. The State debt was then about twenty millions of dollars. The bonds loaned by the State to the railroads were taken by them *at par*, and were to be paid back to the State in full. The bonds *sold* by the State before the war (as the Capitol bonds, &c.) ranged in price from 93c. to 95c. on the dollar.

The close of the war found the railroads in an insolvent condition. Their roadbeds were in very bad order, their rollingstock was gone and the companies were obliged either to abandon them or go into debt to the U. S. Government for the rollingstock and iron necessary to operate them. They chose the latter alternative, and as their debts matured went before the State Legislature (Radical) with appeals for aid. It was granted in bonds. One or two new companies were organized, and also had bonds voted them. Doubtless in the use of these bonds (i. e., of the State credit) at the time, there was mismanagement or extravagance occasionally—in one or two cases, actual dishonesty. After their issue, the State debt amounted, if I remember, to forty-six million dollars. Then came the failure to meet the interest on our bonds—the true history of which is very curious and will be told in the proper place. Then the disruption and downfall of the Radical party, and the successful effort by the incoming Conservatives to reduce our debt to a manageable size. This was done by forcing the solvent railroads to pay their indebtednes to the State—and by selling the insolvent railroads under her mortgage-liens.

The overdue interest on the remaining debt, accumulated during and since the war, was seen to be more than we could hope to meet out of the current revenues of the State, and all parties seemed to acquiesce in the necessity for the passage of the funding bill, which took place in 1873. Under this bill about five millions of past due interest was funded. After this was done, the Comptroller in his report estimated the total bonded debt of the State on December 20th, 1874 at a little over twenty-one millions a reduction of about twenty-five millions in six years. The State met her interest due up to 1st January, 1875. Since then none has been paid.

Of the "old bonds" so called (those issued before the war) about four millions were for stock in banks and turnpikes, for building the State Capitol, buying the Hermitage, &c.

Now we hear, every day, people talking of the injustice of the State having to pay dollar for dollar on her bonds and interest on their face, when she only got forty or fifty cents for them. I venture the assertion *that the State of Tennessee never sold one of her bonds for* less than ninety cents (gold) on the dollar! The lowest price of which I find any trace is ninety-three cents. It is true that the State loaned her bonds to railroads, which sold them in some cases at low figures. But these same railroads, wherever solvent, have paid back to the State, other bonds, and coupons to the full amount of those loaned them, and where insolvent have been taken possession of by the State and sold for whatever they would bring. By the solvent ones the State loses nothing, by the insolvent ones she suffers, just as a private person suffers, who indorses for a bankrupt and has to pay the note or rather to make the parallel exact, who lends his own notes to another and takes security that proves worthless. The following statement is not popular. A little thought will show it to be true. The losses by fall in value of Tennessee bonds have not been primarily or chiefly either the State or her citizens', but the holders of the bonds. That much of the present outcry against the bondholders is raised by speculators who have formed a ring for the purpose of depressing our State credit until they can get hold of the bonds, I believe to be susceptible of proof. These gentlemen have no real idea of repudiation. They have tried the same game once before, and made money by it then. They think it can be done again, but they are in danger of overreaching themselves. The country is unprosperous and ready to grasp almost any thing that promises relief; men's minds are unsettled by the recent developments of fraud in high places; the foundations of public morality and private credit are weakened; and those who sow for their own selfish aims the wind of popular clamor, may reap (what they least desire) the whirlwind of repudiation. I am trespassing on your space. If you will allow me, in a future number I will give among other facts those which seem to compel belief in the existence of an organized ring to depress the value of our bonds and weaken our State credit.

CAMPBELL BROWN.

THE Hopkinsville Democrat is not surprised at the fall of beef in Bath county. It remarks that beef has been so high all the winter that it was about time it should come down.

The Next Legislature.

Some of the important measures which may come before the next legislature should now be thought of in connection with honest efforts on the part of the people to select the best men to represent them.

The plan of reducing the expenses of our judicial system has been somewhat discussed of late, and it is one which demands the earnest, thoughtful attention of every taxpayer and every voter in the State One of the surest means of escape from the disgraceful last resort of repudiation is to curtail expenses. Let this be tried for a few years in connection with the best possible plans for increasing our income and there will be less to be said about our sore financial straits. We mention retrenchment in this particular only as one of the most important of many much needed reforms of that character. Then this question of repudiation, which needs only to be mentioned to make a good citizen blush—this question shall the State of Tennessee plunge herself into disgrace; fly to a thousand future ills which she cannot foresee, for the sake of shirking a few present ills; entail disgrace and difficulty upon her children even beyond the fourth generation—this question we say should be well thought of, but never with favor. We think the present system of "leasing" convicts confined in the penitentiary should be abolished at the earliest practicable date, and the earliest practicable time is, perhaps the time when workhouses can be erected in connection with the penitentiary and means provided for teaching convicts trades, and giving them wholesome instruction in the principles of morality and right.

While the people of Tennessee are not worse than those of other States, crime is more prevalent here than it should be. Many vices are practiced which the people perhaps neither pity nor embrace, but which they endure with comparative indifference. Human life is still held in too light esteem. Our laws are not in all cases well executed, and they are by no means in all cases good. They should be improved, and means should be provided for their better execution. Too much attention cannnot be given to measures for the development of our natural resources in all parts of the State. Immigration should be not only encouraged but induced, and especially immigration of good agriculturists. Not the least important question now being agitated is, "the dog law, shall it be preserved?" It may seem like a small matter to which too much attention is given. It has provoked much mirth, and seems destined to call forth much wit in future, but it is an important law, and no man should be sent to the legislature who favors its repeal.—*Chattanooga Commercial.*

ON one question, certainly, the CHRONICLE and the Tribune are in accord. We refer to the question of the State debt. And we are glad to see that not only the CHRONICLE and the Tribune, but other leading papers in Tennessee are speaking out manfully on the subject. We note as being conspicuous in this regard, the Clarksville CHRONICLE and Tobacco Leaf, the Pulaski Citizen, the Athens Post, the Chattanooga Times and the Commercial, the Columbia Herald and Mail, the Columbia Journal and the Gallatin Examiner. There are no doubt others, but those mentioned have recently attracted our attention. The very idea that the question of repudiation, either partial or absolute—and as well one as the other—should be seriously considered in Tennessee, is repugnant to the traditional tenets of Tennesseeans in regard to public honesty. In due time we shall give some reasons for the faith that is in us.—*Knoxville Tribune.*

Columbia (Tenn.) Mail: We learn from Mayor Brown the following facts in regard to the small-pox in Columbia and vicinity: Two deaths have occurred—one on Bear creek last week, and one in Macedonia, who refused to be carried to the pest-house, and perhaps did not receive the careful nursing from his immediate friends that he would have enjoyed at the city quarantine. Of the three now in the pest house, one is convalescent and the other two doing well. Mayor Brown is exercising a constant vigilance against the spread of the disease, while Dr. Robert Pillow seems to be successfully administering the healing art at quarantine.

United States Court Investigation.

Hon. John F. House, member of Congress from the Nashville district, has been appointed a sub-committee, by the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice, to investigate alleged irregularities in the Federal Courts in this State, and especially in East Tennessee. He is expected to arrive at Knoxville in a short time and commence the work of investigation.—*Knoxville Tribune.*

The Campaign.

The Congressional Democratic Committee announces that it is now fully organized for the Presidential campaign, and requests Democratic organizations in all the States and Territories to send in the names of regular committees immediately. Applications for documents, speeches and other political matter, and all communications relating to the committee, should be addressed to the Secretary at 124 F street, Washington city. Editors who may send their newspapers to the committee will be furnished with all the documents published by them.

GOV. PORTER, in a little speech at a banquet given to merchants and editors of the Northwest on their way to Atlanta last week, said that:

Tennessee was famous for having furnished three Presidents. She had never furnished a corrupt one. [Applause and laughter.] Her statesmen plumed themselves upon that idea. The hero of New Orleans was President for eight years. At the expiration of his last term he reached home with sixty-five dollars in his pocket. He (Gov. Porter) had been told by one of Jackson's neighbors that President Jackson had spent his salary like a gentleman, and came home with his good name untarnished and unstained. [Applause.] Such had been the case with Presidents Polk and Johnson. [Applause.]

The Philadelphia Times takes note of an incident which is not likely to attract the attention of the congressional patriots: "Alabama's Democratic Legislature has answered Messrs Morton and Blaine by unanimously adopting a series of patriotic resolutions, breathing the utmost loyalty and devotion to the Union. The resolutions hail this, the Centennial year, as "a fit occasion for rejoicing, and extend fraternal good-will to the people of every State, and pledge the Alabamians to uphold the honor, promote the prosperity and advance the glory of our common country. These utterances are delivered not far from Andersonville, and the ex-Speaker may find in them a text for another speech."

NEW HAMPSHIRE's indorsement of the national corruption does not keep the Boston Globe from saying: "The people of this country are looking with intense interest for indications that shall show them what the course of political parties is to be. Thousands of them, and those among the most intelligent and earnest of men, men of convictions, and well-defined views, can not tell to-day with what party they will vote next fall."

RUMORS of a direful conspiracy against the carpet-baggers of Florida are coming to hand. Mr. John Tyler, a son of President Tyler, is in the field as a Reform Republican candidate for the Governorship, and is said to be backed by a formidable support.

THE St. Paul Pioneer thinks it knows why New Hampshire indorsed the thieves: "It is clear that the Republicans of New Hampshire prefer the continuance of the Republican party in power, in spite of all the shame which some of its venal officials brought upon it, to the calamity which they not unreasonably infer would result from placing in possession of this Government the party which is on terms of such affectionate intimacy with the leaders and apologists of the recent rebellion."

Connecticut votes on the 3d prox., electing State Officers and Legislature. Last year the Democrats elected their Governor by 6,548 majority. In 1872 the Republicans carried the State by 4,958 and Gov. Jewell was elected by over 2,000 plurality.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—A Globe-Democrat special from Greenville, Ill., says two brothers, James and John Perryman, quarrelled last night at the supper-table in their father's house. The latter stabbed the former, inflicting a wound from which he died this morning. Both were drunk and bore bad characters, though their father was highly respected.

General Marcus J. Wright, of Tennessee, is preparing a work on the life of Gen. Felix K. Zollicoffer.

T. M. RILEY,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
CLARKSVILLE, TENN.

Will practice in the Courts of Montgomery, Stewart and Henston Counties.
Office up-stairs, south side Strawberry St
March 25, 1876-1y.

STOLEN!

Between the 1st and 15th of March, from my residence, near Cherry Station, Tenn., a Double-barrel Shot Gun, silver-mounted, No. 11 in the bore, with the initials of R. N. H. on a little piece of silver on the top of the stock. A liberal reward will be paid for the gun or any information so that I get it.
mch25 1t* MRS. MARY HATCHER.

1860. Established for 16 years. 1876.

H. M. ACREE,
DENTIST,

Office N. E. Corner Franklin and Third Sts., 2 doors West of Episcopal Church.
All operations performed with the least possible pain, in the most skillful manner, at reasonable prices.
March 25, 1876-3m.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION
OF
THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF CLARKSVILLE, TENNESSEE,
At the close of Business on the 10th day of March, 1876.

RESOURCES:

Loans and Discounts		$124,804 71
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation		100,000 00
Other stocks, bonds & mortgages		500 00
Redemption Fund with Treasurer, of U. S.		4,500 00
Banking House		7,177 70
Other Real Estate		4,763 40
Furniture and Fixtures		567 60
Premiums Paid		11,000 00
Current Expenses		933 34
Due from U. S. Treas'r other than Redemption Fund		6,000 00
CASH MEANS.		
Due from redeeming and reserve agents	$15,608 75	
Due from National Banks	10,935 09	
Due from State Banks & Bankers	187 10	
Bills of National Banks	9,000 00	
Fractional currency	1,014 10	
Specie	54 40	
Legal Tender Notes	22,500 00	$59,361 44
Total		$313,608 19

LIABILITIES:

Capital Stock (paid in)	$100,000 00
Surplus Fund	20,000 00
Other undivided profits	7,241 02
Circulation	90,000 00
Dividends unpaid	355 00
Individual Deposits subject to check	75,809 67
Time Certificates of Deposits	18,802 73
Due to other National Banks	1,399 77
Total	$313,608 19

I, W. P. Hume, Cashier of The First National Bank of Clarksville, Tenn., do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
W. P. HUME, Cashier.

Correct—Attest:
S. F. BEAUMONT,
B. W. MACRAE,
C. KROPP.
} Directors.

STATE OF TENNESSEE,
County of Montgomery.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of March, 1876.
J. H. JOHNSON, Notary Public.
March 25, 1876-1t.

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

By virtue of sundry writs of venditioni exponas, to me directed from the Honorable Circuit Court, at its January Term, 1876, I will sell to the highest bidder, for cash, at the Court House in Clarksville, on

Monday, April 17, 1876,

the following land and town lots:

One lot of ground in District No. 12, described as follows, to-wit: beginning at the east corner on the Charlotte road, running with said road to the Nashville pike 720 feet, thence with said pike west 216 feet, thence with Mrs. Allen Johnson's line and Ballard's line 720 feet to the Charlotte road, thence with the Charlotte road 160 feet to the beginning. Levied upon as the property of J. J. Rawls to satisfy an execution in favor of A. J. Duncan & Co., against Wesley Rawls, J. J. Rawls, and J. W. Crocket. [prf $7 50

A tract of land in District No. 5 of Montgomery county, bounded as follows: lying north of the Port Royal road, beginning at a stake, A. Grant, B. W. & A. A. Herring's corner in the Port Royal road, runs thence north with B. W. Herring's line to Parsons creek, thence down with the meanders of the same to A. A. Grant's, Bradberry's and Hysmith's corner, thence south with Hysmith's and Oneal's to the Clarksville road, thence with the meanders of said road 79¾ east 1° to a rock, A. A. & D. G. Herring's corner, thence north 71½ east 44 poles to a stake, thence north 47 east 34 poles to the beginning, supposed to contain 100 acres more or less, being the same conveyed by Albert Herring to S. A. Herring by deed of gift registered in the Register's office of Montgomery county, book No. 16, pages 69, 70 and 71. Levied on as the property of S. A. Herring to satisfy an execution in favor of H. B. Rogers against S. A. Herring. prf $7 50.

One lot of ground in District No. 12 Montgomery county, described as follows, to-wit; beginning at the east corner on the Charlotte road, running with said road to the Nashville pike 720 feet, thence with said pike west 216 feet, thence with Mrs. Allen Johnson's line and Ballard's line 720 feet to the Charlotte road, thence with the Charlotte road 160 feet to the beginning. Levied upon as the property of J. J. Rawls to satisfy an execution in favor A. J. Duncan & Co., against Wesley Rawls, J. J. Rawls and J. W. Crocket.

J. H. ACHEY, Sheriff.
March 25, 1876-1w-prf $2 50.

In the Circuit Court at Clarksville—State of Tennessee.

W. S. Kistner, Complainant, vs. Fanny E. Kistner, Defendant.

It appearing from affidavit filed in this cause, that the Defendant, Fanny E. Kistner is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee.

It is therefore ordered that she enter her appearance, herein, before or within the first three days of the next term of the Circuit Court, to be held at Clarksville on the 1st Monday in May next, 1876, and plead, answer or demur to Complainant's Amended Bill, or the same will be taken for confessed as to her and set for hearing ex parte; and that a copy of this order be published for four consecutive weeks in the Clarksville Chronicle.

A Copy—Attest:
C. D. BAILEY, Clerk.
By C. H. BAILEY, D. C.
T. L. YANCEY, Sol'r for Compl't.
March 25, 1876-4w

LOST!

On Wednesday, the 8th inst., between Clarksville and my residence, 12 miles Southwest of Clarksville, a blank pocket book, containing about $300 worth of notes and some accounts. Any one finding said book and returning it to me, or the Chronicle office, will be liberally rewarded.
W. H. ANDERSON.
March 18, 1876-2w.

CLARKSVILLE DISTRICT—TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

Second Round of Quarterly Meetings.

Asbury, at Mt. Pleasant, March, 4, 5.
Wallace, at Rose Valley, March, 11, 12.
Dickson, at——March, 18, 19.
Clarksville, March, 25, 26.
South Clarksville, March, 26.
Montgomery, at Asbury, April, 1, 2.
Palmyra, April, 8, 9.
Antioch, April, 22, 23.
Our District Conference will be held at Martha's Chapel, on the Antioch circuit, some 8 miles south of Clarksville, beginning Thursday night, April 20, 1876, and will continue over the following Sunday. Bishop Wightman will preside.
W. BURR, P. E.
Oct. 19, 1875.

Blanks of every description, for sale at this Office.

NEW
GOODS!
NEW
GOODS!
AT
Rice, Broaddus & Co.'s.
AT
Rice, Broaddus & Co.'s.
MARCH 18, 1876.

J. W. KEESEE. M. C. NORTHINGTON.
Keesee & Northington,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
GROCERS!
CLARKSVILLE, TENN.

Have always the best quality of everything in their line at THE LOWEST PRICES.
Parties will find it to their interest to call upon them before purchasing. [march 4, 1876 tf.

FIRST OF THE
SEASON!

New Spring Goods coming in!
New Spring Calicos, very pretty!
New Domestics, cheaper than ever!
Beautiful Black Alpacas!
New Spring Black Cashmeres!
New Supply Table Linens!

"THE KING O