THE CHRONICLE.

ED. C. CAMPBELL, Editor.

Clarksville, Tenn., May 28, 1881.

TERMS: $2.00 IN ADVANCE.

AN EFFORT TO REOPEN THE STATE DEBT QUESTION.

The desperate scheme of the disappointed bosses of the low-tax party to prevent any settlement of the state debt, has at last culminated by the filing of an injunction bill to restrain the funding of the debt under the bill passed by the last legislature.

This scheme is the result of an alliance between two different interests. First, there is a political ring, composed of the desperate and disappointed leaders of the repudiation party, who, knowing that if the debt should once be funded under the settlement bill, that it could never after be disturbed; such settlement, under the coupon feature, constituting a contract that could not be repealed by any subsequent legislature. To prevent this funding until another canvas could be made, and a legislature elected who would repeal the act before the debt was funded under it, is the object of the political part of this combination. They well know that they can not sustain the allegations of their bill upon final hearing, and that if they could, that the facts relied upon by them would not nullify the act; but their hope is to sustain an injunction long enough to enable another legislature to be elected, who, they hope, would repeal the act, and thus reopen the question that has given them all of their political standing.

The other part of this unholy combination is a gang of reckless speculators, who, it is said, have been selling bonds short, and join in this scheme to depress them that they may buy and fill their contracts. For a month past it has been well known that this ring have been preparing for this state of affairs. The points of the bill we take from the Nashville Banner, and are as follows:

The bill first gives a history of the creation of the debt, and alleges that a certain number of the bonds were illegally issued, to-wit: The Mineral Home Railroad bonds, bonds issued for war interest, and bonds issued for war purposes. It charges that the 100-3 act was procured by bribery; that a majority of the Legislature met pledged against any such scheme; that divers members of the Legislature were engaged at the time of the passage of the act in speculating in Tennessee bonds, the profits of which speculation depended upon their votes; that one member of the Legislature received $10,000, another $15,000, and a third was paid $5,000, but his heart failed him; he paid the money back and he refused to vote for the bill. In addition to the frauds alleged, the bill charges that the 100-3 act is unconstitutional.

1. Because it appropriates revenue for a period of ninety-nine years, while the constitution directs that no appropriation shall be made for a longer period than two years or until the rise of the next General Assembly.

2. It charges that it violates the constitution by conferring judicial powers on the executive officers of the State, in that it directs them to pass upon the legality or illegality of the bonds.

3. It violates the provision of the constitution in reference to the school fund, b. cause by the coupon feature of the act, the revenue raised to pay the interest on the school fund may be diverted by the coupons to pay interest on the bonds issued under this act.

4. It violates the constitution, which provides that the Legislature shall have no power to suspend any general law for the benefit of any particular individual, nor to pass any law for the benefit of individuals, inconsistent with the general laws of the land, nor to pass any law granting to any individuals rights, privileges, immunities or exemptions other than such as may be by the same law extended to any member of the community who may be able to bring himself within the provisions of such law. Said act provides for the funding of bonds held by certain bondholders, but ——any except bonds held by educational institutions of the state.

5. It violates the constitution, which provides that all acts which repeal, revive or amend former laws, shall recite in their caption or otherwise, the title or substance of the law repealed, revived or amended. Said act repeals the 51st section of the act of March, 1873, which prohibits the reception of anything but treasury warrants, gold and silver coin, United States Bank and Treasury notes, and old issue of the Bank of Tennessee for taxes by making coupons receivable for taxes; and repeals sections 210 to 213 inclusive of the Code.

The so called constitutional points are what the lawyers call the merest "fly speck criticism," and seem of no importance. Indeed, the low-tax judge who granted the flat in it, says that most of these points he deems to be of no importanee. The grievances of the bill consist in the charge that the bill was passed by improper and corrupt measures. We do not hesitate to say that if there was corruption in the passage of the bill, that we hope it will be ferrited out, and both the corrupted and corruptor will be dealt with to such an extent that they may be an example for all time. Such charges, however, are easily made, and are the common resort of the defeated party, and hence are entitled to no credit whatever until they shall be sustained by proof. During the passage of the bill the air was full of slanders, and it was freely charged that an extensive ring of low-tax short speculators were freely using money to defeat the bill. This crowd on the other hand charged similar tactics to the friends of the measure. This condition of affairs, this loose charge of corruption, affords the strongest argument in favor of a final adjustment of the debt, and the permanent removal of the subject from politics. In the olden days, before this agitation against the payment of the debt arose, no whisper against the integrity of a legislature would have been countenanced. This demoralization of the politics of the state is solely chargeable to the making of a political question out of our state debt, and this is the feast that we are invited to continue indefinitely by Messrs. Marks, Savage & Co., and if their litigation accomplishes the purpose they have in view, will, for the next decade, subject every legislator, whether he take the one side or the other to charges or suspicions of corruption. The legal question presented by these charges affecting the motives of the legislature has long since been settled. Chief-Justice Marshall, in the great case of Fletcher vs. Peck, before the Supreme court of the United States, held that no court could declare an act of the legislature void upon an inquiry into the motives of the men who voted for it. He declared that the courts and the legislature were coordinate branches of the government; that to the first was submitted all questions of legislation; their judgement within the lines of the constitution was conclusive, and no court had authority to question either the wisdom, justice or motives of a legislature. If the legislature had *power* to *pass* the act, and had passed the act, then it must be accepted as the law, although corruptly passed. This case was one in which private rights and contracts depended upon the act in question, but he refused to hear proof as to the motives of the men who voted for it. This has been accepted as the universal law on this question, and the men who filed this bill must have known that they would never be put to the proof of their scandalous allegations of fraud. That the complainants should go to Jack Williams, a notorious repudiator and political agitator, to get their flat, is in itself suspicious. We do not doubt but that their injunction will be promptly dissolved by Chancellor Merritt, and when this is done, this will be practically the end of their gambling scheme, for the new bonds will be at once issued, and when that is once done, all room for either legislature or adjudication is forever gone. The attitude of the low-taxers appealing now to the courts, when they have been denouncing them as corrupt, and refusing to submit the question of the validity of the state debt to them, is, to say the least, remarkable, and worthy of comment. Whether the settlement was one which would originally have met the approval of a majority or not may be questionable, but the settlement having been made, we do not hesitate to say that four-fifths of the people oppose its being re-opened. Let it rest, and let us purify our politics, and look after the material interests of the state, which have so long suffered under the blight of repudiation.

MORE OFFICIAL CORRUPTION.

"A new broom sweeps clean," and it seems that at every whisk of these useful household articles in the hands of the new officials about Washington, some hidden job of corruption and thievery is unearthed. This time it is O. L. Pitney, custodian of the United States treasury building, whose rascality and peculations have been discovered. The developments in the investigation of his official accounts grow more alarming the further they are investigated. The duty of this sweet-scented ward of the government was, it seems, to purchase everything needed in the treasury building from its furniture and carpets to its books and papers, and from the lowest bidder. This law he totally disregarded, by forming rings with certain chums and pals from whom he purchased the necessary articles at the most exorbitant figures, keeping no account on his books or vouchers therefor. One of his subordinates testified in the investigation of the matter, that;

All of his time, for several years, has been consumed in doing work for outside parties, instead of working for the government; that he spent one month in working on a new house owned by a high government official; that he frequently went from one house to another of persons in government employ, doing whatever they wanted, and the money paid for his services was charged round to different government bureaus. He swears that he made fifteen fac similes of the desk used by Jefferson when he wrote the Declaration of Independence, and which was presented to the government a year or so ago; that each of these immitation desks cost $60, the material for which was paid for out of government money, and charged among the materials needed for government uses. These fifteen desks were given out as presents by the authorities in the treasury to friends. The furniture belonging to the treasury has been loaned out on occasions of receptions at certain residences.

It does seem strange, that such open and barefaced robberies of the government as the "Star Route" frauds and the one above mentioned have not been detected long ago and the guilty parties have a just punishment meted out to them. Secretary Windom is doing good work in exposing these corruptions, and if he will only continue in his task, he will receive the commendation of all the good people of the country.

STAR ROUTE FRAUDS.

We notice that very little seems to be doing at Washington for the last few weeks towards pushing the investigation of the gigantic frauds perpetrated by Brady, Dorsey and others in the postal departments of the government. Postmaster-Gen. James gave great promise of much needed reform and correction, in the conduct of this very important branch of the civil service, by his prompt discovery of the criminal transactions of Brady and his thieving contractors; but the country will not rest contented with the simple expulsion of these men from their official positions. The people want to see them prosecuted to the full extent of the law, and, if guilty, placed behind the bars of a penitentiary. The first flush of these official thieves from their cover disclosed a mass of corruption which startled the country. Upon the very surface of the investigation it was shown that Brady, Dorsey and a horde of dishonest contractors had pocketed hundreds of thousands of dollars of government funds, for which no service was rendered. The people desire and demand a full and thorough sifting of the whole nefarious business. Nothing short of this will satisfy them.

IT is a fact worthy of comment, that the reforms now being undertaken in the post-office and other departments of the government, were instigated by an administration to which the most prominent leaders of the republican party are fiercely antagonistic. They were also opposed to the preceeding administration, and derided any attempt of Hayes to work any reform. How long are the people going to believe in such men? It is a favorable sign of the times that public sentiment is now the avowed enemy of such men.

THEY now say there is a streak of insanity in the Conkling family, and they attribute his resignation to a fit of mental aberration. If he should fail to be reelected, we guess he too, will attribute it to a 'streak of insanity.'

JESSIE RATCLIFFE, who was tried at Princeton, Ky., last week, for the killing of Col. E. A. Starling, of Hopkinsville, June 12, 1880, at Crofton, Christian county, Ky., was acquitted.

LE ROI EST MORT.

The Stalwarts in New York are no longer to be kept in suspense as to the candidacy of Roscoe Conkling for re-election to the United States senate. After a customary sphinx-like silence and posing before the people, as one who would willingly give up all his power and influence in the senate for the sake of principle, he has had a conference with his henchmen in New York city, and, as a result of that conference, he will make the race. He "did not wish to be re-elected, but rather wished to retire into the shades of private life, and make a fortune at the practice of the law; still, if they insisted, he would sacrifice himself upon the altar of his country's interests." The only condition attached to this noble concession on his part is that Platt—his man Friday—should be re-elected with him. Of course this request was complied with, and Conkling and Platt are in Albany, making a vigorous canvass of the assembly. Ben Butler remarked, in speaking of Conkling's resignation (for Platt had no voice in the matter), that it was the most sagacious and masterly stroke of policy that he ever made. However much we may admire Mr. Butler's brains we beg leave to differ with him on this subject. We are rather of the opinion that it was the death knell of his political influence in New York. He was sent by a unanimous republican vote to the United States senate at his last election. He was the leading exponent of the party in New York, and carried the patronage of the whole state in his pocket. But see how the times have changed. Robertson—the man who is Conkling's arch enemy in the state, and whose nomination was the cause of Conkling's withdrawal, is now in a position where he can at least divide the patronage with him. He may be re-elected, but he will not have a "walk over" in the canvass. In addition to the weight of Platt on his shoulders, he has to carry with him the displeasure of a large majority of his party in New York, caused by his late course in the senate. The republican party, not alone of New York, but of the whole country, are in favor of the administration, and will back it in this contest. Already we hear from many of the legislators of New York that their constituents will not let them vote for Conkling under any circumstances. The "Half Breeds" have a thoroughly organized opposition, and are pledged to vote against him under all circumstances, and who claim to have fifty out of 106 republicans in the legislature. In addition to all this, it seems that Conkling's friends are deserting him, for we have the Buffalo Express, Cornell's organ, blaming Conkling for becoming a candidate. This looks like Cornell will become a candidate himself. This much is certain: in this "family feud" the democrats hold the balance of power. We cannot believe they will sacrifice honor by voting for Conkling, or any republican. While it will be impossible to elect a democrat, and they regard Conkling as the ablest man in the other party, still, for that very reason, they ought not to vote for him. Their position is to stand aloof. No matter how this fight ends the democratic party will profit by it. The resignation of Conkling was an extraordinary stroke of good luck for the democratic party, especially in New York. Probably it will be best for our party if he is re-elected. His re-election will widen the breach between the "Half Breeds" who support the administration and the Stalwarts, who are led by Conkling, and by this means the democratic party will be led to easy victory in the next election. Next Tuesday will be the day for the election in the legislature, and the country will wait with suspense for the result. Elected or defeated, we think Conkling has overreached himself, and will find himself "hoisted with his own petard." He is politically dead, and nobody mourns.

In the extract, from the interview of Maj. W. J. Sykes with a Columbia Herald reporter, published in our last issue, occured the following sentence:

Even if it were settled at 100-3 two years hence the debt would then be $20,000,000 and $900,000 interest.

It should have been $30,000,000 and $900,000 interest. While on this subject we will call attention to some important facts stated by him. First, that "under the 100-3 settlement the taxation in Tennessee, state, county and municipal is less than in any other state in the Union." If this is not so, let it be contradicted. Second, that since the repudiators commenced their agitation the assessed value of property has declined in Tennessee $66,252,096. This is what they have done by their miserable policy. Whilst our state has been decreasing, debt-paying states have been increasing, in value. So much for repudiation.

COL. THOMAS A. SCOTT, the great Pennsylvania railroad king, died at his home at Clifton, Pa., on last Saturday the 21st ult. For the last twenty-five years he has been at the head of most of the vast railroad enterprises of this country and in every undertaking he gave evidence of the most extriordinary administrative energy and ability.

THE United States senate got in some good work in its last expiring hours, last week, in the rejection of Bill Chandler for the office of Solicitor General of the Treasury. Chandler pulled the wires verry successfully for Hayes in 1876, but he could not manipulate them for himself in 1881. "He saved others, himself he could not save"

THE United States senate adjourned last Friday, the 20th, inst. The close of this special session of that august body was received by the country at large, irrespective of party, with feelings of universal approval. It's adjournment is the end, at least for a short season, of a disgraceful and disgusting struggle for office on the part of the republican party.

MILITARY NOTES.

As we stated in our last issue, Capt. E. M. Howard, of the C. C. G.'s, received a very courteous invitation, from the officers in charge, to attend with his company the decoration services of the National Cemetery, at Fort Donaldson, on next Monday, the 30th inst. Capt. Howard regrets very much his inability to accept this kind invitation, and we are assured would take great pleasure in attending if his own business engagements and that of many of his company did not prevent. The following is the invitation and programme of ceremonies:

DOVER, TENN., May 17, 1881.

CAPT. E. M. HOWARD, COMMANDING OFFICER CLARKSVILLE CITY GUARDS—Dear Sir:—You will please find enclosed a copy of our programme of decoration on May 30, 1881. Yourself and company, as an organization, are respectfully requested to give us the pleasure of your company. Should you accept this invitation, you will be assigned to the first division in front of Army of the Boys in Blue. Hoping to receive your answer accepting this invitation, I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Brig.-Gen. A. B. B.

Decoration programme of soldiers' graves, at Fort Donaldson, National Cemetery, May 30, 1881:

OFFICERS:

President—C. W. Crocket.
Grand Marshal—W. W. Lindsay.
Assistant Marshal—A. B. Pope.
Officer of the day—Sam Hough.
Chaplain—George Austin.

ORATORS:

E. Q. Fuller, Atlanta, Georgia; J. W. Register, Dickson, Tennessee. Address of welcome by Gen. W. H. Taylor.

DECORATION PROCESSION.

First Division—General W. H. Taylor Commanding.
Boys in Blue.
Ex-Federal Soldiers.
Ex-Confederate Soldiers.
Second Division—Colonel W. F. Green Commanding.
Army of the Republic.
Ex-Colored Soldiers.
Citizens.

THE CHICKASAWS VICTORIOUS AGAIN.

The many friends of this famous company, in our city, will be pleased to learn that they are victors once again, having carried off the $1,000 prize in the competitive drill at New Orleans last week. A special to the Appeal, says:

The Chicks were the last to drill. Their exhibition was a fitting termination to a splendid contest. All the companies did well. A few individual errors in the manual of arms at the commencement caused slight apprehension among the anxious watchers for Memphis. The great reputation of the Chicks caused the judges to give a close attention to their movements as well as soldierly appearance. Their marching at once awakened the liveliest enthusiasm, which was as much indulged in by the New Orleans people as by the Memphians. In their movements very few errors occurred and the bearing was magnificent. As soon as they finished, the people knew the Chicks were winners of the first prize, but the official announcement was not to be made until after the dress parade of the balance. The contest for second place was very close. The result of that was also satisfactory to the crowd, for Harry Allen's company had been heavily backed for second place. After their regular drill, the Chicks gave some fancy movements but it was too dark for them to be seen by the people on the grand stand. About five thousand persons were present. When the official announcement was given, cheers went up from the crowd, and a general rush was made to congratulate the victors. As Harry Allen is a Memphian and ex-Chickasaw, his company's victory for second place was highly gratifying to the Memphis delegation.

On their return to Memphis, last Monday, they met with a most brilliant reception at the hands of their friends. A telegram to the American says:

One of the grandest ovations ever received by any organization was tendered the Chickasaws Guards tonight. The special train which brought them from New Orleans arrived at 9:30. They were met at the depot by the Memphis Light Guards and a delegation of ladies in carriages. A procession was formed and, with a band of music and under the escort of the Light Guards, the company marched down Main from Washington street. At every corner, a bonfire was burning, and many of the business houses were illuminated. Fireworks were discharged, and colored lights burned at nearly every step, illuminating the city and presenting a scene beautifully grand. A supper had been prepared at the Peabody Hotel, of which the visitors, after marching to their armory, returned and partook. Memphis is proud of her champion company, and will back them against the world.

The prizes of the military contest at Nashville have not been awarded at the hour of our going to press. The general impression is that the Crescent City Rifles, of New Orleans, will take first money, with Porter Rifles second. It is believed Louisville will take the artillery prize.

MR. SAM M. GAINES, for more than ten years past the editor of the Hopkinsville New Era, has his valedictory in the last issue of that paper, resigning his position as editor. Mr. Gaines, as is generally known throughout this section of the country, is a candidate for the clerk of the court of appeals of Kentucky, and as the duties incident to his candidacy for that position required his almost continual absence from home, he found it impossible to fulfill the onerous duties of editor, and therefore resigned. The news of this step will be received with universal regret by every reader of his valued and readable paper, and his brother editors will miss the bright scintillations of his mind as a paragrapher and editorial writer. He is a gifted and fluent writer, and was an ornament to journalism. We wish him success in his race for clerk of the court of appeals and believe he will be elected. If the press has any voice and influence in the race, his election is assured. The New Era will be continued under the editorial management of Col. John D. Morris and Mr. Jas. Wood, with Mr. John W. Payne as local editor and business manager. There need be no fear but that these gentlemen will keep it up to its high standard.

A CURATE in England, while marrying a couple that came without the parents of the bride asked: "Who gives the woman away?" when the would-be husband replied "Nobody. I am taking her myself."—*Ex.*

He was a little different from a fellow out west who, when the minister propounded the same question answered: "I can, but I'll be d—d if I do."

THE RE-UNION OF THE M. C. & L. RAILROADERS.

The Bonuteous Banquet and Grand Hop.

For over a month past our citizens had been looking forward to the advent of this pleasant social affair with feelings strung up to the highest tension of delightful anticipation, and it is no small thing to be able to say that the consummation, in every detail, far surpassed their most sanguine wishes. To say that it was "a brilliant success" is to use a stereotyped expression, and one that falls far short of expressing the true sentiments of those who participated in the happy event. The programme was carried out in the smallest particulars, and nothing was left undone or said, to make the occasion one of unalloyed pleasure and enjoyment. According to arrangements, the local reception committee, consisting of Gen. W. A. Quarles, Judge C. G. Smith, Mr. O. M. Blackman and others, met those from a distance at the depot on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, and assigned them to agreeable quarters with our most prominent citizens. The following were most of the visitors, who, we are pleased to say, added a great deal to the success and enjoyment of the re-union by bringing their wives and daughters. We give their names and those of our hospitable citizens who so kindly endeavored to add to the pleasure of their visit:

G. C. Breed, wife, son and daughter, the guests of Capt. Tom Smith.

Col. George B. Fleece, of Memphis, and Col. Theo. Hartman and wife, of Little Rock, guests of Judge Chas. G. Smith.

Capt. Robt. L. Cobb and wife, of Little Rock, guests of Capt. F. P. Gracey.

Capt. Jno. S. Cain and wife, of Little Rock, guests of ex-Mayor Ligon.

Mayor Baxter, of Louisville, the guest of Mayor Crusman.

Mr. Jas. Baxter and Mr. George Roberts, of Louisville, and Mr. John A. Fleece, of Memphis, the guests of Judge Sevier.

Mr. C. P. Oakly and daughter of Louisville, and Mr. E. C. Lewis, of Nashville, the guests of Mr. Clay Stacker.

Mr. John E. Wilcox and wife, of Louisville, and Geo. B. Faxon, of Faxon's Station, the guests of Mr. John W. Faxon.

Messrs. J. M. Glenn and T. J. Glenn, of Carlisle Ky., the guests of Mr. Ed. Turnley.

Capt. John Travis, of Little Rock, the guest of Judge Lurton.

During the day, on Thursday and Friday, Mayor Crusman and the local officers and contractors of the old road, took the visitors out driving, and visited the various points of interest and attraction around our beautiful little city. Most of them had, at one time or another, before and during the war, been residents of the city, and the expressions of surprise and joy which they gave vent to at the many evidences of the growth, beauty and prosperity which had sprung up here since those troublous times, were indeed joyfully accepted by their hosts.

Thursday night the grand banquet came off at the elegant and capacious hall of the splendid new Tobacco Exchange. And here our hand trembles and falters, not at having enjoyed to copiously "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," for we retired quite early—*in the morning*—but at our utter inability to adequately portray, in a pencil's dull colorings, the beauty of the banquet board, or to recount the many reminiscences "by flood and field," that were called up from memory's hallowed storehouse and retold by this happy assembly of anti-bellum railroad magnates.

The Exchange building was brilliantly illuminated from "pit to dome." A beacon light of welcome, in the shape of a large calcium light, beamed from the topmost pinnacle of the tower and shed its rays over all the surrounding buildings. When the guests had all arrived, they were marshalled in column of twos by Judge C. G. Smith, and with Col. Geo. B. Fleece and Gen. W. A. Quarles at the head, the command "forward march" was given, and they double-filed into the banquet hall. The two long tables, under the masterly management of Mr. G. A. Roth, the caterer, of whose skill and ability in such affairs it is superfluous to speak, presented a most beautiful and tasty appearance. About sixty-five gentlemen took their seats, and, to use a classical expression known only to the profesh., "all aboard" was given, the bell cord was pulled, and the merry excursionists started on a leisurely journey through the following

MENU.

FISH.

Broiled Potomac Shad, with Cream Potato.
Amontillado Sherry.

ROASTS.

Filet de Beuf, with Champignons.
Spring Chickens with Asparagus.
Spring Lamb with Green Peas.
Pontet Canet Claret.

ENTRIES.

Chicken Salad. Shrimp Salad. Lobster Salad.

COLD DISHES.

Smoked Tongue. Boiled Ham.
Champagne (L. Roederer, Sec.)

DESSERT.

Ice Cream. Strawberries. Cakes.
French Coffee.

And here, being "too full for utterance," we would willingly draw the veil, did we not think this cursory account of, perhaps, the most pleasant affair which has ever occurred in our city, would be incomplete if we did not make mention of the very eloquent and appropriate remarks which were made during the evening by Col. Geo. B. Fleece, Major G. C. Breed, Capt. R. L. Cobb, Mr. Theo. Hartman, Gen. W. A. Quarles, Hon. John F. House, and many others, in response to the numerous toasts. To say that the affair was one of great good cheer and hearty enjoyment is a trite but true assertion.

The re-union of the anti-bellum officers and contractors of the old M. C. & L. R. R. will long be remembered by the participants. Of the hop we are sorry we cannot speak, as we go to press before it comes off, but from the fact that a splendid string band from Memphis is on hand, and many other elaborate preparations are being made, we suppose it will be an affair of great *eclat*, and greatly enjoyed by the large and brilliant assembly of ladies and gentlemen who will be present.

AN expensive young lady, Em Broidery.—*Exchange.*

An affectionate young lady, Em Brace—*Paris True Kentuckian.*

A perplexing young lady, Em Barrass.—*Breckenride News,*

A quarrelsome young lady, Em Broglio.—*South Kentuckian.*

There is no such girl as *Embroglio* in the bright lexicon of female cognomens, as you will discover if you will only consult Webster. Perhaps Em Broil is the quarrelsome female you refer to.

The Ante-Bellum History of the M. C. & L. Railroad Company.

Mr. John W. Faxon, writing to the Courier-Journal, gives the following interesting facts connected with its early history. He says:

Believing it would not be inappropriate on this occasion to give a condesned history of this road, I have taken the pains to examine its old records and herewith furnish the readers of the Courier-Journal with an account of the organization of what is now one of the most important lines in the Louisville and Nashville railroad's great system.

As far back as 1843 the subject of railroads was agitated by the citizens of Clarksville. At that time an effort was made to connect Clarksville with Hopkinsville by a railroad, which was to form a nucleus for a more extended line in the future, to connect with the northern system. Then Clarksville was the main shipping point for all tobacco grown in this and the Green river section, a type of tobacco known in all the marts of Europe as "Clarksville tobacco." This project fell completely through for want of means caused by the great lack of public interest. The railroad fever struck the people again in 1849 in the shape of a contemplated railroad line from Louisville to Memphis. The scheme, at first, had but few advocates, as a large majority of the people expressed a decided preference for a road from Nashville to Henderson, passing through Clarksville. This route it was argued, would open up the coal fields of Kentucky and would therefore offer to Clarksville, which was then the headquarters for all the iron-producing establishments between Eddyville and Betseytown, greater advantages for making Clarksville a manufacturing point. Through the stupidity of those having the control of the Nashville and Henderson charter, and certain strong influences brought to bear to prevent the division of any subscriptions already made or in prospective by this county, city, or the citizens thereof between two roads, Clarksville was thrown entirely out of the line of the Nashville and Henderson road, and all the means raised were donated to the Memphis Clarksville and Louisville road—the link between Louisville and Memphis. Had the projectors—some of them the most prominent citizens of Clarksville—listened to the advice of far-seeing men, who look forward for results—some of whom are now living—and divided the subscriptions between the two roads, Clarksville would now be a prosperous commercial and manufacturing city with a population at least four times as large as that given by the last census.

The charter of the M., C. and L railroad was granted by the Tennessee Legislature on the 28th of January, 1852. The required sum, $5,000, having been subscribed May 25, 1853, the commissioners appointed by the charter met and elected the following-named gentlemen as a board of directors: E. Howard, W. Broaddus, Joshua Elder, Wm. M. Stewart, I. B. West, Bryce Stewart, W. H. Crane, Joshua Cobb, W. P. Hume, David Browder, G. A. Henry H. F. Beaumont, James A. Trice, and Thos. W. Wisdom. The following officers were elected: Dr. Joshua Cobb, president; Thomas W. Wisdom, treasuer, and W. P. Hume, secretary. The preliminary survey was made in 1853 by a corps of engineers under the charge of Mr. Everett Peabody, and the road, commencing at the Kentucky line and ending at Paris, Henry county, Tenn., was found to be eighty-three miles. Nothing further was done in 1853. On the 3d of June, 1854, Maj. G. A. Henry was elected president and Julius Adams chief engineer, and the locating survey was ordered. Here sprung up one of those hotly-contested war of words and "pamphlets in a teapot" for which Clarksville has ever been noted. An attempt was made to consolidate this road with the Memphis and Ohio road running from Paris to Memphis. The proposition had strong advocates and strong opposers and the project was defeated. At the next annual election Mr. Wm. B. Munford was elected president, and in this position he continued from the 25th of June, 1855, to the 25th of June 1858, when he was succeeded by Wm. A. Quarles. On the 27th of March, 1856, the legislature of Tennessee having passed a law granting the M. C. & L. and M. & O. roads authority to consolidate, a convention of the representatives of the two met at Paris, but like all former attempts the consolidation was a failure. On the 12th of March President Munford advertised for proposals for putting that portion of the road-bed between the Cumberland river and the Kentucky state line under contract, and Mr. Geo. B. Fleece was appointed chief engineer. Again the populace reared and charged, divided as they were into two factions, upon the question of location of the road—whether it should come into Clarksville by the "upper or the lower route." Those living in the northern part of the city preferred the "lower" route while those in the southern portion preferred the "upper" route. Excitement was at its highest pitch. The "upper" route faction carried the day by holding up to the people the neighboring town of New Providence—at that time a competitor of Clarksville for the tobacco trade—as a bugbear to frighten them from building the bridge below the town, or on the lower route, as it would ruin Clarksville everlastingly and build up New Providence. Angry and exciting discussions sprung up on the stump, through the press and around pot-houses, and the whole project seemed to be on the verge of failure upon the question of "up" or "down" town. Quite a number of engineers were consulted about the location, and all of them, with the exception of Mr. George B. Fleece, agreed that the upper route would not only be ruinous to the city, but would cause an unjustifiable expenditure of the means of the company. But Mr. Fleece calculated that the upper route would exceed in cost the lower by only $40,000. Upon Mr. Fleece's estimate, which proved to be accurate, the upper route was selected.

In April following, thirty miles of the road and the two bridges—one over the Cumberland river and one over Red river—and their trestles were contracted for by Messrs. Champlin, Holman & Co. This contract was abandoned the same year and re-let to small contractors. The road runs through the counties of Montgomery, Stewart, Benton and Henry, and Clarksville and Montgomery county, with only 25,000 inhabitants, as a monument to their liberality and enterprise (upon a large portion of which the city and county is still paying taxes), out of a capital stock of $1,395,000, furnished the means for the road's construction, with the exception of about $25,000, which was subscribed by the county of Henry. The condition of the finances May 22, 1876, bore a very slim showing. The receipts amounted to $6,008, and the expenditures, $4,376. During the financial panic of 1857 the road suspended all contracts between Clarksville and the Tennessee river, and work was not resumed until the summer of 1857. Wm. A. Quarles assumed the Presidency of the road in June, 1858, and placed the remaining portion of the road between the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers under contract, and in 1860 the remaining portion between the Tennessee river and Paris, twenty-six miles, were let out to contractors. Gen. Quarles resigned the Presidency on the 13th of November, 1866, and Maj. Robert W. Humphreys was elected to fill the vacancy. Maj. Humphreys' administration experienced the most trying period of the road's existence of equal duration, during its history. The tremendous amount of work which had been under contract for the first two years, still unfinished, had nearly exhausted all of its available means, but by push and determination he brought it safely through all of its troubles. On the 13th of September, 1860, the first through train brought from Louisville ex-Gov. Helm. Mr. James Guthrie and other officers of the L. and N. railroad, together with Messrs. Osborne and Wallace, of the Louisville Journal; Mr. McKee, of the Courier; Frazier, of the Bowling Green Standard; Gannaway, of the Franklin Democrat, and Innes, of the Russellville Herald, with a large number of excursionists from Louisville and points along the line of the road, to celebrate the opening of the railroad between Louisville and Clarksville. The excursionists were met at Guthrie by a committee of the M. C. and L. railroad, amid the whistling of locomotives, the firing of cannon, and were welcomed in a well-put speech by Gen. Wm. A. Quarles, which he delivered from the tender of a locomotive. The response was made by Vice President Guthrie. The Clarksville car was then coupled to the excusion train and proceeded to Clarksville, where a welcoming address was delivered by Hon. J. E. Bailey, extending the hospitalities of the city to the excursionists. Gov. Helm responded. A procession was formed, headed by a band, with Mr. T. D. Leonard as Marshal, and the distinguished guests were escorted to the public square, where they were assigned to homes among the citizens. Every door was thrown wide open, and every soul provided with comfortable quarters. A grand banquet was given at Moore's Hotel, where speeches and toasting ruled the hour until midnight. This was the biggest day Clarksville had ever witnessed, but, of course, there were the usual number of discontents—those who were not bidden to the banquet—who made things lively. These formed themselves into a party called the Wolverines, and at the next city election lacked only a few votes of ousting the entire city government.

The road was completed to Memphis March 20, 1861 only a short time before the fall of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, and it soon fell into the hands of the Federal Government. The aggregate cost of the road was about $2,000,000. As I only proposed to write the antebellum history of the road, I will not take up your valuable space by following its adversities under Brownlow's government, under a receivership, and its passing out of existence as a corperation by its purchase by the Louisville and Nashville railroad. The road was, from its inception, an elephant on the hands of the company on account of its length—eighty-three miles. Even if the war had not interferred with its running arrangements, it never would have paid a dollar dividend on the amount invested, and for this reason, if for none other, it was a wise stroke of policy to dispose of it to the Louisville and Nashville railroad.

Immigration to the South.

Wm. A. Pope, the general passenger and transportation agent of the associated railways of Virginia and the Carolinas, seems to be meeting with success in turning German immigration towards the South. He has organized a bureau of immigration and sent an agent to Europe. As a result, within the past thirty days he has brought into the country 500 immigrants, which number will be increased to 1,000 by the end of the present month. He is locating these immigrants along the lines of the railways with which he is connected wherever they can find employment or comfortable homes. Up to the present time 220 of these immigrants have been landed at Salisbury, N. C., as a central point, where they are looked after by the state immigration bureau until they have secured employment or selected homes for themselves, in which they have found no trouble as yet, being promptly employed and welcomed by the farmers, to whom they seem to give entire satisfaction.

Administrator's Notice.

All persons holding claims against Charles G. Martin col., deceased, will please present them within thirty days, and all persons owing said Charles G. Martin will please come forward and settle.

MATHEW MARTIN, Adm'r.
may 28-4w*

YOUR ATTENTION.

All persons owing me will please settle their accounts by the first of June. If not settled by that time, I will be compelled to hand them out for collection. If I have overlooked any claim against me, let it be presented by the 1st of June, or before.

May 21, 1881-2w J. R. PLUMMER.

Taxes for 1880.

I will be at the following places, for the purpose of collecting the Taxes of 1880, at the dates mentioned below:

District No. 1, Hampton's station, Thursday, June 2, 1881.
No. 2, Rollow's Shop, Friday, June 3.
No. 6, Cherrly's Station, Saturday, June 4.
No. 3, Ringgold, Tuesday, June 7.
No. 4, Jordan's Springs, Wednesday, June 8, 1881.
No. 9, Wille's Chapel, Thursday, June 9.
No. 8, Liberty, Friday, June 10.
No. 7, New Providence, Saturday, June 11.
No. 11, Swift's Shop, Tuesday, June 14.
No. 5, Grant's Mill, Wednesday, June 15.
No. 10, Shady Grove, Thursday, June 16.
No. 14, Humphrey's School-house, Friday, June 17.
No. 15, Grantville, Saturday, June 18.
No. 17, Smith's Shop, Tuesday, June 21.
No. 16, Cabin Row, Wednesday, June 22.
No. 20, Shiloh, Thursday, June 23.
No. 19, Palmyra, Friday, June 24.
No. 18, Hunt's Mill, Saturday, June 25.

The book for District No. 12 will remain in my office all the time I am absent from the city. Parties at public places will please out this notice out and post it in a conspicuous place.

JOHN S. NEBLETT, Trustee.

DR. A. M. TRAWICK,

Office East side of Court Square, formerly occupied by Dr. Cabiness.

May be found at office during the day, and at residence, on Cottage street, near the University, at night.

May 21, 1881-1m

JUST OPENED,

at John S. Elder's old stand,

J. H. Winfree & Co.,

with a full line of

McCormack's Celebrated

WIRE AND TWINE BINDERS,

Self-Rake Reapers, New Improved Dropper and Mower combined, and Iron Mower.

Call and examine their stock before buying.

We also keep repairs for Excelsior Machines.

J. R. PEACE, Agent,
May 18-4t Clarksville, Tenn.

Executor's Notice.

ALL persons having claims against A. M. Fink, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, authenticated as the law requires, or they will be barred. And all persons indebted to said A. M. Fink, are notified to come forward and make payment.

SIMON BLOCH, Executor.
May 7, 1881-4w.

FOR SALE!

I offer my residence on Madison Street in Clarksville, Tennessee, for sale. I will sell it low and on easy terms.

JAS. L. GLENN.
april 23, 1881-tf.

A FULL line of the best cigars and tobacco at Warfield's.

JUST RECEIVED!

NEW GOODS FOR JUNE AND JULY AT

Rice, Broaddus & Co.,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Etc.

3,000 Yards Domestics and Sheetings at Lowest Prices.
5,000 Yards New Prints at 5, 6¼ and 7½ cents.
1,000 Yards New Plaid Ginghams.

New Lot of CARPETS AND MATTINGS at lowest prices. Large Lot Bunting at 12½c. Plain and Plaid Nun's Veiling. Extra Bargains given in Black Dress, of which we have a large variety. Black and Colored Sourah Satins. Elegant Stock of

FANCY DRESS GOODS.

Union Lawns, 6¼ cents up. New Linen Lawns, great variety. White Goods and Laces, Dotted Swiss, Linon D'Indie, etc. New Ecru and White Lace Curtains. Extra Bargains given in

Table Linens, Towels, Napkins, Etc.

Good All Linen Towels, 10c to $1.00 each. New Lot beautiful

KID SLIPPERS, ZEIGLERS,

and other good makes of shoes. We sell THE BEST GOODS at the LOWEST PRICES. We offer the largest stock of

READY-MADE CLOTHING

in the city. Every garment warranted as represented, at low prices. Don't fail to see our stock. We will make it to your interest to buy of us.

Very Respectfully,

Rice, Broaddus & Co.

LARGE STOCK NEW GOODS!

JUST RECEIVED.

New Spring Prints, at 5c and 7½c. New Dress Goods, 20 to 75c. Towels, $1.25 to $7.50 per doz. Splendid stock of

NEW AND BEAUTIFUL HOSE,

for Ladies and Misses. 20 dozen Ladies' Hemstitched Handkerchiefs at 10 cents each (all linen). Child's Colored Border, All Linen Hemkerchief for 5c. Corded Piques, 7½ to 10c. Check Muslins, 12½ to 35c. Victoria Lawns 12½ to 40c. We have

MANY GREAT BARGAINS

in WHITE GOODS it will pay you to see, and don't forget we have the largest stock of

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