

Prevention Better Than Cure.

We have more than once made acknowledgment of the interest taken in affairs in this State by the Northern Republican press. It has become convinced that our condition is well-nigh hopeless, because the very fountains of our public life have been poisoned.

The Philadelphia Press recognizes the fact that "terrible corruption" exists in South Carolina. It speaks plainly to the corruptionists. It tells them that the struggle with them is for existence, that they are in imminent danger of being ground to dust between the upper and nether mill-stones of Northern indignation and Southern hatred.

The Press discourages the South Carolina memorialists in their application to Congress for redress. "Too late," it says. It says, further, that "there is neither excuse nor authority for such interference at this time."

The New York Commercial Advertiser deeply regrets that the education of so many public officials was neglected in their youth. Arithmetic, particularly, seems to have been studiously overlooked, and the curious manner in which some of the people's servants get their figures mixed, is "shocking—positively shocking."

The Agricultural Land Scrip.

The House Committee on the Judiciary and Agriculture, to whom were referred the "report of special joint committee relative to agricultural land scrip bonds," submitted a report on the 12th, that they found an Act of the Legislature, approved July 22, 1868, styled "An Act accepting the benefits of an Act donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts, passed by the Congress of the United States, approved July 2, 1862."

Under the Act of Congress, which was accepted by this State, she received scrip for 180,000 acres of land; and, by instructions of Governor Sott, Mr. Cardozo, Secretary of State, and Mr. Chamberlain, the board authorized by law to act in this matter, Mr. Kimpton sold his scrip at 72 1/2 cents per acre in cash, and invested the proceeds, amounting to \$130,500, in bonds of this State.

In Mr. Kimpton's examination before the special joint committee, he refers all the way through to the Financial Board of the State, and seems desirous to throw all the responsibility upon them of the whole transaction. This attempt to relieve himself is entirely too thin.

The Act of the Legislature created a special board to manage this matter, and that board was confined within certain limits—they could sell or have sold the scrip, and the proceeds were to be invested in bonds of the United States or the State of South Carolina, and these were to be held forever sacred for the purposes expressed in the Act of Congress.

In the opinion of the committee, there is no excuse for the conduct of Mr. Kimpton; he is clearly guilty of a breach of trust, and knowingly, too. They, therefore, recommend that the Attorney General of this State be directed at once to proceed criminally against Mr. Kimpton, and also civilly, if, in his judgment, any means can be had of him sufficient to warrant it.

A SAD PICTURE.—LOOK AT IT, CENTENARIANS!—The Hon. R. M. T. Hunter has written a letter to United States Senator Stevenson, of Kentucky, upon the condition of the country, in which occurs the following brief and vigorous summary of the great evil which afflicts the nation:

"When a whole social system has been paralyzed in its lower extremities, the work of cure is tedious and difficult. The head and arms are left, but its means of motion are sadly impaired. If the South was worth to the Union all the money and blood which it cost to retain it, then one would have supposed that it was an object of interest to restore its efficacy, moral and physical, and thus secure its value.

How heartily, indeed, could those who would prefer military or kingly government to that at present over them, celebrate the centennial!

In a tale of "Joe Backey's Burning," in the Old and New, Joe died substantially as follows: "From beneath the cruelly singed eyebrows and lashes, Joe's good-natured eyes opened; his cracked lips opened and smiled; he tried to speak, but suddenly he gasped, shivered, and then the deacon knew by the way Joe's head hung over the kind old arm that supported it, that his partner had drawn his last dividend."

THE STATE LEGISLATURE. FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1874. SENATE.

The Senate was occupied during the day in reading bills and resolutions. The printing bill was discussed, amended, and returned to the House. The evening was devoted to eulogies on Senator Sumner—addresses being delivered by Messrs. Cain, Johnson, Whittemore and others.

Mr. Whittemore introduced a resolution appropriating \$1,000 for portraits of President Lincoln signing the emancipation proclamation, and Senator Sumner holding aloft the bill of rights; which caused a debate somewhat foreign to the subject, participated in by Messrs. Nash, Swails and others.

Mr. Meetez presented a counter memorial of citizens of Lexington village against incorporation. The Senate recessed from its amendments to House bill to raise supplies for the fiscal year commencing November 1, 1874.

Mr. Harley submitted resolutions commemorative of Charles Sumner, which were unanimously adopted. A Senate bill to make appropriation to pay claims held in trust by J. Woodruff against the State, was indefinitely postponed.

The report of the Committee on Judiciary and Agriculture relative to agricultural land scrip bonds, was adopted as the sense of the House.

The following Acts were approved by the Governor: Act to relieve the bondsmen of the late County Treasurer of Greenville County, James M. Allen; to validate all payments made by the County Treasurer of Edgefield County, under and pursuant to the provisions of a joint resolution to authorize the County Commissioners of Edgefield County to levy a special tax of three mills, to be levied at the time of the general tax, and to declare the intent of said joint resolution.

A SUCCESSFUL IMMIGRANT.—Gottfried Weber, a German immigrant who recently arrived in this State and settled in Lowndesville, has written an exceedingly pleasant letter to the Zeitung, of Charleston, in which he speaks of his new home and the treatment he receives, and other matters. He is evidently well pleased with his adopted home, and likes the people by whom he is surrounded.

Ten Mexican bandits recently attacked a stage near Guadalupe. The passengers resisted. A reinforcement of thirty bandits arrived, when the gens d'armes who were escorting the stage fled.

Executive CLEMENCY.—Some time ago President Grant, at the solicitation of Senator Robertson and others, pardoned John F. Hightower of so much of the sentence of the United States Court for Ku Kluxism as related to his imprisonment, on condition that he would pay the fine imposed.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.—In the bankrupt court, on Tuesday, the 10th, in the case of T. M. Friday, bankrupt, upon the application of a creditor claiming under an agricultural lien and creditors claiming under judgments prior to the amendment of the bankrupt Act of March, 1873, it was held by Judge Bryan that the bankrupt was not entitled to his homestead exemption against said claims.

BLOOD MONEY.—The County Treasurer of Lancaster, under instructions from the Attorney-General of the State, paid to the widow of Isaac Coles, last week, whose husband it is alleged was murdered by the Ku Klux in 1871, the half mill tax levied under Act of the Legislature for the support of widows and orphans, over \$600.

The coming pants will be worn very large in the legs, and overlapping to a fearful degree the boot, and will be known as peg top.

CLOSING HOURS OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.—The New Orleans Times has the following regarding the last hours of the Legislature:

The closing scenes of the session were marked by tumultuous excitement, which, opening out in vigorous strength early in the evening, grew in force as the hour of adjournment was neared, and culminated in a finale of such uproar and confusion, that Bedlam broke loose, or a multitude of howling wild beasts could not, by the remotest possibility, have offered the slightest approach to the bewildering effect produced by these Sions of the nineteenth century.

The evening Picayune editorially says it is the concurrent declaration of the leading and most honest members of the Legislature, which terminated its career last night at 12 o'clock, that the appropriation bill, under which all the disbursements of the State must be made, was never passed, was never submitted by the Speaker, nor voted on by the members.

HIGH-HANDED OUTRAGE.—Last Monday, as the construction train was at work on the Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta Railroad, beyond the Dead Fall, at the hour of noon or thereabouts, a posse of negroes, headed by a few Hamburg constables, arrested Conductor Robinson, in charge of the train; also, the engineer and all the hands, numbering about thirty-three men, and carried them to Hamburg.

Less than 100 days ago, Texarkana, in Texas, was a howling wilderness. It now numbers over 2,000 bona fide citizens, and some 200 buildings going up. There is a general ticket office, two railroad lines, two express companies, two telegraph lines and forty saloons. It is called the enchanted village of the Lone Star State, and expects in a short time to rival all its neighbors.

The New York Sun has some queer notions about obituary notices. On Tuesday it announced the death of the Hon. Henry Smith, President of the police board of that city, in a half column obituary, which closes as follows: "Mr. Smith was a sociable companion. His favorite diversion was draw poker, a game of chance and skill in which he excelled."

A Nevada judge, after the jury had been empaneled and counsel ready to proceed, pulled out a revolver and judiciously remarked: "If any man goes frolicking around the court room during the trial of this case, I shall interrupt him in his career." The strictest decorum prevailed.

A band-master in the English army for a period of forty-nine years has just retired, and has been awarded the munificent pension of ten cents a day—Etc. This shows the appreciation by foreign governments of our munificent pension to Mexican veterans—eight dollars a month.

President Grant can now say but to one man in all this glorious land, "You know how it is yourself." Andrew Johnson—the penultimate of the Presidential line—is the individual.

Why is Rock Hill like a spindle? Because Hub (ard) is always around it with his fellows (Yankees) that tire us. [Rock Hill Grange]

Macon, Ga., has started a ladies' calico church club, the members of which bind themselves to attend church in plain calico dresses.

THE TEMPERANCE WAR IN OHIO.—At Dayton, Ohio, on the 10th, the crusaders marched in three detachments of twenty each, and stormed thirteen saloons, on Fifth and West Third streets.

A great turbulent rabble followed them from place to place, and the turmoil at times was almost deafening. The voices of prayer and song were frequently inaudible. Ribald jests were bandied by the mob, and crowds passed into the invested saloons and drank as fast as they could, mocking the praying women with loud blasphemy and louder songs.

At Columbus, sixty-two ladies, in four squads, visited forty saloons, but they obtained no pledges. At several places heretofore visited, the women were told that their visits were getting to be a nuisance and must be stopped.

At Steubenville, the temperance crusade continues to run high. Three more saloons surrendered on the 10th. The entire league visited the saloon of Michael Gandy, received his full stock of liquors, and emptied them into the street, amid loud cheers from the large crowd present.

FATE OF THE PRESIDENTS.—An extraordinary circumstance in the history of the country occurs on the death of Mr. Fillmore. Never before since the administration of Jefferson has it happened that only one person was alive, except the incumbent, who had filled the Presidential office.

PHENIXIANA.—The top of the morning is it spin-naole, of course. A horse may be quieted by pressure on the hips. Some girls are only quieted that way. The favorite shirt collar now approaching will be of the standing order, with falling ears.

CLOSING SALE.—SOMETHING NOVEL ON THE TAPIS.—The sale of pictures, which has been continued from night to night for the past two weeks, at the store of Messrs. D. C. Peixotto & Sons, closes this evening, when a number of attractive subjects will be disposed of.

Supreme Court Decisions, March 12, 1874.—John C. Cochran, executor, appellant, vs. Michael Darcy, respondent; Michael Darcy, respondent, vs. John C. Cochran, appellant. Motions granted and cases remanded to Circuit Court. Opinion by Moses, C. J.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. J. W. Parker—Life Insurance. Seibels & Exell—Private Sale.

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHOENIX.

March took possession of his throne, yesterday, and exercised his authority with a vim.

Mr. Brissenden gives his scholars a soiree dansante on Monday evening next, in Parker's Hall.

The Governor has appointed Mr. Geo. S. Barr, of Kingstree, and William H. Goodlett, of Sandy Flat, Notaries Public.

The odor exhaled by bags of commercial fertilizers don't put one much in mind of the fragrance of the lily and honeysuckle.

The trotting match between General Smalls' and Colonel Johnson's nags comes off this afternoon, at 2 o'clock, at the track of the Auxiliary Joint Stock Association.

The fourth grand gift concert for the benefit of the public library of Kentucky comes off on 31st March. Tickets can be had through Mr. D. Gambrill, up to the 20th instant, after which date all unsold will be returned.

Messrs. E. E. Davies & Co. have received another shipment of those fine Northern turkeys and chickens; likewise a fine lot roe shad and Wilmington oysters, and a few barrels of select seed potatoes; which will be sold low for cash.

The day appointed for the meeting of the committee appointed to lay before Congress the memorial of the tax-payers of South Carolina has been postponed from Thursday, March 19, to Thursday, March 26, when the committee will, without fail, meet in Washington to discharge the important duty entrusted to them.

Every head of a family should possess a policy in a good life insurance company, like the Brooklyn, of New York, which is as sound as a silver dollar. Dr. J. W. Parker, at the Carolina National Bank, is the General Agent for South Carolina. In view of the uncertainty of life, call on him and secure protection against so terrible an evil as that of leaving a family unprotected for.

A countryman, with a wagon load of ducks, attracted considerable attention on Main street, yesterday. Some wag had painted on the thin-looking animal, "Oats wanted— inquire within," and on the body of the vehicle, "Draix for sale," "Duxx for sale." He was informed that turpentine would remove the paint, and was about to give it a trial, when he received the horrifying information that the duck would follow the paint.

It is very ruinous to move, but especially expensive to move in the best circles. The inventor of a fire-escape says there's nothing like getting down in the world.

Jones says that the difference between his wife and the Pope is, that she possesses temperal power, and his Eminence doesn't.

Small scarfs will be fashionable, the drop of the scarf being secured near the bow with a gold ring.

When a lovely woman stoops to office-holding, she may be suspected the same as any other public servant. Miss Belle Murray, who has been acting as deputy clerk of the Circuit Court of McLean County, Ill., is charged with embezzlement, and her trial is in progress at Bloomington.

The Dieppe police, warned by several recent calamities, have issued a notice to persons, requesting them, when a lady is in danger of drowning, to seize her by the dress, and not by the hair, which oftentimes remains in their grasp.

Sanshina has departed forever from New Orleans. That is to say Corporal Frederick William Sunshine, of the Metropolitan police, extinguished himself a few days ago, by blowing his brains out with a pistol.

NOT BAD.—The Washington Chronicle calls the recent duel near Augusta, a sketch "after the old masters."