

MONROE ENQUIRER

MONROE, N. C. March 1, 1878. W. C. WOLFE, Editor & Proprietor.

THE THIEV'S CARNIVAL

The special investigating committee, who have been probing the manner by which the people of South Carolina were officially plundered for ten long, weary years, the sessions of which committee have been continuous for the past year, have recently submitted their report. This report reveals a carnival of crime which is appalling, and surely without a parallel in the history of this or any other nation under the sun.

We also call attention to accounts in the evidence of A. O. Jones designated as numbers 251 and 263 inclusive, where it is shown that Mr. Solomon alone furnished the House with \$5,877 1/2 worth of wines and liquors within two months. Mr. Solomon says he had no difficulty in making collections while they did business with him.

Your committee find upon examination of vouchers in the treasurer's office, that in one session there were expended, under the respective heads of "Supplies," "Sundries," and "Incidental Expenses," not less than three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, one hundred and twenty-five thousand of which were spent for refreshments, including the finest wines, liquors and cigars.

We find there was a regular system by which these accounts were passed upon by the senate and House through the manipulations of the committee on contingent accounts. The following example will suffice: The committee would report that they had considered the account of A. B and C (which were honest claims) and found them correct, and would recommend that they be paid; but after the last name on the accounts we in most instances found the ominous words "and others" or "sundries and others," which being interpreted meant "fraud." Woodruff, contending says: "The committee to admit the contingent expenses of the Senate claimed the right to order what they pleased and include it in their report under the name of 'sundries and others.'"

"QUEER ACCOUNTS," and says they were generally paid under the head of "and others." Your committee find it necessary to classify the various supplies furnished in order that you may perceive the magnitude of the robbery and ruthless expenditure of taxes to provide for the pleasure and comfort of our statesmen! Under the class of "Refreshments," we ask attention to these facts: A room in the Statehouse was fitted up wherein to serve "wines, liquors, etables and cigars" to State officials, senators, members of the House and their friends, at all hours of the day and night. Woodruff's evidence is that the largest bills were rendered for refreshments, including the best liquors and cigars, which were served up in a room adjoining that of the clerk of the Senate, and kept open at all hours, and was visited daily by State officials, judges, Senators, members of the House, lawyers, editors, newspaper reporters, and citizens generally, irrespective of party, and that they discussed matters, State and National, in the most agreeable manner over their sparkling glasses. Not satisfied with the establishment of a bar-room in the Capitol, they employed a porter who had charge of the "Refreshment room."

J. W.'S PRIVATE BAR ROOM. The porter states that for six years the State-house bar-room was generally opened at 8 o'clock in the morning, and kept open until from 2 to 4 the next morning; that during that time some one was constantly there

cutting, smoking or drinking, and that Sunday formed no exception to the rule. He says: "He never saw a bar-room equal to the State House refreshment room for drinking, smoking and talking;" a large majority of the members who assembled in the rooms were Republicans, but the Democratic Senators and Representatives were there also.

We know of no better method of illustrating the reckless expenditure of money for this class of supplies than by referring to the accounts rendered some of which will be found appended to the evidence, and we call attention to accounts designated "Exhibit W 2" and "W 3" in Woodruff's evidence, where it is shown that on March 5, 1872, Solomon furnished the Senate \$1,631 worth of wines and liquors, and on the 7th day of same month \$1,852 75 worth aggregating \$3,483 75. This amount was purchased for the Senate within three days! Large amounts were furnished the House at the same time, and to Senate during the same week by other parties, all of which is shown by the vouchers.

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THE PRICES PAID. In Woodruff's evidence there is an account designated as No 11, in which Mr. Symmers charged \$20. per gallon for brandy; sherry wine, \$10; whiskey \$8; cigars \$10. per hundred. In the itemized account of Mr. Solomon the prices are equally unconscionable. An estimate cannot be formed of the amount of wines, liquors and cigars used in a single session, but enough is shown by the bills rendered and the pay certificates issued to demonstrate that to have used all that was purchased, every member of the House and Senate must have consumed

ONE GALLON PER DAY, with a few extra bottles of ale and wine thrown in, and smoked not less than one dozen cigars within the same time. We submit a specimen order given to Mr. Gibson for JAMES A. BOWLEY, which was delivered in one day: One box champagne, one box port wine, one box whiskey, one box brandy, one box sherry wine, three box cigars. Mr. Bowley was one of the leading colored members of the House, and chairman of the committee of ways and means, and it is easy to understand why he reported favorably upon the enormous tax levies and appropriation bills of the House. We append an order to Mr. Gibson from Rev. W. H. Thomas, member from Colleton and chairman of the committee on claims: "Mr. Gibson, there is a mistake, the order calls for two boxes of wine, please send the other. W. M. Thomas."

Mr. Gibson in his evidence says: "He was paid in Legislature pay certificates for all supplies, and that he only furnished the best articles." We also refer to the evidence of Wm. M. Line, who kept a restaurant in this city, and who says he furnished supplies consisting of "etables, wines, liquors and cigars to different Legislative committees, for which he received pay certificates, and that the largest amount issued to him, at one time, for these supplies was \$1,800."

We find that there has been paid out within four years for furniture alone over two hundred thousand dollars, and of this amount Mr. Berry

and Mr. Pagan furniture dealers, testify that at the present time there is at the State House only seven or eight thousand seven hundred and fifteen dollars, worth, appraised at the prices paid for it; a list of which was sworn to by them and is attached to their evidence. We present these as specimen paragraphs of the report, which would occupy about sixteen columns of our paper. The words "supplies" and "stationery" were made to include everything from the cradle to the coffin. Refreshments for committee rooms, groceries, clocks, \$600 mirrors, horses, carriages, dry goods, Brussels carpets, furniture, jewelry, ladies' fine underwear, silks, embroideries, diamond pins, stoves, household utensils, boots and shoes, baby carriages, and articles of every description, ad infinitum, and all paid for by the State. The rooms and houses of the State officials and members of the Assembly, at every session, were all most luxuriously furnished with every conceivable article of household need and ornament, paid for by the State, and at the end of every session, everything was systematically stolen by those having it in charge. Even houses of bad repute were most luxuriously furnished at the expense of the hard-pressed tax-payers of this "Poland of America." Was there ever before an era of such horrid pollution and dark, putrid crime!

Going to Liberia. Africans Leaving the South. New York, March 9.—A special from Charleston, S. C. says: "The programme of the Liberian exodus association is now completely arranged and the sailing ship Azor, is to carry the first instalment of colored emigrants, is expected here daily, having left Boston a week ago. She is already loaded with provisions of different sorts, agricultural implements, dry-goods, boots, shoes, &c., the property of persons intending to take passage. There are also a quantity of provisions and seeds stored here, the whole being amply sufficient to last out the voyage and for some time after the arrival at Monrovia, the ship's destination. Three hundred and fifty colored men, women and children, from numerous portions of the country, are now quartered in this city, awaiting the time of their departure. The Azor will carry about two hundred and fifty of these, which is nearly her full capacity. Only those will be taken who hold stock in the Liberian Joint Stock Steamship Company, and have the means to support themselves for six months in Liberia without assistance. They will consist most of

THE BETTER CLASS of independent small farmers, who have acquired the necessary funds by the sale, and in many cases sacrifice, of all their property here. They are to be provided with comfortable quarters in Monrovia by the Liberian government until they are removed to the lands which are to be given them at the rate of twenty-five acres for each head of a family, and ten acres for each male adult. They intend settling in the Northwest portion of the territory. After landing her passengers, the vessel is to return immediately for more, bringing back a cargo of African products. This method of transportation is to be continued until the company secures funds enough to purchase a steamship, when

A REGULAR LINE IS TO BE ESTABLISHED between this port and Monrovia for carrying over emigrants and bringing back produce. The officers of the company claim to have on hand now, after paying for the Azor, nearly sufficient funds to pay the first instalment on the steamship. Every stockholder has a right to one passage to Monrovia when his turn comes. There being 30,000 shares, which sell at \$10 per share, it is certain that if the mass of colored people retain their present disposition the steamship will be fully occupied for years to come. It is claimed that 35,000 people through the South have interested in the joint stock association, and that over 100,000 are enrolled to go when occasion offers, and we do not consider the claim an extravagant one. In this State, if transportation could be obtained, at least one-half of the population would go, so thoroughly have they been worked up on the subject. Four commissioners, elected by a convention last summer, will accompany the first ship load, to inspect the country, return and report. No white man has any connection with the scheme or is allowed to touch it.

Virginia's Bankrupt Treasury. ONLY \$103 ON HAND, AND THE BANK REFUSING TO ADVANCE ANOTHER DOLLAR. RICHMOND, March 5.—The Auditor of Public Accounts to-day reported to the Joint Committee on Finance of the General Assembly that the financial condition of the Commonwealth was truly deplorable. No money was being received for taxes, all payments being made in coupons, which were at 30 per cent. discount. He says there is but \$103 in the treasury, that no money could be borrowed or collected, and that he can run the State Government not an hour longer. The asylums were behind, even on support account. He had no means of paying the per diem of members. There was \$175,000 due to banks, and they refuse further loans. He said that a deadlock might be avoided if the General Assembly would provide that the license tax be paid in money only. Of the \$1,000,000 balance of taxes now due for the last fiscal year, there was now ready nearly enough coupons to absorb it, and on July 1 next \$600,000 more of them would mature. The committee meets again to-night to consider the situation. In the House various propositions were submitted looking to a solution of the public debt question, one of which was the appointment of a commission, consisting of the Governor and other State officials, to meet the State creditors, in order to adjust the debt. No action has yet been taken on any of the propositions.

The Joint Committee on Finance, at a meeting this evening, adopted a report in accordance with the Auditor's suggestion, recommending that the General Assembly pass a law providing for the collection of license taxes, including revenue from the Moffatt register, in money, to the exclusion of coupons.

An Earthquake in Kentucky. NEW YORK, March 13.—A special from Nashville, Tennessee, says a terrific earthquake shock was felt at Columbus, Ky., at 4 o'clock Monday morning. It awoke the residents of the town and created considerable consternation. Bensteads rolled across the floors of the rooms and bureau and presses were thrown down and broken. A portion of the Mississippi river bank caved in, near town leaving one house hanging over the bluff. The movement was so violent as to ring the bells on the locomotives standing in the sheds at the depots. The rumbling lasted only a few seconds.

BRIDGE RE-BUILT.—REMARKABLE ENTERPRISE.—NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., March 14.—The new wooden bridge across Raritan river at this point was completed by the Pennsylvania Railroad company late last night, and the first through train since Saturday's fire passed over the river this morning. The new structure is nine hundred feet long and cost \$200,000, and was put up by five hundred men in little over four days.

DEMAND FOR THE NEW SILVER DOLLAR. NEW YORK, March 14.—The first of the new silver dollars made their appearance on Wall street this morning. Being in limited amount, the supply was soon exhausted the desire to obtain them as taken being general, and buyers paying a fraction above par in gold.

STILL ALIVE AND DOING WELL! English & Ashcraft, PROPRIETORS OF The Peoples' Drug Store.

Keep No Books, and have no losses in the way of bad debts to make up on their cash sales. So, if you want ANYTHING IN THE DRUG LINE, at a LOW PRICE FOR CASH, don't fail to call on us; and if we can't suit you, both in quality and price, you need not expect to be suited in North Carolina.

Drugs, Patent Medicines, Chemicals, Paints and Oils, DYE-STUFFS, PERFUMERIES, SOAPS, AND FANCY GOODS, GENERALLY. LAMPS, LANTERNS, LAMP-FIXTURES, &c.

ALL SIZES OF THAT Popular Cook Stove. "ZEB VANCE," Are now kept for sale in Monroe by J. W. RUDGF.

VICK'S Illustrated Priced Catalogue. Seventy-five pages—300 Illustrations, with Descriptions of the products of the best Florida Violets in the world and the way to grow them—all for two cent postage stamp.

Just Received 1,000 SACKS NEW JERSEY CHEMICAL CO'S Acid Phosphate, THE HIGHEST GRADE OF Phosphates sold in North Carolina. ALSO 250 SACKS FISH GUANO, THE BEST Ammoniated Guano FOR THE PRICE Ever Sold Here.

Sulphate Ammonia, NITRATE SODA, &c. FOR MAKING 75 TONS OF Harnis' Compost, WHICH WILL BE SOLD AT THE Very Lowest Prices. JOHN D. STEWART.

VEGETINE PURIFIES THE BLOOD, RENOVATES AND INVIGORATES THE WHOLE SYSTEM. Alternative, Tonic, Solvent, and Diuretic. Vegetine Reliable Evidence.

OLD, TRIED, AND TRUE. MEXICAN Mustang Liniment, FOR MAN AND BEAST. Golden Medical Discovery, Is Alternative or Blood Cleansing. Golden Medical Discovery, Is Pectoral. Golden Medical Discovery, Is a Cholagogue, or Liver Stimulant. Golden Medical Discovery, Is Tonic. Golden Medical Discovery.

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