

DAILY REFLECTOR.

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Subscription 25 cents per Month.

Entered as second-class mail matter.

The "Big Five" seems to have disbanded. May be they grew ashamed of what their Douglas gang was doing and left them to pull along as best they could hereafter.

We see it stated that the six per cent interest bill does not go into effect in thirty days after the Legislature adjourns. There is also being prepared a bill to exempt Building and Loan Association from the provisions of the bill.

Pearson got the better of Linsey and had Mitchell county transferred from the eight to ninth congressional district. One Populist told the Legislature never to say anything again about Democrats gerrymandering for political purposes.

On account of the higher rate of postage, it is feared that Gen. Ransom's North Carolina friends will not hear from him by mail after he goes to the City of Mexico, with the promptness and frequency which have characterized his correspondence since he has been in Washington.—Charlotte Observer.

This is the unkindest cut of all at the man who was never known to answer a letter.

There are three good places to be filled now by the present Legislature—Railroad Commissioner, Commissioner of Agriculture Principal of the Blind Institution. The Populists want all three places, Otho Wilson is hawking for the first, Newberne for the second and Baylus Cade, editor of the *Caucasian*, for the other. Of course the Republicans don't

object to having a part and it said that they propose to make at least two or three fellows stand aside for their men. Offices has been the milk in the coconut all the time.

Growing Disposition of American to Live on the Government.

"The horseleech hath two daughters crying, give, give," Americans appear to grow more disposed to illustrate the proverb by living on the government. Of course the whole theory of rotation in appointive and non political officers is that the party in power has a right to pay for the private services of its followers out of the public treasury. A recent Governor of the State of New York put his practice in its boldest form when he approved a corrupt public contract so as to pay off his election expenses. The ordinary state of mind as to pensions is familiarly low. A few months ago a distinguished soldier, diplomat and statesman defended the action of a man who was drawing a pension for total disability while an active member of the United States Senate. "The law," said he, "makes no distinction; it does not recognize the possibility of mental labor by a man physically disabled." "But," it was objected, "might not the Senator look at the matter simply as an honest man?" "You might as well say that I have no right to the pension that I draw," replied the general. The discussion ceased at this point; but the wonder remained that men of wealth and station and public spirit should take payment for their own gallantry. There is no effective public sentiment even against notorious pension frauds. In what community would a person be esteemed who gave information against a widow who had married again and still drew her pension? Yet any of us would notify the police if he saw the same woman stealing ribbon at a counter—Professor Albert Bushnell Hart, in January Forum.

Canaigre Instead of Cotton.

The Mexican Financier has an interesting description of the

canaigre crop, which is becoming important in Texas, Arizona and New Mexico. In the Pecos Valley, Tex., farmers are going out of cotton into canaigre with decided profit. The plant will grow almost everywhere in the cotton belt, and may become an important paying crop further east than Texas. Cultivation increases the product to some thirty tons of green roots, which shrink to some eight tons when dry. The roots yield from 23 to 33 per cent. of tannic acid, while oak and hemlock bark yield only from 8 to 10 per cent. Prices of dried canaigre root range from \$25 to \$30 per ton in the rough. In Europe from \$50 to \$80 per ton is paid, it is stated, and the demand far exceeds the supply. The crop per acre is said to be worth from \$175 to \$225, while the cost of planting and cultivating is about the same as that of a sweet-potato crop. The tannic acid from canaigre is said to be exceptionally valuable for tanning uppers, fine saddlery and fancy leathers. It is used also as a dyestuff. It deserves the attention of our farmers, who can obtain useful suggestions as to its cultivation from the Agricultural Department at Washington.

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