

## THE WILSON ADVANCE

A WEEKLY DEMOCRATIC NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE MATERIAL, EDUCATIONAL, POLITICAL AND AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

Published Every Friday Morning.

Josephus Daniels, Editor and Proprietor.

Friday Morning, March 16.

An Example and a Warning.

The rise and downfall of politicians often furnishes an instructive example and a warning to ambitious aspirants after similar honors. In no instance which has come under our observation, has the uncertainty of retaining official position through the use of questionable means, been more forcibly and awfully exemplified, than in the case of the late Senator and Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Windom of Minnesota.

He has been in public life in one capacity or another for over thirty years, during which time he has used "the spoils system" for all it was worth, and now finds in his old official days, that it was a delusion and a snare. Ever since 1860 he has been in one or the other House of Congress and in the Cabinets. During all this time he has been assiduous in what is usually denominated "looking after his friends," in putting friends into places and enemies out, regardless of the want of fitness of the former, or the merit of the latter. He has filled post offices with his adherents and made the rounds of the Bureaus and Departments to secure clerkships with which to pay off his political obligations.

He has proved himself to be a man of more than average ability, an active representative, an intelligent Senator and a respectable Secretary of the Treasury. In 1880 he was voted at Chicago for President, and was in every respect entitled to consider himself one of the coming men in politics. In 1881 when he thought it desirable to resign his position as Senator he was strong enough to secure the appointment of his successor. When he wished to return to the Senate to serve out his own term, like Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania, he practically dictated who should take his place. Such was the career of Mr. Windom up to 1881.

In 1883 when his experience and ability are greatest and his intellectual powers at their best he finds himself cast off, and rewarded with a bitter and humiliating defeat. The moral is brief and pointed. He trusted to offices and rewards, to the friendship of place-seekers, and he raised up enemies who used his own weapons upon him to his utter undoing. It should teach every aspirant for political honors, that he must rely on ability and character for an honorable position in public. And then he will not be likely to become like him whose career we have been tracing a hanger-on for some kind of place, and a seeker for the crumbs, as he has doled them out to others for years. An example and a warning to all, and furnishing a most powerful argument in favor of the downfall of a vicious system.

## Our Representatives.

Although it was their first experience in legislation, our members, Messrs. W. W. Farmer Senator, and J. L. Bailey Representative, have not only acquitted themselves creditably, but deserve the hearty commendation of their constituents. Quiet and unassuming in their conduct, they were ever at their post of duty, and watchful over the interests of their people.

The promises made by them in the canvass have been faithfully performed. Our Senator, Farmer by name, and a farmer by profession, promised that while looking after the interests of the people generally, he would not forget the interest of the farmers, the class to which he belonged. This promise he has fully redeemed by his bill which passed and has become a law, for the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture. Its members are hereafter to consist of farmers elected, one from each Congressional District, and we are gratified to observe that the choice for this District, has fallen upon one of our largest, most intelligent and successful farmers, Dr. A. G. Brooks of Wilson county. We believe that the people of Wilson county will not only heartily approve of the selection, but that no better one could have been made in the District. Our representative Mr. Bailey committed himself to a reform in the appointment of Justices of the

Peace. Considerable dissatisfaction had heretofore existed in reference to the method of their appointment. His pledges have been carried out and there is no longer any complaint. In all other matters of legislation we believe their constituents are prepared to accord to them the credit of a faithful and conscientious discharge of duty. Next to the approbation of his own conscience, this is the highest and most gratifying reward a representative can receive.

## The Last Legislature.

The Legislature of 1883 expired last Monday at 12 o'clock. It outlined its constitutional limitation just one week. There were introduced into the House of Representatives during the session, eleven hundred and fifty-seven bills, and in the Senate one thousand and eighty. Of these about five hundred passed and have become laws. The other seventeen hundred, some of them freighted with many hopes, "have gone glimmering as a dream of things that were."

The redistricting of the State the reorganizing of the Board of Agriculture, the allowing local assessments in aid of public schools, the adoption of the code, the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley railroad and the Western N. C. Railroad bills were among the most important bills that were passed. Several bills in which it was said the people felt a deep interest were defeated, among them, the most important perhaps, was the bill creating a Railroad Commission. Their acts of commission and omission are before the public, have passed into history, and will survive many of the actors for good or evil. It is to be hoped that the general result has been to the advantage of the State and to the good of the people.

## Wilson and Florence Railroad.

There seems to be no doubt now that in the near future this road will be built. The importance of shortening the Atlantic Coast line by a new road connecting these two points has long been felt, and the wide-awake, energetic President of the Wilmington & Weldon, Wilmington & Augusta Road sometime since directed a survey to be made. President Bridgers has since made a personal inspection of the country through which it is proposed to build the road, and now we learn from the Fayetteville Observer that Col. Gardner with his corps of engineers has reached that place, and that the line between Fayetteville and Wilson has been definitely located. This will be good news to the people along the proposed route, as they have long felt the need of railroad facilities. With a rich soil and a heavily timbered country, they have been unable to make either available for want of transportation and inaccessibility to market. This road will pass through one of the best farming portions of Wilson and Johnston counties and with two depots between this place and Smithfield will afford much needed shipping facilities and greatly enhance the value of real estate in proximity to the road in both counties. The same no doubt may be said of the other counties all along the line.

## Senator David Davis on Independents.

When Senator Davis retired from the office of President of the U. S. Senate last week he uttered among other things the following sentiments, worthy of the attention of all thoughtful men. He said "a public man who steps outside of regular party lines, is exposed to misrepresentation of his motives, and to the charge of weakness in his conduct. He gains little credit for the moral courage of self-assertion and none for casting aside ambition in defense of his principles." Whether the words quoted may be tinged with disappointment and regret we know not, but they add the sanction of one of the purest statesmen of the country to the utter futility of the so-called independent idea in politics.

We think Mr. Henry draws too gloomy a view of the situation when he says that "North Carolina is on the verge of a financial crisis." The State is more prosperous than it has ever been and the only way to keep it prosperous is we take it for farmers to be self-sustaining.

## Death of an Honest Journalist.

We record with regret the death of C. N. R. Evans, Editor of the Milton Chronicle and State Senator, which event occurred at his home in Milton at 3:30 o'clock Saturday morning. He had passed his three score years and ten, and had been connected with the press over fifty years. During a long career he enjoyed the reputation of being an "honest journalist," a distinction not won by every editor who has lived in the State. He cared little for fame, or popularity, or money. He was content to ply his daily avocation in obscurity and hardships, if the right to express his honest

convictions were not interfered with. He was a born editor and was also a practical printer. It is said of him that he would compose his editorials, with "stick" in hand, setting them up without the trouble of writing them. Mr. Evans was known all over the State as "Father Evans," because he was the oldest editor in the State, and as the "Fool Killer" because of some very cutting articles he wrote signing himself the "Fool Killer."

He was an ornament to the editorial fraternity, and to the State. We involuntarily pause at the death of such a man—

Plain, unassuming, he yet had

that characteristic that wins

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enemies. But he is gone, and

we have one less honest editor,

one less good and true citizen.

## Our Reason.

"Why don't you make the ADVANCE a daily newspaper?"

has been asked us more than once of late. Our reply is that we stand ready to publish a daily paper when the business interests of Wilson demand it

and when the business men of the place are willing to give us a sufficient support for us to issue a first class daily with the telegrams. We are unwilling to publish any other kind of a paper, and one that did not contain the telegrams would reflect no credit on the town. It costs money to issue a daily newspaper and even in Raleigh it has taken years, and the expenditure of thousands of dollars to put a daily on a permanent basis. In Wilson it would be a losing business.

## Contemptible.

The Radicals have shown their appreciation of the wishes and interests of the people of Wilson and the surrounding country. Mrs. Daniels, a most estimable lady who has been postmistress at Wilson for twenty years, and who gave the complete satisfaction, the people of all parties and colors, discharging the duties with the utmost fidelity and punctuality, has been displaced, and because she has asked to sign said—"Well I've got a dog but I don't see how it can benefit me." And for this selfish motive they refused to sign and lent their influence to killing an industry that might be made one of the most profitable in this State. This clear-headed farmer friend further said, and we commend his remark to every farmer in North Carolina: "The reason that farmers can never accomplish any object is because you can never get more than two or three of them to agree on any one thing. They do not feel the need of any concerted action and each one pulls a different way, and the consequence is they never accomplish anything. Men who follow other occupations have some concerted action; they know they have a "community of interest" and they work together. When farmers wake up and realize that without this "pulling together" they cannot accomplish anything they will make some impression on the world; until then they will be "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for others."

There is more wisdom in the view of this farmer than all the political economy in the country.

## Cotton and Commission Merchants.

We publish on the fourth page of this issue a well written article by our talented friend, W. H. Henry Esq., of Raleigh, on "Cotton and Commission Merchants." It is an old and a trite subject, yet Mr. Henry has written of it in such a manner as to make it interesting. The great need of the South, and of North Carolina especially, is practical farmers—farmers who raise their own supplies and do not keep their smoke-houses in the West. In this article Mr. Henry has given "precept upon precept" to show how the system of planting all cotton is ruinous to the South and we hope the farmer readers of the ADVANCE will give it a careful perusal and resolve in the future to first raise their supplies and then give their attention to cotton.

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The Secretary of the Treasury having directed that the word "cents" be added to the new five cent piece, the superintendent of the Philadelphia mint, who designed the original coin, is engaged in preparing a device for the back of the proposed coin, which will include the denomination of its value. No order has, however, been made suspending the coining of the new five cent pieces, and the mint bureau reports that they are being issued from the Philadelphia mint at the rate of nearly \$5,000 worth a day, which amount is said to be sufficient only to supply about half the applications made for them from private firms.

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Why can't we all be farmers, and be good? Hear what Brother Foote in the Warren Gazette says about them: "The farmers is a good man. He has less temptation to be a bad man than any we know of. All his work is enabling. His contract is with nature. His dealings are with the old earth which is the mother of us all and which will take us all into her kindly arm again, when life's fitful fever is over. Oh, it is delightful to turn the back upon anxious, quarrelsome, struggling men and live with nature and her children. The farmers' noble work is worthy of a noble consecration.

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## Words of Wisdom.

We were much impressed this week with a conversation we had with one of the most successful and intelligent farmers in Wilson county on the sheep and dog question. He is a resident of Saratoga township, where there is abundant range of the best pasture land and where the raising of sheep might be made profitable if it were not for the ravages of the dogs. He has since the war tried to make it profitable but so many of his sheep were killed by the dogs that he is almost ready to abandon his effort to raise them. On one occasion after twenty five head of his sheep had been killed in one night by the dogs, he determined to get up a petition requesting the representative from this county to use his influence to have a dog law passed, and after keeping the petition several days he could obtain but a few signatures because, as he said, nearly all whom he asked to sign said—"Well I've got a dog but I don't see how it can benefit me." And for this selfish motive they refused to sign and lent their influence to killing an industry that might be made one of the most profitable in this State. This clear-headed farmer friend further said, and we commend his remark to every farmer in North Carolina: "The reason that farmers can never accomplish any object is because you can never get more than two or three of them to agree on any one thing. They do not feel the need of any concerted action and each one pulls a different way, and the consequence is they never accomplish anything. Men who follow other occupations have some concerted action; they know they have a "community of interest" and they work together. When farmers wake up and realize that without this "pulling together" they cannot accomplish anything they will make some impression on the world; until then they will be "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for others."

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A fellow named Sharp was selected by a certain set and Arthur sent in his name to a Republican Senate. For reasons satisfactory to that body it refused to confirm the appointment. Would a Republican body refuse to confirm the appointment of a man as postmaster of a small town if there were not the gravest reasons for doing so? Well, what was the next dodge? Why, after the Senate adjourned they got Arthur to appoint Sharp's wife, which of course is equivalent to appointing Sharp himself. It is a mere dodge to get the fellow into an office and that too when the Republican Senate had positively refused to concur in favor of it.

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