The Chatham Record

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1892.

H. A. LONDON. Editor.

A REDUCTION in the cotton acreage seems now to be generally conceded as necessary. That is, it is generally admitted now that less cotton must be planted this year. In the fall of 1890 the farmers were advised by certain men, who set themselves up as wise political economists, to hold back the crop of that year for higher prices. Unfortunately too many planters followed this foolish advice, and held back their cotton and are still holding it. They refused to sell their cotton at nine cents a pound in the fall of 1890, and now they cannot get seven cents for it. The reason of the low price is the large amount of the crop of 1890 held back for better prices and the large crop of 1891 added together makes the supply too great for the demand. In other words, by holding back the crop of 1890 the farmers not only have lost the benefit of the higher price that they could then have received for that crop, but they have also glutted the market now and have to sell the crop of 1891 at a lower price than they otherwise would have sold it, had they not held back the crop of 1890. For some time the farmers were made to believe that the decline in the price of cotton was caused by "the contraction of the currency", and many of them were ready to adopt any wild cat scheme for inflating the currency, which, of course, would have well nigh ruined the country. Now, however, many of those misguided persons, who believed that these wild cat schemes of inflating the currency would make them prosperous, are now realizing that there is something practically true in the old law of "supply and demand", and that any product must decline in price when more of it is raised than can be used.

Accordingly meetings are being held in all the cotton States for the purpose of reducing the cotton acreage this year. On last Friday and Saturday a convention of cotton growers was held at Memphis, at which a permanent organization was made and a resolution adopted recommending that the reduction in the acreage planted in cotton for the year 1892 be 20 per cent less than that planted in 1891. And still another very sensible resolution was adopted, and one that we would urge all our farmer friends to carry out, as follows:

"We further recommend that each and every farmer or planter within the cotton growing States so plant more diversified crops, and especially take extraordinary precautions to the end that he shall produce an abundance of corn, peas, hay, oats and such other necessaries for his own and his family's supplies and we here appeal personally and individually that each and every person favoring this movement do lend his aid and influence to further this end."

If the farmers of the South, and especially of this immediate section, would only heed this last resolution and act on the recommendation contained in it, they would most certainly become more prosperous. Everybody will admit the truth of this. Then why not act accordingly?

While the present low price of cotton may now be considered a calamity to the South, yet eventually it may prove a blessing. It certainly will, if it causes or compels our farmers to raise less cotton and make their own supplies, as above recommended.

We see in the Raleigh papers that a public meeting will be held tomorrow in Wake county (called by the Alliance), for the purpose of publicly discussing the question of reducing the cotton acreage. A meeting for a similar purpose was recently held in Halifax county, and among the speakers were farmers, doctors, lawyers and merchants, for this question affects all trades and professions.

Although the price of cotton is so low now, yet the present purchasing power of cotton is almost as much as it was before the war. That is, the money for which a bale now sells will buy nearly as much as it did before the war. The prices of many articles are much lower than ever before, and they are articles that every farmer buys and uses, such as sugar, salt, calico, &c. When the Farmers' Alliance was first organized, one of the boasts of its members was that it would reduce prices and many claim that the reduction in the price of articles sold in the stores was caused by the Alliance. This naturally raises the question, has the Alliance also caused the reduction in the price of cotton?

THE SALE of liquor is not licensed in several counties in this State. That is, the county commissioners have refused to grant license for the sale of spirituous, vinous or malt liquors, and therefore Prohibition prevails in quite a considerable portion of this State. Of course this has excited much comment, and this action of the county commissioners has been much discussed and censured. Especially has this been the case in Mecklenburg county, in which is situate the flourishing city of Charlotte. Bladen, Vance and several other counties have declared against the whiskey traffic, and thus gradually Prohibition is every year gaining ground in North Carolina.

The Silver Question.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Chairman Springer, of the Ways and Means Committee, was asked tonight what he thought Congress should do in regard to the silver question. He replied: "I am a bimetallist and as such I cannot support any policy which would relegate silver to the rear or eliminate it from political discussion. On the contrary, I would make it a great national and international question, and would settle it upon lines as broad as possible and at the earliest time practicable."

With a Republican Senate and a Republican President, however, no change can be affected in the Congress, he said. Nothing could be done until the next Congress shall assemble in December, 1893. The practical thing to do was then to prepare to negotiate on the subject. Congress could, he said, authorize the holding of an International Monetary Congress to fix the relations of gold and silver at Chicago during the World's Fair.

"This Congress should be a popular one", he said. "It should be a Congress, not a secret Confederate Commission, as in the past, and should have a large representation from this Government and the governments with which we maintain diplomatic relations. Its proceedings should be published the same as the proceedings of Congress and representatives of the press should be admitted to all its sessions. It would thus become a great economic assembly of the people, and not only of the people of this country, but of all other countries to which its decrees would be submitted for concurrence in it.

"If international agreements could be secured upon the subject and honest, and sterling currency could meet the approval of the sense of the leading nations of the earth, there would be the greatest possible boon conferred upon the human race. Bimetallism could be secured, the relative proportion of the precious metals which will rate from the publication of the proceedings of the Congress would enable our own Congress, when it assembles in November, 1893, to make a conference on the subject of silver coinage that would best promote the interests of our own people. The conference would unquestionably be composed of the ablest financiers and statesmen in the world and its discussion, which would be brought to bear upon the subject before the Congress, would experience and light of the century."

"The Democratic party believes in meeting every great question, discussing it and settling it after fullest discussion possible upon such basis as will most conserve the best interests of the people. It is to the utmost importance that whenever a question is settled it be settled right. And all will concede that it is impossible to obtain an international agreement. A statement based upon such agreement would be the most lasting and have every element of merit as to its success eliminated. We should make one great and determined effort to secure such uniformity, and failing in that, we will be justified in acting for ourselves and in a way to best promote our own separate interests."

Stamps for Money.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Representative Alexander of North Carolina, speaking of his bill in regard to redeemable stamps, said that he thought that this was a measure that if carried into effect would greatly benefit people in rural districts, and especially those living remote distances from postoffices. By his bill Mr. Alexander proposes that the government shall issue redeemable stamps of denominations ranging from five cents to three dollars. These stamps are to be sold at all postoffices and redeemed at any money order office. Mr. Alexander says that as the currency is now issued a man living forty or fifty miles from a small postoffice is in a bad fix if he wants to send twenty-five, fifty or seventy-five cents to a relative, but if the government provides the stamps described in his bill, convenient denominations will be handy, and people in towns who receive them will be able to have them redeemed at postoffices, instead of having to rely on the ordinary postage stamps, now so generally used and which have to be sold at a considerable discount when disposed of. Mr. Alexander thinks that all merchants in the cities, newspaper publishers, and others who have dealings with country people, would be much benefitted if his bill became a law, and so would the country people themselves.

The Postmaster General has recommended that the postal note system be still further extended, but Mr. Alexander is of the opinion that his plan is far to be preferred to Mr. Wanamaker's.

Mr. Alexander's bill has certainly features of novelty about it, and it will soon be considered by the post office committee, of which Mr. Henderson of North Carolina, is chairman.

Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1892.

Speaker pro tempore McMillin, who was elected without opposition to preside over the House until Speaker Crisp who is still confined to his room by the grip, shall be able to resume his duties, presides like a veteran, and is complimented on all sides for the case with which he has taken up the onerous duties of presiding over the House.

Notwithstanding the unprecedented appropriations of the billion dollar Congress, the cry for deficiency appropriations has already begun. The list is headed by Porter, of the census bureau, who, through the Treasury department has asked for a deficiency appropriation of $1 000,000, to complete the work of that bureau, and there are those who doubt whether that amount will be sufficient, if Porter is to be allowed to do it as he sees fit. He may get the money, but it is not certain, and in any event he will probably be asked to explain puzzling questions as to how he has spent some of the $6 400 000 previously appropriated for the Census.

The attack on the McKinley tariff law in the House resemble the firing of skirmishers. Bills have been introduced placing the following articles on the free list: Jute, jute bagging, iron ties, binding twine, lumber, or plate, salt, agricultural implements, wood, coal and iron ore, and bills have been introduced to repeal the sugar bounty clause of the law, and to repeal the reciprocity clause, gives the President authority to increase the duty upon certain products of countries which fail to make reciprocity treaties with the United States. These bills will all go to the Ways and Means committee, which will decide which of them shall be passed.

Representative Mills, who before going to Texas has been granted an indefinite leave of absence by the House. The principal object of Mr. Mills in going home at this time is to repair his health, but it is probable that while there he may discuss the talking about the Texas Senatorship.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Association of Democratic Club leaders called for Jan. 28, by Representative W. L. Wilson, of West Virginia, who is chairman of the committee, and it is expected that every member shall be present or represented by proxy, as important matters will be considered.

The democratic vacancy on the Interstate Commerce Commission has been given to Judge W. M. Lindsey, of Kentucky, a gentleman of whom nothing but good is known, and the republican vacancy to J. W. McPall, of Iowa, who has been Congressman, Senator, Judge and several other things within those states. Col. W. B. Morrison, whose commission expired Dec. 31, has not been reappointed.

The silver question has already shown a ready disposition to rear up and confront its Congressional foes at any and all times. Several bills have been introduced in the Senate providing for free coinage, and although there has been no bill introduced in the House, four bills of the same sort were introduced, besides several others having a more or less direct bearing on silver. One of them provides for the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman silver law. Senator Stewart maintains that there is a law already in existence authorizing the free coinage of silver, enacted in 1837 and never repealed, and he offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire into the matter and report whether he is right or wrong. Senator Morrill delivered a very able and conservative speech this week against the unlimited free coinage of silver, in answer to Senator Stewart's recent speech.

The Harrison men are shouting "I told you so", because of a slight attack of cancer that Mr. Blaine had this week, and the present indications are that a concerted attempt is to be made to drive Mr. Blaine from the Presidential field, using his health as the principal weapon. It may succeed too, as Mr. Blaine is a mortal man on that subject, and has been ever since that notorious sunstroke away back in the seventies.

Andrew Jackson's birthday is being fitly celebrated today by the local democrats.

A joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to charter a vessel to carry the grain which has been contributed for the famine stricken Russians to that country was adopted by the Senate, but defeated by the House. The constitutionality of the resolution was doubted by some of the ablest democrats in Congress.

Senator Morgan spoke yesterday in favor of his resolution directing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to procure additional information concerning the Nicaragua canal. He strongly favors the guarantee of bonds asked for by the company, but unless there is a change of sentiment there is no probability of the bill passing the House. As one prominent member of that body puts it: "I favor the building of the canal by this Government if necessary, but am opposed to any guarantee of bonds issued by a private corporation."

The Influenza Still Spreading.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—There is no abatement whatever in the epidemic of influenza which is sweeping over England. On the contrary reports received from hundreds of places throughout the country show that the disease continues spreading with increasing violence. The present influenza epidemic, both in the united kingdom and on the continent has been marked by the large number of ecclesiastical dignitaries claimed as its victims.

Bills Favorable to Farmers.

From the Northern Journal.

The Journal has often said that if the farmers would only stand by the Democratic party, the party would stand by them, and now we point them to the proof.

The testimony is very voluminous, but it is only necessary to refer to a few bills, selected from many of like character, to establish the truth of our declaration. On Thursday, Jan 7th, Mr. Henderson, of North Carolina, introduced a bill to repeal the tax of State Bank Notes used for circulation. Mr. Henderson insists that if the tax is taken off State Banks, banks will be chartered that will furnish an abundance of currency on the lowest and most accommodating terms.

On the same day, By Representative Culberson, of Texas—A bill to prevent the contraction of the currency. It provides that whenever the circulation of any National Bank or any portion thereof, shall be surrendered, the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereupon prepare an equivalent amount of legal tender treasury notes of the denomination now provided by law for National Bank notes. They shall be a legal tender for all debts. The second section authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury in the event of a deficit in the revenues of the government from a reduction of taxation to prepare legal tender treasury notes in amount sufficient to cover such a deficit of like denomination. It further authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to coin silver bullion now in the Treasury, or which may be, such an amount of standard silver dollars as he may deem necessary for such notes when presented for redemption.

By Mr. Enloe of Tennessee, to repeal the postal subsidy law, and McKinley bill, to have Senators elected by the people, for the free coinage of silver, to investigate and pay claims for the use of church and school property during the war, to place on the free list cotton ties, agricultural implements and machinery, cotton bagging, and other materials for bagging cotton, salt, tin plate and barbed wire, to repeal the income tax, to refund the cotton tax, and to repeal a rider and tax now on appropriation bills, and to enact measures.

Before the recess Mr. Oates, of Alabama, offered a bill authorizing the issue of money, by the Government to the states.

These members have no connection with the Alliance, they are democrats carrying out the principles of the Democratic party.

Mr. Livingston, of Georgia, President of the Georgia State Alliance, but elected as a Democrat, in accordance does the Speaker of the House to appoint a special Finance Committee of seven members to investigate and report upon the currency problem. The committee is to ascertain the amount of National Bank notes outstanding, the amount of United States bonds held by National Banks as a basis of circulation and contraction of the volume of National Bank currency and the rate of interest charged by National Banks.

A Terrible Calamity.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 8.—A special to the Star from McAlester, Indian Territory, says: A most appalling calamity occurred near here last night. There was an explosion in the mine and as a result over two hundred men are dead and about forty fatally hurt and as many more badly burned. At 5:10 p. m., mine No. 11, owned by the Osage Coal and Mining Co., at Krebs, four and a half miles east here, exploded. At the time 350 men were in the shaft, most of whom were waiting for the cage to take them out, and the foot of the shaft is one mass of dead bodies. Eighty-five men came out by the old entry and forty two were saved by the shaft, most of whom are more or less burned, and half will probably die. This leaves about 253 men yet in the mine and in all probability 200 are dead.

The explosion was caused by firing the shot when gas was in the mine. At this time it is impossible to learn the number of dead and wounded.

MCALESTER, I. T., Jan 9.—The excitement, intensified almost to insanity, because of the mine explosion shows no abatement. All day yesterday and today at least 5,000 people were around the shaft of the mine, crowding, gesticulating, shrieking, some attracted there from idle curiosity, but most of them driven to the spot half crazed by the fear of what they might find. Others were standing about and their blanched faces, despairing eyes and apathetic postures told the story that hope was dead. Wives, sisters, sweethearts, mothers and fathers made up a picture of despair not soon to be forgotten.

Up to 2 o'clock this morning, forty-five dead bodies had been taken out of the mine and 100 injured, fifteen of whom died before morning. The remaining eighty five miners are living at their homes swathed in cotton and vaseline up to their eyes, with their eye brows, hair and finger nails burned off and the cooked flesh dropping from their bones.

"Green Goods" Dupes.

ELIZABETH, N. J., Jan. 12.—Last evening two rustics, evidently Southerners, arrived in this city and went to Ryan's Hotel where they registered as Reuben Bell and Silas Griffin, Virginia. It was suspected that they were victims of "green goods" sharpers, and the police, who had shadowed them, went to their hotel. The countrymen returned early to their room and when the clerk accompanied the officers there it was found that they had blown out the gas and were in danger of asphyxiation. On the table by their bed were two large Colt's revolvers. They were taken to the police headquarters where they admitted that they were to meet a man in Plainfield who was to sell them $3 000 worth of "green goods" for $600. They had the money with them.

An Important Decision.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—It has now become a settled law that witnesses cannot be compelled to testify in any criminal case where answers might tend to criminate them in any way, or subject them to possible future prosecution. It is held that the fifth amendment to the Constitution, giving persons the right to refuse to answer questions which may be used against them in criminal cases, must be construed in its broadest sense. Such is the effect of the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court today in the celebrated Inter-State Commerce case of Charles Counselman, appellant, vs. Frank Hitchcock, Marshal of the U. S District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. The case is one of general interest to railroad men, and has attracted widespread attention. Counselman was asked whether he had ever obtained from any railroad rates on grain shipments lower than the open rate to all shippers? He refused to answer, on the ground that it might criminate him, and claimed the protection of the constitutional guarantee conferred by the fifth amendment. Judge Gresham decided against him and held him in contempt of court for refusing to answer questions, and it is on appeal from Judge Gresham's order that the case decided by the Supreme Court today came up. The Court's ruling is that Judge Gresham's order was erroneous, and that Counselman cannot be compelled to testify. It has been said that the effect of the decision by the Courts that witnesses cannot be compelled to testify will seriously hamper the inter state commerce commission in the administration of the inter-state commerce act. The Court's decision was unanimous.

"Soulless Corporations."

From the Wilmington Star.

Mr. C. T. Bully, an old man, who was watchman and bridge tender at Meares' Bluff, died last Friday. He had been employed by the W. C. A. A. and C. C. R. R. about sixteen years and was faithful in the performance of his duties, and a railroad official said yesterday was the most reliable man they ever had at that position. So faithful was he that the two railroad companies furnished a coffin and saw that he had a decent burial. Sunday afternoon his wife died, and the companies bought a coffin and sent up to the Bluff for her. Now, a little child, their only daughter, is at the point of death. If the child should live, and no benevolent association take charge of it, the railroad companies will support and take care of the little orphan.

A prominent citizen remarked yesterday that this was the saddest thing that has happened around Wilmington in several years, and the railroad companies are commended for their kindness in the matter on every side.

Indian Ghost Dances.

GUTHRIE, Okla., Jan. 10.—Four ghost or spirit dances are in progress among the Indians of this Territory. The scene is the interior hills of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservations. The dance started a month ago and is still kept up with vigor. Fully one thousand Indians participating. Chiefs Whirlwind and Old Crow, of the Blanket Indians, are the leaders. No hostility is expressed.

They say the Messiah has ordered them to prepare for his coming by dancing and singing, that he will drive the whites from the land forever in a wave of his hand. "Tow-comic-hus," a Nebraska Chief, is the one who saw the Messiah.

The Pawnees are dancing on a plateau on the Arkansas River and the Otoes, Kiowas and Osages have abandoned their farms, thrown aside implements of civilization and, decked out with savage finery, are dancing by the thousands in Chetrok e camp.

Heavy Snow Storm in Ireland.

DUBLIN, Jan. 11.—The heavy snow fall in the north of Ireland has greatly impeded traffic. The roads in many places are utterly impassable. In consequence of this state of affairs it was impossible for many clergymen to reach their churches yesterday, and religious services were therefore not held. At Tyrone a funeral procession became lost in the storm, and after many fruitless attempts on the part of those taking part in it to find their way, the horses became exhausted and it was found necessary to abandon the hearse in a snow drift.

Influenza in Southern Europe.

PARIS, Jan. 10.—Influenza is causing great ravages in Lyons and Marseilles. In Bilbao, Spain, the epidemic is also severe. The mortality from the disease is very heavy. A special hospital for cases of influenza has been opened in Florence, Italy.

Crisp Grows Better.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 11.—Speaker Crisp continues to improve. This morning he sat up and read the papers and dictated a number of letters.

While his improvement is marked it will be at least a week before his physicians will allow him to venture out.

The Prince of Wales' eldest son is very ill with the grip.

Hon. R. H. Bunn has introduced a bill in Congress to erect a postoffice building at Durham.

Pain in the back or limbs, is at once driven off by a few applications of Salvation Oil. 25 cents.

To the humble and credulous as well as to the rich and skeptical, Dr. Bull's Cough is a true and welcome friend. Price 25 cents.

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Oct 29 3m

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Ministers' children will be instructed at half the above rates. Board can be obtained in and around the town at $7 00 per month. Good rooms for rent at very moderate rates for Clubs of boys who wish to bring their provisions from home. Pittsboro' is noted for its healthful climate, and for the virtue, hospitality and intelligence of its people. Indeed there is no place in the state where the parent may school his child with less anxiety as to outside influence than in Pittsboro.

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Dec. 24, 1891.

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Sept. 17, 1891.

MORTGAGE SALE. BY VIRTUE of a mortgage executed to E. J. Lilly by B. J. Case and wife, and duly registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Chatham county, North Carolina, in Book O O, page 586, we will sell for cash at the highest bidder, at the court house door, in Pittsboro', on SATURDAY, the 30th day of JANUARY, 1892, at 12 o'clock m., the following described land and premises, to wit: All that tract, lying in the county of Chatham, State of North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows, to wit: Beginning at a stone on the north of the house of Jno. Ellis Long, on the road by the house of Mumford Bateman, running thence with the road to the W. N. C. R. R. lands, and on the same by the lands of Mrs. Edna Long, containing 40 acres, more or less.

E. J. GRAY AND H. W. LILLY, Mortgagees.

CHAS. F. MCLEAN, Attorney.

Dec. 31, 1891.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, County of Chatham. In the Superior Court. M. C. McIver, &c., Plaintiffs, vs. David McIver, &c., Defendants.

Affidavit.

David McIver and others, Defendants.

This is a special proceeding instituted in the above entitled cause for the sale and settlement of the real estate mentioned in the complaint, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the undersigned, as Clerk of the Superior Court of said county, that William McIver and the heirs of Neill McIver, deceased, whose names are known, are necessary parties as heirs of the said Neill McIver, deceased, and are non-residents of this State, and cannot after due diligence be found within the same, so that the ordinary process of law may be served upon them, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court of the said county, at Pittsboro', N. C., on the 9th day of December, 1891, that said non-residents have failed to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said county, at Pittsboro', N. C., on the 9th day of December, 1891, and answer or demur to the complaint in this cause, or the relief demanded therein will be granted.

S. M. BOLT, C. S. C.

M. A. L. SIMS, Attorney.

Dec. 10-4t pd. $3.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1892,

and continue twenty weeks.

The rate of Tuition will be put very low, ranging from one to two dollars per month.

The Managers congratulate themselves and the community on having secured the services of two such thoroughly competent and enthusiastic teachers, and good disciplinarians.

Pupils will have the option of a thorough course in Physical Culture without extra charge.

A. H. MERRITT, Clerk Managers.

Jan. 7, 1892. 4t.

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