The Chatham Record

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With this issue the RECORD celebrates its fifteenth anniversary and begins its sixteenth volume. While fifteen years may not be considered a very long time in a man's life, yet it is far above the average lifetime of a North Carolina newspaper under one management. Indeed there are only three other papers in this State that have had the same editors for that length of time. And although North Carolina has been truly termed a graveyard for newspapers, yet that fact does not deter adventurous persons from attempting to establish other papers as fast as they die out.

The RECORD was established fifteen years ago by its present editor and proprietor, because the great county of Chatham had no paper and needed one, and nobody else would venture on so hazardous an undertaking. Ever since its establishment the RECORD's success has been phenominal among North Carolina newspapers, and its success is the more remarkable in view of the fact that every other paper established in this county has ceased to exist. Yes, since the RECORD was established no other papers have been published in this county and not one of them now exists. One paper in a county is generally sufficient and when two or more are published they attempt to cut each other's throat and none of them meet with much success. A newspaper even without competition lacks a great deal of being a money making machine.

The RECORD has no new promises to make, but will strive in the future as in the past to deserve success. It will continue to do all it can to promote the prosperity of all the people without regard to their politics, religion or race, with charity towards all and malice towards none—not even towards some of its former friends who are now so unjustly abusing it for advocating the very same principles for which they once praised it!

THE House of Representatives, on last Monday, by a vote of 240 ayes to 110 noes, passed the Wilson bill repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman act. Every amendment was voted down by large majorities. The first amendment offered by Mr. Bland for free coinage of silver was defeated by a vote of 225 nays to 120 yeas. The second vote was on the amendment making the ratio 17 to 1, which was defeated. Then a vote was taken on the amendment making the ratio 18 to 1, and this was defeated. The next vote was on the amendment making the ratio 19 to 1, and this being defeated, the last amendment making the ratio 20 to 1 was defeated by a vote of 119 yeas and 232 nays. All the North Carolina Representatives, except Settle, voted for every amendment but after the amendments were all defeated Mr. Bunn voted for the Wilson bill, while our other Representatives voted against it. After the defeat of the first amendment the Populist Representatives refrained from voting. The very large majority (130 votes) in favor of the Wilson bill surprised both its friends and foes, and is very significant. Northern democrats and republicans voted almost solidly for it, while Southern democrats were much divided and all the members from the siver states voted against it.

The Wilson bill having been passed by the House is now pending in the Senate, and its passage by that body is very doubtful. As a substitute for it the Senate will probably pass the Voorhees bill, which, while repealing the Sherman act declares for bi-metallism. Many Congressmen, who favor free coinage of silver voted for the repeal of the Sherman act because it blocked the way to free bi-metallic coinage. Senator Hill, in his able speech last Friday, very pointedly explained this, and, in giving his reasons for repealing the Sherman act, said, "It does not provide for the free coinage of silver: it provides only for a limited and restricted coinage of that metal. It provides for the purchase of silver bullion: it treats silver as a *commodity*. It directs the *purchase* of silver, instead of providing for the *free coinage* of silver. Purchase means price, price means commodity, and the treatment of silver as a commodity means its derogation from its intrinsic rank as a money metal." And therefore because Senator Hill is for free coinage of silver he favors the unconditional repeal of the Sherman act which treats silver as a mere commodity and not as money metal.

SYMPATHY with the sick and suffering is a characteristic of the human race that distinguishes it from brutish beasts. And whenever that dreaded pestilence, yellow fever, afflicts any part of the South the sympathy of the whole country is aroused, and liberal contributions for the relief of its victims are sent from every portion of the United States. In view of this fact it seems so strange—so monstrous—so utterly unnatural—that any human being, any Southern newspaper, should withhold this sympathy from the suffering victims of the yellow fever that has recently appeared in Georgia. Instead of sympathizing with them, the *Progressive Farmer*, in its issue of this week, editorially says, "After so much election roguery in Georgia it is not surprising that the State should be scourged with yellow fever."

Could partisan malice and political bitterness more completely suppress the commonest instincts of the human heart? The idea of gloating with such ghoulish glee over the dying victims of yellow fever in a sister Southern State! And this too from one of the so called "REFORM" Press!

Oh! shame where is thy Blush?

THE CHEERIEST thing that we hear nowadays is the complaints made by republicans and populists (who generally constitute publishers) that democrats are done praising for the relief of the people. Complaints from such a source are decidedly severe—sufficient to bring a blush to the cheek of a government mule. We say such complaints from republicans are cheery because they brought on all the troubles from which the country is now suffering. And such complaints from the populists are cheery because their success would only compound those troubles or make them worse, by restoring the republicans to power.

Yes, it is generally conceded that our present troubles are the result of over thirty years of republican rule, and yet some people are so unreasonable as to complain that democrats do not relieve all these troubles in less than thirty days!

The Panic Is World Wide.

One of the most distinguished members of Congress is Hon. Henry G. Turner, now of Georgia but a native of this State. From a speech delivered by him last week we copy the following extract:

"Mr. Speaker, we have assembled here under extraordinary conditions. The people are starving in the midst of plenty. Ever since the year 1873 the country has been afflicted by a series of financial panics, each one more severe than its predecessor, and each one more disastrous to the business and prosperity of the people. Every one of these panics has been followed by a period of depression, more or less severe, and each succeeding depression has been more severe than the preceding one. Every industry is prostrated. What are the causes which have led to this state of depression? In Chile it is attributed to the last consequences of the late civil conflict. In Buenos Ayres hard times are supposed to result from undue inflation under certain forms of credit. In Brazil hard times exist in consequence of the overthrow of a royal and ill-considered revolution followed by extravagance.

In France the pressure of hard times is felt in consequence of the collapse of that great enterprise, the Panama Canal. In contrast France the hard pressure of adversity is pushing along with famine and pestilence. In England there is a vacuum created by the extraordinary failure of the Baring Brothers. And when we reach our own shores conditions exist which every one admits indicate the greatest distress.

Mr. Speaker, no single one of these causes brought about the conditions throughout the world and made hard times encompass all mankind like a new plague and pestilence.

It is because all the currents of financial ebb, under the irresistible law of panic, have united their forces, sweeping every shore and engulfing all the people. The mere repeal of the Sherman act, on the other hand, the free and unlimited coinage of silver at any ratio, will not in my opinion completely and at once eliminate these hard conditions. We can do our part towards the restoration of confidence, but I infer from my study of our situation there is necessary, on the part of the people, and on the part of the bankers, not only a great deal of patience, but a little patriotism. But I believe that the country will slowly emerge from this storm and enter on a new era of prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I am one of those who believe that for every emergency the genius of our public men will in some way or other be competent. I have no epithets today for those who differ with me. I have no denunciations for those who devised this mischief. But, as a citizen, desiring not only the welfare of my party, and its unimpaired adequacy to the great tasks which lie before it, but as a citizen desiring the prosperity of our common country, I ask that we shall meet together in a spirit of concession and forbearance, and, like men, settle these difficulties as become us. [Applause.]"

A man was killed by the train near Durham, last Sunday.

Springer's Speech.

One of the most prominent members of Congress is Hon. W. M. Springer, of Illinois, and whatever he says is entitled to serious consideration. For that reason we copy the following extract from his speech, delivered last week on the all absorbing silver question:

"I attribute the actual condition which now exists in the country to three controlling and fundamental causes. First—The tariff legislation since the war, the protective tariff laws, which are imposing enormous burdens upon the people of the country to protect favorite interests. There has been overproduction by the unnatural stimulants there has been overborrowing, overtrading, overdrafting and thus inevitable disaster. The second cause, in my judgment, for the present financial condition is found in the demonetization of silver in 1873. And the third cause, the authority given by the Sherman act to purchase 54,000,000 ounces of silver each month and issue Treasury notes therefor, which Treasury notes under the ruling of the Treasury Department, were redeemable in gold. So all other obligations of the Government were referred to in the Treasury notes. Now, I have been called together by the President, in extraordinary session, for the sole purpose of the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act. Shall we answer the call which necessarily brings us here? Shall we answer the call of the President of the United States, who is the representative of the people, and upon which we have been called together? Shall we answer the call of a large majority of the people of the United States, as expressed in the platform of the national convention of the Democratic party, and as expressed in the platform of the Democratic party in the State of Illinois? Shall we answer the call of a majority of the Democratic members of the House of Representatives, as expressed in the caucus of last night? Shall we answer the call of a majority of the Democratic members of the Senate, and the President of the United States will unite in making? And the promises that we made to the people upon which we were elected? Upon the question