

The Reporter.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE IN DANBURY, AS SECOND CLASS MATTER

PEPPER & SONS, Pubs. and Proprs.

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1881.

DANGERS OF EXCESSIVE WEALTH.

It must be apparent to an observing man that there is a strong tendency at the present time for the government to drift into the hands of the wealthy.—An exchange states, and, we think, with some near approach to truth, that "our country is governed to-day, not by State Legislatures and National congress, but by the men behind the scenes, by Van derbilt, Jay Gould, Tom Scott, Astor and others, who have hoarded up and control excessive wealth. The history of the past proves that the excessively wealthy have always devised expedients to preserve perpetually in the hands of their class a controlling influence in all legislation. The State bends to the will of the few, and though a Republic in name, it becomes an absolute monarchy in reality. Every man should be protected in the ownership of wealth honestly acquired, but no man has a right to wring wealth from the enslaving or starving his fellow creatures. The wealthy men of to-day have been more or less in contact with their fellow men, but the next generation who have merely inherited wealth, will be a class apart, having nothing in common with the people. Wealth hoarded means a nation impoverished.

We learn from the *Charlotte Observer* that on Sunday sixty-nine German immigrants arrived in Salisbury, and are expected to become a permanent part of the population of Rowan county. The party was composed of 24 men, 14 women and 31 children aged from two months up to twenty years old. They are German Polanders, and are brought to the State under the auspices of Col. A. Pope, State Commissioner of Immigration. This party were mostly farmers, but it is understood that a car load of carpenters, masons, &c., are to follow.

The machinery law, passed by the late General Assembly, for the collection of taxes, creates a change in the manner of selling property levied on for non payment of taxes. The present law authorizes the sheriff to bid on the property for the county unless there be individual bidders. Formerly the property in such cases was bid off for the State. As the county is made responsible for the amount due the State, it is not reasonable to expect that property owners can be shown as much leniency as formerly.

The deadlock at last is broken, and, after two months of fruitless struggle, the Radicals have thrown up their hands and have surrendered. The humiliation of this defeat they might have avoided had they not insisted on maintaining a position to which they are not entitled. Less than half of the Senate is not a majority; if so there must be two majorities, and it takes little Mahone throws in to make the Radicals equal in number to the Democrats. Their purchase of that bursute individual has, therefore, failed to bring them the ease and comfort they anticipated; but, on the contrary, has brought themselves and their party into disgrace and disrepute among all honest men. It has also resulted in giving backbone to the Democrats, who are much elated at their success, and who are strengthened by their victory. Now, then, let us hear no more of corrupt bargains in the Senate chamber, but let all such bargains as this which has been defeated be held up to the scorn and detestation of the country.

We congratulate the Democratic Senators upon their well-merited success in this long struggle, and trust that they will always hereafter have the nerve to denounce such alliances as Mahone made in as plain terms as in this in stance.—*Raleigh News-Observer.*

The passage of the Liquor law by the Commissioners of Dare County, some three years ago, has worked well. We quote the following:

"Not a drop of spirits of any kind is now sold in the county, not even brandy peaches, except at Nag's Head hotel during the summer season, where they are allowed to sell to the guests of the hotel only. All the old soakers have left Dare county, and if it was left to a vote of the people of the county, not one out of ten would vote to reestablish the selling of liquor here.

"Last Court, the docket only occupied the attention of the Judge and jury about half a day, and the prospect is that the next Judge who visits us will find a clear docket. The jail has not had an occupant for lo! these many days."

The dead-lock in the Senate has been broken, by the republicans backing down. They backed down, no doubt, because they found that they were losing ground all over the country.

North Carolina Minerals.

A respected correspondent, a native of Norfolk, and now in charge of one of the most valuable mining interests of the United States, sends us the annexed information in reference to North Carolina. As the facts he gives us have not before been published, they will furnish our readers some idea of the richness of our neighboring State in mineral deposits. He says:

North Carolina is famous for its gold mining and to a few persons is known to produce very fine iron, but not in large quantity as yet. But it is the very home of mica, which is almost entirely consumed in doors for illuminated stoves. Of this article of mica, the United States consumes about 73,000 pounds annually, of which 58,000 pounds are produced in North Carolina, 11,000 pounds in New Hampshire and 4,000 are imported—mostly from the Russian mines in the Urals. And of the 58,000 pounds produced in North Carolina, about 32,000 pounds are from the Clarissa Mine in Mitchell county. The district thereabout is exceedingly rich in mica deposits, but they do not appear to have been very well investigated as yet.

The only corundum mine in the United States, and the only good one known to exist in the world, is in Macon county, ten miles east of Franklin village. Its products are hauled sixty miles by bad roads, and over five mountain ranges to rail, whence it is shipped to Chester, Massachusetts, to be ground and prepared for trade. It is the hardest of known substances, except the diamond, and is now quite largely used in trade in place of emery. Made into wheels, it is used for grinding steel articles, and for this use it is unexcelled. There are, of course, many other purposes of grinding and polishing to which it is applied. When corundum is crystallized and colored blue, it is the gem sapphire; and when red, it is the ruby. These gems are continually being found in the mine, and some of them are sufficiently brilliant for the jeweler's use.

But the finest gem produced in the State, or indeed in the United States, is a magnificent emerald, mined near Stony Point, in Alexander county. It is a variety of spodumene, and to science is the new mineral Hiddenite. The cut stones sell in the New York market for \$100 per karat and upwards, or at about the price of diamonds.

Western North Carolina is next to worthless for most purposes of agriculture, because of its mountains. But its mineral wealth is certainly most important.—*Norfolk (Va.) Ledger.*

About Postal Cards.

The following order declaring postal cards unmailable with anything but the direction on the address side was issued at the Post-office Department lately: "After June 1, 1881, no printing or writing is permitted upon the address side of cards except that imparted there at the manufactory, and such as may be necessary for the proper direction of the same. All postal cards bearing any other writing or printing upon the address side are declared unmailable and must be returned to the sender by the postmaster at the office where they are mailed. Such cards may be treated as 'spoiled' and redeemed by any postmaster upon application of the holder, as prescribed in section 171, postal laws and regulations, 1879. Future supplies of postal cards will be printed on the address side with the words 'nothing but the address can be placed on this side.'"

Prof R. A. Ledoux, late Chemist at the State Fertilizer Station in Chapel Hill, but now a resident of New York, writes to the *Raleigh Observer* as follows:

"I cannot tell you with what interest I read the North Carolina papers, nor how pleased I am with the signs of prosperity in the State where so recently I had my home. This prosperity I can more easily discern from my present position outside than when I was actually in North Carolina. Inquiries at our office are becoming more and more frequent for advice as to Southern mines, water powers, timbers, &c., and several parties have been quietly prospecting in your State at my suggestion. One company alone having a paid up capital of \$2,000,000, have sent their agent to consult me, and desire to invest it all in North Carolina mines."

In nine cases out of ten, says an exchange, summer complaints can be checked, if taken in season, by wearing flannel over the region of the bowels. Until the British army in India was compelled to wear flannel during the entire hot season it was constantly reduced by diarrhea. Diet is far more potent than medicine in curing this disorder, and when duly assisted by flannel and enforced quiet rarely fails to cure if used promptly. Flannel should be worn by night as well as by day.

The Midland Extension.

A special dispatch to the *Baltimore Sun*, from Augusta, Ga., dated May 2nd, gives an account of Mr. Barbour's trip to Georgia and South Carolina. We make the following extract from it:

"Last night Mr. Barbour and party and the parties from South Carolina were invited to a meeting of prominent citizens held in the hall of the city council. Mr. May, mayor of the city, was called to the chair, and J. L. Maxwell elected secretary. Mr. Verdery, president of the Augusta and Knoxville Railroad, introduced Mr. Barbour to the meeting. Mr. Barbour stated the object of his visit to Augusta, and explained fully the plans and purposes of the proposed trunk line to be built by the North Carolina Midland, with the assistance of the Virginia Midland and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroads, provided material aid was given by the sections of country through which the line would pass.

Mr. Barbour also added that with the material aid proffered along the line, he felt warranted in offering to build the proposed line to Spartanburg, S. C., if the people of Augusta and of the section along the line would meet him at Spartanburg with the road from Augusta to T. S. Farrow, of Spartanburg, S. C., being called upon, said in behalf of the people of Spartanburg and other points on the line in South Carolina, that he would accept Mr. Barbour's proposition, pledging the people of that section to contribute their proportion of aid; that Spartanburg and Laurens counties would give \$750,000 each. With the help of Greenwood and Augusta the road could and would be built from Augusta to Spartanburg to meet Mr. Barbour at that point.

Speeches were also made by Mr. P. Walsh, of Augusta; Major J. Turner Moorehead, of North Carolina; ex-Mayor Estes, of Augusta; Hon. J. H. Erwin, of Spartanburg, S. C.; Mr. E. E. Verdery, president of Augusta and Knoxville road, and Hon. J. C. Maxwell, of Greenwood, S. C.; all favoring the proposition and pledging their respective sections to meet at Spartanburg.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. J. W. Wallace, and was unanimously adopted with great enthusiasm: "Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that the Augusta and Knoxville Railroad be extended to Spartanburg at the earliest possible moment to meet the North Carolina Midland road at that point."

This action here is regarded as settling definitely the location of the proposed road at this end of the line, from Augusta via Greenwood and Laurensville to Spartanburg, S. C., which can be built within the next twelve months. The early building of the whole line is now regarded by the friends of the enterprise as an accomplished fact, and that it can be completed and in operation in eighteen months."

DEJARNETTE AGAIN.—The editor of the *Danville, Va., Times* wrote to Dr. Grissom about DeJarnette's condition. This is the reply he received:

Dear Sir.—Your esteemed favor to hand. DeJarnette is under treatment here and is unquestionably of unsound mind. I am preparing a report of the case for the medical public that will, I think, convince every reader with capacity enough to appreciate, and honesty enough to acknowledge the truth when presented. Respectfully yours, EUGENE GRISSOM.

ENTERPRISING CONVICTS.—The discovery of a quantity of counterfeit silver on the person of one of the guards at the South Carolina penitentiary, which is located at Columbia, a few days ago, led to the further discovery that the coining of counterfeit one dollar and quarter dollar pieces was being conducted in a systematic manner by a number of the convicts. Two dies, made of plaster of Paris, were captured, and a third one was thrown in the canal by a convict. These enterprising convicts had formed a plan to make their escape from the prison on the first day of May by overpowering the guard and seizing their guns, and the base silver which they had coined was doubtless intended for the purchase of supplies on their retreat, when it was not convenient to steal them.

A woman in a Kansas Pacific Railroad car sat facing a man who, with one eye at least, seemed to be staring fixedly at her. She became indignant and said: "Why do you look at me, sir?" He said that he was not aware of having done so, but she insisted. "I beg your pardon, madam, but it's this eye, is it not?" lifting his finger to his left eye. "Yes, sir, it's 'that eye.'"—"Well, Madam, that eye won't do you any harm. It's a glass eye, Madam—only a glass eye. I hope you'll excuse it. But upon my soul I am not surprised that a glass eye should feel interested in so pretty a woman." The explanation and the compliment combined to put the woman in good humor.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has entered into an arrangement with the Virginia Midland and North Carolina Midland Railroad Companies whereby it agrees to assist in the building of an independent line from Danville, Va., to Augusta, Georgia.

The Postmaster General announces that all of the Star route mail contracts are to be investigated.

EDITORS REPORTER:—What good man or woman is there in our country who can favor whiskey as at present used and as at present adulterated? I do not mean to say that the manufacturer is guilty of drugging his whisky, but it is said that a certain party near Danbury has been seen to drug it so as to make three gallons out of one, and I would warn men to be careful how they buy whisky about the place, or neighborhood, or they might get a dram from near the bottom of the jug, and thereby get the poisonous drugs used in the adulteration of the stuff. Better not drink when you come to town unless you can bring some pure whisky with you. Better not run the risk of buying from the secret jugs about Danbury—All that is sold about here is sold on the sly, and consequently no one of reputation or good morals will sell it contrary to law, and when you buy from disreputable characters you may expect to be drugged and poisoned. It is time that good men were taking hold of those who violate the laws so openly and defiantly, as they are violated in and around our county-seat. We owe it to ourselves, our good wives and children first, and then to society. If a check is not put to it in some way, where will it end?—How can our children withstand the temptation, so as to keep from becoming drunkards themselves? Shall we submit to this state of things, because some one of you says you would be interfering with some one, and prevent them from making a little money? We ought to think more of our wives and children than any one else. There is another class of persons called "walking grog-shops," who are being watched closely. They are more dangerous than others who have a place of selling, for they are always ready to deal out to all, both old and young, and by just means drunkards are made of our children. Fathers, mothers, will you not act now, or will you put it off and suffer your sons to be made drunkards, and in after years, when all the horrors of drunkenness and debauchery shall be upon them, let them rise up and say to you, "Father, you might have prevented this by timely action on your part; by putting the law in force against those secret night shops, and walking grog shops in and around Danbury; but it is too late now—a drunkard's grave is my only inheritance here, and a drunkard's hell hereafter." Fathers, mothers, how will you then feel? Think, reflect, act now, and perhaps our children may be saved. At least, we will a conscience telling us that we have discharged our duty in the premises, and in conclusion we would say the men, both young and old, who drink whisky, think for a moment what you are doing. If you have a mother, go and ask her what you ought to do about it, then follow her advice, and if your good mother is dead, ask your good wife or your good sister, as the case may be, what you ought to do, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred their advice will be right and safe for you to follow. Think of these things; stop, stop and think. A SON.

Observation: The sasseyst men I ever met is a hen peck husband when he is away from home. An enthusiast is an individual who believes about four times as much as he can prove, and he can prove about four times as much as anybody ain't worth a cent. Those people who are trying to get to heaven on their knees will find out at last that they didn't hev a thru ticket. Too long courtship are not always judicious; the party often tire out scorning before the trot begins.—*Josh Billings.*

If it were possible to run a locomotive twelve miles a minute, its approach, no matter how great its noise, would be absolutely noiseless; to ring a bell or sound whistle of warning would be useless, for the reason that the engine would be travelling as fast as the sound which it produced.

The Republican party should be proud of the "fidelity to principals" of their representatives in the last legislature. One was saved through a technicality from expulsion for forgery, and another arrested on a charge of stealing, another found congenial accommodations in the city lock-up, and now another, Munden, has stolen his neighbors pretty wife and her husband's money and decamped.

A Losing Joke.

A prominent physician of Pittsburgh said jokingly to a lady patient who was complaining of her continued ill health, and of his inability to cure her, "try Hop Bitters!" The lady took it in earnest and used the Bitters, from which she obtained permanent health. She now laughs at the doctor for his joke, but he is not so well pleased with it, as it cost him a good patient.—*Harrisburgh Patriot.*

Gardener Jackson, a brother of the Governor of West Virginia, is in the Wheeling poor house, a small-pox patient.

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