

The Reporter.
 ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE IN DANBURY, AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.
 PEPPER & SONS, Pubs. and Proprs.
 THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1881.
 COMBINATIONS.

We called attention to this subject in a former number of the REPORTER, but as we think it a very important subject, and one in which the people of the county are very materially interested, hope we will be excused for again referring to it.

Look where we will, at men engaged in the different trades, callings, or professions, in the pursuit of health, happiness or money making. We find that in almost every occupation, followed by mechanics, tradesmen and professionalists, combinations formed among themselves for their own protection and benefit. There are combinations in the manufacture of almost every article we can think of; mechanics form combinations to increase their wages; doctors have established rates of charges per mile, agreed upon among themselves; lawyers have certain fixed fees, by which they will drain the pockets of their unfortunate clients; and so on through the whole list. But the poor old farmer, the stay, the miaspring, the foundation of the whole concern, goes plodding on alone, doing the drudgery for all, and while the others are all really dependent upon him, so acts as to be dependent upon every body else. He sweats and delves away, complaining of his hard lot, merely eking out a meagre existence, while others sitting back in the shade, are making fortunes off his labor. He single handed and alone, is battling with the scores of combinations, whose business it is to fix prices for him, and reap the reward of his labor. Who is to blame for this state of things? We answer the farmer, he has no one to blame but himself. Here in this country he stakes all on a crop of tobacco; further south on a crop of cotton, and what is the result, the little money he gets for his crop must go to the merchant for western bacon, or flour, or for northern clothing, with the profits too, probably three or four middle men, added to the exorbitant price paid in the first place to some heavy monopoly, while his sugar, coffee, and all other necessities as well as luxuries, costs him 20 to 40 per cent. more than they should. If, like others he would form combinations that would enable him to govern prices. And what of the farmers products, well he is in such a fix that he must take just such prices as these monopolies and rings in other trades choose to give him. Take the article of leaf tobacco, our great staple, and the only money crop we have, the farmer is completely at the mercy of the manufacturing railroad towns; one says no; if my tobacco does not bring the price that I want for it I will hold it over. Well, what advantage will that be, suppose you do hold it over, one, two or three years, when you do sell you must haul it away to some railroad town, or city, there is nobody else to buy, and you must take just whatever you can get for it. What then, is to be done? In the first place raise more bread and meat, and less cotton and tobacco, let the farmers of the south form combinations, build cotton factories, spin and weave their own cotton, erect factories all over the country, and manufacture their own tobacco, put their mines together, and buy their groceries at wholesale in large quantities, hire some one to sell them to share holders, or any body else, and then when they go to the store to buy five or ten pounds of sugar or coffee for their family use, they pay a per cent on it, but not to the village merchant, they pay the per cent to themselves. Thus, they have the use of their money as they need it, and at the same time get interest on it. For instance, you put \$25 00 in a combination of this kind, you do not need that amount in groceries at one time, you go to your own store, (for you have an interest in it) and buy what you need, you pay 10 to 25 per cent on what you get, you would have this to pay if the goods were bought of a merchant, but in that case you would pay the per cent to him, while in this case, you pay it to your self. Fifty farmers putting in \$100 00 each, gives a capital stock of \$5,000, 20 per cent on this is \$1,000, then suppose you turn your stock four times in the year, you have a profit of \$4,000, allowing \$1,000 for clerk hire, house rent, &c., and we have a net profit of \$3,000; is it not better to keep that amount of money in the neighborhood, among the farmers, than to send it away never to be seen again. We only make these suggestions, hoping that they may be improved and acted upon. We are with and among the farmers of this country, and his interest is ours.

SAD.
 It falls to our lot this week to chronicle another of those diabolical acts, which have become too common in this county. Another of our best citizens shot to death in the discharge of his duty. The circumstances are these:

Last Wednesday evening deputy sheriff Estes, son of the sheriff, summoned a posse of the citizens in and around Danbury, for what purpose, no one knew—but everything being in readiness, Estes and his posse being joined by deputy sheriff Baker and a posse that he had summoned on the south side of the mountain; the two deputies accompanied by men left Danbury about 11 o'clock at night, after traveling most of the remainder of the night, drew up just at day break around the house of Mr. J. P. Smith, in the northern part of the county. The object being to arrest one or two of his sons. Deputy Baker was stationed a short distance from the house, when deputy Estes went into the house, aroused the family, made known his business; but one of the boys, Jesse Smith was at the house, he soon passed out the back door accompanied by some of the female members of the family, going along a pass way between the house and kitchen, jumped off and ran, some of the men halted him but he paid no attention to them until he came to Mr. F. J. Baker, who was standing within a few feet of the path along which he was running, when within a few feet of Baker without making any halt he fired a pistol carrying about a No. 40 ball, the ball striking Mr. Baker near the point of the hip bone, ranged down, passed through his abdomen, came out just above the groin, entered the thigh, passed around the bone and lodged just under the skin. Mr. Baker fell as soon as shot, when the men gathered around him, only to witness his suffering without being able to give any relief. He lived about five hours in the greatest agony, when death ended his suffering.

Thus passed away one of Stokes counties best and most useful men. Mr. Baker leaves a wife and nine children, all small, to mourn his loss. Many were the tears of real sympathy dropped by his numerous friends when the sad intelligence reached them, "Frank is dead!" We have known Frank Baker from boyhood, never knew him to commit a mean act, but found him ever on the side of right and justice. In the war he was a good soldier, an entire stranger to fear and was well beloved by his companions in arms. But, alas! poor Frank is gone. May He who "tempers the wind to the shorn lambs," deal gently with his widow and little orphan children.

Comment on this case appears useless, it has been but a few weeks since we gave our views as to the manner in which the law was executed in Stokes, and believe now that this case is the result of letting men off by paying costs, and something like a double fee to prosecuting officers, when they had committed the most diabolical crimes, and for which they should have received the severest punishment. There are four murderers at large from this county, each of whom have shot his man dead, and as many more desperate characters whose deeds would entitle them to the epithet of first class out laws. We have only to add, that if the law in Stokes is not more faithfully executed, the time is not far distant when we may expect to be overrun by a band of outlaws more desperate than the Henry Berr Lowery clan.

Press Association.
 The People's Press says: At a meeting held in the Court-house for the purpose of making arrangements for the entertainment of the members of the N. C. Press Association, the following gentlemen were appointed Committees to make all necessary arrangements for the occasion:

From Winston—S. H. Smith, Chairman; Dr. R. T. Gray, J. T. Brown, G. W. Hinshaw and M. W. Norfleet.
 From Salem—Rev. T. J. Zorn, II. Fries, Jr. and Eugene A. Ebert.

Committee of reception, who will provide homes for the visiting members: From Winston—Col. A. B. Gorrell, Chairman; C. B. Watson, James A. Robinson—From Salem—Capt. J. W. Goslin, Dr. J. F. Shaffer.

Apleton & Co., of New York, have shipped five hundred sets of Jefferson Davis' "Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government" to Messrs Longmans, Green & Co. As soon as they reach London their arrival will be cable to the New York publishers, who will then issue the work here. In the meantime Mr. Davis leaves his plantation in Mississippi, for a trip to Canada, that he may be on her Majesty's soil the day his book is brought out in England. This is in order to secure the English copy right.

Worth Considering.
 The present high price of bacon and pork suggests the question whether we are likely to see these articles of food fall back to the low prices which prevailed a few years ago. The present high price is not due to the foreign demand. The governments of Europe have legislated against the introduction of the hog products of America, and the public press there has contributed to the prejudice which has influenced the action of the governments. The immense home consumption is the cause of the present high price of hog meats. The prejudice now prevailing in Europe against American meat will soon pass away. And then with transportation cheap and annually growing cheaper Europe will demand more and more of American meat. Besides this, the influx of immigrants into this country is now greater than at any former period, and the country is developing rapidly. All these circumstances point to a sustained market—still higher price for hog products.

Meantime the South has become dependent on the Northwest for bacon and lard, and the cotton crop is relied on to furnish the means for footing the bills. Now it seems to be admitted that the supply of cotton is likely to be greater than the demand. There is a prospect that 7,500,000 bales will be produced this year. This overproduction will, we fear, exert a depressing influence on the market. What then is the policy of the cotton planters? It seems to us that prudence dictates that greater attention be bestowed on the production of meat. The effect of such a course will be twofold. It will increase the supply of home made meat, and make the cotton planter more independent. And it will diminish the amount of cotton produced and thereby improve the market. It would, in our opinion, be a safe presumption for the cotton planter to act on, that bacon is to rise high in price hereafter, and that it will be cheaper for him to raise a considerable portion, if not all, the meat required for home consumption, than to buy it.—*Fayetteville Examiner.*

The following is a good showing for New Orleans. The Democrat says she is now not only the second port of export in the country, but is far ahead of all the others except New York. For the month of April the exports of this city exceed those of the three next most important ports—Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia—the difference between the commerce of all of them combined as against this city being only \$2,500,000.

The nomination of Col. Cameron for Governor by the mahone convention is perhaps the strongest they could here make. He is greatly esteemed and is an accomplished gentleman, but the convention which nominated him was half white and half black, and the work of such a convention will not meet with favor with the white voters of Virginia. It is noteworthy that the Mahonites have many harsh things to say against the Democrats, and nothing of course for the Radicals. That tells the whole tale. Mahonism is only another name for Radicalism, and the strength of Radicalism in Virginia has often been tested. The Democrats will triumph hereafter, as before.—*Raleigh News Observer.*

The locust plague is said to be ravaging the whole Chowan section of North Carolina, eating up corn and cotton crops and every kind of vegetation and destroying whole forests of valuable saw mill timber by stripping the bark and depositing their eggs. The injury is said to be vast and incalculable.

Mr. Carmichael, the gentleman who sent the postal to Vance was sent on to the Circuit court at Alexandria. Bail in the sum of \$500 was required, which was readily given. It will be a highly interesting case, and it will give Gen. Mahone some more unenviable notoriety.

We see many notices that the law requires to be published in a newspaper, posted on the bulletin boards at the Court House and at various other places. While there is no money to the printer in such advertising, the law enforces it, and as it is beneficial to those most interested it should be complied with.—*Greenville Express.*

Treasurer Worth has just rendered the following decision, which is of interest to the Sheriffs of the State: Since the ratification of the present machinery act, March 11, 1881, land sold for taxes and bid in by the sheriff must be bid in for the county, and not for the State as formerly.

Mr. Vennor "predicts" a wet June, with frequent severe wind and thunder storms, and probable frosts between the 5th and 10th of the month. He says: "The North waters' are only coming down now, which is an indication of a wet June. The warmest part of June is likely to occur between the 20th and 25th, when the heat may be excessive."

[Muscatine (Iowa.) Daily Journal.]
 Mess. J. R. Bennett & Co., Muskegon, Mich. thus speak: St. Jacobs Oil is the best liniment around here. We sell more of it than of any other proprietary medicine we have in our store. Our customers are continually praising its effective qualities: and we think, that it is the best remedy for rheumatism, neuralgia, etc., we have ever had in stock.

A Merino Ram, crossed on a flock of common sheep, will double the yield of wool though the first cross alone, thus paying for the ram the first season.

Four thousand persons are employed in making spool thread in this Country and 20,000,000 dozen spools are made every year.

It is stated that all the gold in circulation throughout the world could be put into a cellar twenty four feet square and sixteen feet deep.

The *Patriot* says: Guilford county jail has 17 prisoners, all convicted, save one; awaiting transportation to the Penitentiary at Auburn, New York.

The chickens and hogs are dying at a rapid rate in Guilford county, one gentleman lost 10 chickens in one day—Is it not dangerous to eat them?—*Greensboro Patriot.*

It is suggested that the admirers of Henry Clay should have his statue placed in the old House of Representatives at Washington. Clay was the best beloved of all public characters.

No success in life can be so desirable that man can afford to sell his integrity for it; no wealth, be it untold millions, can make up to a man what he loses if he gives up a quiet conscience to gain it.

At the Michigan College oats are sown early in August, between the rows of raspberries. The oats present a better appearance than weeds, serve as a mulch in winter and in the spring leave the ground quite clean.

A correspondent writing from Bruce's Cross Roads, in Guilford county, May 23th, says: "We have had no rain in this section for six weeks. Crops are suffering greatly. I am told that our State Legislature passed a special act making it unlawful for rain to fall within three miles of this point until after the 1st Thursday in August—Is it true?"—*Greensboro Patriot.*

WOMAN'S WISDOM.—"She insists that it is more important that her family shall be kept in full health than that she should have all the fashionable dresses and styles of the times. She therefore sees to it, that each member of her family is supplied with enough Hop Bitters, at the first appearance of any symptoms of any ill health, to prevent a fit of sickness with its attendant expense, care and anxiety. All women should exercise their wisdom in this way."—*New Haven Palladium.*

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