

THE DANBURY REPORTER-POST.

VOLUME XVII.

DANBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1888.

NO. 14

Receives and Post Published Weekly at DANBURY, N. C.

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POETRY

BELIEVE IN MAN.

JOHN JAMES MILLER.

Believe in man, nor turn away.

Lo! man advances year by year;

Time bears him upward, and his sphere

Of life must broaden day by day.

Believe in man with large belief;

The greatest good is done through him;

That promise, grand and full, prime

For all the empire's chaff and sheaf.

Believe in man with proud belief;

'Tis his the battle of her will.

And when the thief poses down, the thief

Peeps back at him, perpetual.

Faith not that this or that man fell:

For one that falls a thousand rise.

To life white regains to the skies;

Each keeps the bottom of his well.

Fear not for man, nor cease to strive

For cool sweet truth with large belief.

Lo! Christ Himself, these only twelve,

Yet one of these turned out a thief.

AN UNDERGROUND RIVER

News has been received that a great

sensation prevails at Whiteville, the

county seat of Columbus, over the dis-

covery of an underground river. What

is claimed to be the roaring and rush of

water, which can be plainly heard and

hundreds of people are visiting the spot.

When in the vicinity of the supposed

stream, it can be plainly heard, but

when a person lies flat upon the ground,

the phenomena becomes really alarming.

The sound indicates that the water is

not any great distance down, and that it

is not a small stream but a majestic riv-

er that is coursing its way unseen in the

bowels of the earth on its way to the sea.

Vehicles passing the ground where the

phenomenon exists, create a hollow echo,

and from below a "cl" earth in the vic-

inity for a great distance around seems

to be cavernous, judging from the

rumor that follows sharp rattle. The

Whiteville people are possessed of a

very morbid curiosity.—Atlanta Con-

stitution.

SENSIBLE COUNSELS.

Persons against discouragement.

Keep your temper. Enjoy leisure in

study, and always have some work on

hand. Be prompt and methodical in

business, and never procrastinate. Never

be in a hurry. Preserve self pos-

session, and do not be talked out of con-

clusion. Rise early, and be an econom-

ist of time. Maintain dignity without

the appearance of pride; manner is some-

thing with everybody, and everything

with some. Be guarded in discourse,

attentive and slow to speak. Never ac-

quiesce in laudatory or perfunctory op-

inions. Be not forward to assign reasons

to those who have no right to ask. Think

nothing in common unimportant or in-

different. Practice strict temperance,

and in your transactions remember the

final account.—M. H. DeLoan.

THE CRITERION OF CHARACT-

TER.

The truest criterion of a man's char-

RANDOM THOUGHTS.

The Romans called their arry bag-

gage impedita, which literally means

something that impeded them when

marching. Our modern lady does not

find baggage any impediment to her,

judging from the number of Saratoga

trunks, satchels, wraps, umbrellas, pa-

rasols, etc., that form her traveling out-

fit.

Guebres is a term applied by the Mo-

hammadan conquerors of Persia to the

disciples of Zoroaster; they are gener-

ally known by Europeans as fire-wor-

shippers because a reverence for fire

and the sun is inculcated in their wor-

ship, as fire and the sun are emblems of

the glory of the Supreme Deity. We

were told by our friend Dr. Holzman

private secretary of the Princess of

Wales, that he had been informed by

police that there were some of this

sect in London who worshipped fire and

the sun.

We are sorry to say it, but our peo-

ple, according to our mind, have not

generally good voices. The conversational

voice, heard under ordinary circum-

stances, could not lure us on to destruc-

tion as did the siren of mythology. But

there are sweet, bland voices among us,

we all know, and voices perhaps not

peculiar to those who bear them for the

first time, yet sweeter to us than any we

shall hear until we listen to some war-

bling cherubim or seraphim in the pre-

lude to "that eternity of blissful harmo-

nies" we hope by unpromised grace to

enjoy. We seldom hear the voice of a

female that frightens us by its sweetness,

or the voice of a male that strikes us by

its blandness. We did hear a female

voice, however, in the town of Winston

not long since that impressed us by its

sweetness; but we hear such voices

among us at rare intervals.

Our late venerable friend Mr. J. J.

Middle, "a man of singular simplicity

of manner and grace of mind" who in-

terested himself much with letters and

the art of writing, told us he had visited

twenty-one cities in Europe and the

East during the years 1870-72, and

found the coming plant of the mint at

Philadelphia superior to any other.

The acknowledged beauty of the work-

manship and noiseless running of the

engine in the Philadelphia mint has been

perpetuated in history by Oliver Wen-

dell Holmes in his "Autocrat at the

Breakfast Table," in the following

words: "Did you ever happen to see

that most soft-spoken and velvet-hand-

ed steam-engine at the mint? The

smooth piston slides backward and for-

ward as a lady might slip her delicate

finger in and out of a ring. The engine

lays one of its fingers evenly, but firmly,

upon a bit of metal; it is a coin now,

and will remember that touch, and tell

a new race about it, when the date upon

it is crusted over with twenty centuries."

The season has come when as Coler-

idge has sung, "All nature seems a bloss-

oming in furs of red and gold." This

coloration is not caused as commonly

suggested by the action of frost, for the

NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRA-

CY.

PLATFORM OF PARTY ADOPTED IN

STATE CONVENTION AT BAL-

TIEM, MAY, 1888.

We again congratulate the people of

North Carolina on the continued enjoy-

ment of peace, good government and

general prosperity under Democratic

administration of the State which has

now been indubitably for so many years;

upon the just and impartial enforcement

of the law, upon the increasing efficiency

of our common school system, and

the progress made in popular education,

upon the improvement and enterprise

manifested in all parts of the State. We

again challenge a comparison between

the state of things and the outrages,

crimes and scandals which attended Re-

publican ascendancy in our borders. We

pledge ourselves to exert in the future

in the past our best efforts, to pro-

mote the best interests of the people of

all sections of the State. Affirming our

adherence to Democratic principles as

heretofore enunciated in the platforms of

the party, it is hereby

Resolved, That no government has

the right to burden its people with taxes

beyond the amount required to pay its

necessary expenses and gradually exting-

uish its public debt; and that when-

ever the revenues, however derived, ex-

ceed this amount, they should be reduc-

ed, so as to avoid a surplus in the treas-

ury. That any system of taxation which

necessitates the payment of a premium

of \$270 by the government on each \$1,-

000 of its bonds, taken up with the mil-

lions that would otherwise be idle in its

treasury and paid to bondholders who

purchase in many instances, at less

than par, is undemocratic, oppressive

and inequitable and should be reformed.

The course of our Democratic representa-

tatives in Congress, in their efforts to

give relief to the people from burden-

some internal revenue and tariff taxa-

tion, meets with the approval of the

Democratic party of this State, and we

respectfully recommend that it they find

it impossible to give to the people all the

relief they demand, they support any

just and practical measure presented in

Congress that will afford a practical re-

lief from such existing burdens.

Resolved, That while the details of

the methods by which the constitutional

revenue tariff shall be gradually reach-

ed as subjects which the representatives of

our people at the national council

must be trusted to adjust, we think the

custom duties should be levied for the

production of public revenues, and the

discriminations in their adjustment

should be such as will place the highest

rates on luxuries and the lowest on the