

THE DANBURY REPORTER.

VOLUME XXXIII.

DANBURY, N. C., MAY 2, 1907.

No. 13

MR. BUXTON ON THE REID BILL.

Answers Letter From J. C. Flinn, of Pine Hall, and Goes Fully Into the Matter.

Pine Hall, April 19.

Mr. Editor:

Find enclosed a letter that I received from Hon. J. C. Buxton in answer to one I wrote him asking him to explain why he opposed the Reid Bill in the Senate. I, for one, thought Mr. Buxton should have supported the Reid Bill and I wrote him to know why he did not support it. The enclosed is his reply. If you have room, will you please publish.

J. C. FLINN.

Mr. J. C. Flinn,
Pine Hall, N. C. 15-

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter and I thank you for your kind expressions towards me and I am pleased to give you my position on the so-called Reid Bill, on which you say the people of Stokes would like to know my position and why I opposed it in the Senate.

I want to say in the beginning that had I been of the opinion that the passage of this bill would have afforded the tobacco farmers of our State any measure of relief whatever, I should have felt that it would have been my duty, and it certainly would have been my greatest pleasure to have given it my support, or to any other legitimate measure that promised relief and protection to this class of our people, but for reasons which I shall give you, it was and is still my honest and emphatic opinion that any and all such agitation could only result in harm to the best business interests of the State, and the very class in whose interest that bill was claimed to have been introduced would be the very ones on whose shoulders the harm and injury would have fallen the heaviest.

Fourteen years ago Mr. Watson, my law partner, introduced into the lower house of the Legislature a bill similar to the Reid Bill, designed to protect the growers of tobacco from unlawful combinations to keep down the price. At that time the American Tobacco Company was just starting in North Carolina, and none of the smaller manufacturers had gone out of business on account of the danger threatened by having to compete with the trust which had so much money at its command. That bill was defeated, and for 14 years no measure like that has to my knowledge been before the General Assembly. In that length

of time conditions, as you are aware, have changed. The smaller manufacturers have gone out of the tobacco business and the style of selling tobacco has gone with it, a new method of selling the manufactured article has been adopted and a system of redeeming tags by payment of expensive premiums has almost universally been adopted. It would these days be utterly impossible for the manufacturer of twenty years ago to compete with the manufacturers of today in the sale of their goods; and this would be so whether the American Tobacco Company is a buyer on the North Carolina markets or not. The buyers, as well as the sellers, have adopted entirely different methods from those formerly in common use.

Now almost every manufacturer sells through a broker and then furnishes the salesmen to dispose of the manufactured article, while formerly the manufacturer sold his goods direct to the retail dealers.

The position which I take in this matter, and have always taken, is entirely consistent, having had no interest to serve except the interest of the larger class of my fellow citizens, to-wit, the farmers and the producers from the farms.

In 1893, when it was seen that the American Tobacco Company was arising to great power and influence, I aided in trying to get a bill through the Legislature of North Carolina similar to the first section of the bill that was offered by Mr. Reid. My partner, Mr. Watson, then a member of the Legislature, introduced such a bill, and we endeavored to pass it. Then was the time to pass it, for reasons which you fully understand. Then, in 1893 there were a number of independent factories making large amounts of tobacco and having good business estab-

lished in North Carolina. If we could then have driven the American Tobacco Company from the market, we would have aided our own manufacturers, and our market would have been sustained by the strength of the independent manufacturers then existing in North Carolina, so that the movers of the bill then had every reason to hope for its passage.

But what do we find now when Mr. Reid attempts to pass this section of his bill? Independent factories have been swallowed up by the American Tobacco Company. It is practically the only buyer on the market; and now, to have passed a law to drive it from the market in North Carolina, would have had only one effect; to have forced and compelled the farmer of North Carolina to have carried his product to Virginia to sell it; and this is absolutely true, except for that part of his tobacco that speculators would have bought for the purpose of selling it to the American Tobacco Company, and his profits the farmer would have had to pay.

There is no farmer in the State who has studied this question who does not thoroughly understand it as I do. The most prominent farmers in the Legislature, large tobacco raisers, were in hearty sympathy with the views I herein express, and I am sure that the glamor surrounding the Reid Bill, when analyzed by the farmers in North Carolina will be found to be all a politician's bill, and not one for the interest of the people.

But there were bills introduced in the interest of the people, which I sustained; drastic anti-trust bills against the American Tobacco Company and every other trust, and which the Legislature, with my vote, passed, and which are on the statute books of North Carolina to-day.

I am surely obliged to you for writing me, and giving me an opportunity to explain my position to such intelligent a man as yourself. Of course my views upon public questions are entirely public, and should you desire to publish this letter in the Danbury Reporter, or any other newspaper, it will be entirely with my consent. The people will not longer be fooled, they will know the true situation and know their friends; and I do not think they will quickly turn from men who have always been consistent with them, to those so newly found.

I have never represented the American Tobacco Company in any capacity as attorney and the only matter in which I am in any way concerned with them is in a suit in which my firm appears in Rockingham county for Richardson & Co., against the American Tobacco Company, and the introducer of section "A" in the Reid Bill appears as counsel for the American Tobacco Company.

The Anti-Trust law which we passed will in a great measure meet the abuses which we greatly desire to prevent by trusts, and I would be glad for some one to show me wherein the American Tobacco Company is excepted from the provisions of that law. It is a mistake to assume that there was no anti-trust law legislation because the Reid Bill did not pass.

I remain,
Very truly Yours,
J. C. BUXTON.

to be divorced from your appendix. There will be no occasion for it if you keep your bowels regular with Dr. King's New Life Pills. Their action is so gentle that the appendix never has cause to make the least complaint. Guaranteed by all druggists. 25c.

BUGS STILL EATING PLANTS.

Sunday School at Asbury Doing Nicely—Mr. Abb George and Wife Better—Other Notes.

Brim, April 22.—It doesn't seem very much like spring time as the weather continues so cold.

The farmers in this neighborhood are still complaining about the bugs eating their tobacco plants—some are yet resowing their beds. There are but few farmers through planting corn in this section. Wheat looks fine, and it is a good prospect for a good crop.

The Sunday School is progressing nicely at Asbury. May all the young people come out and take an interest in the good work.

Miss Frances Marshall, of Greensboro, who is teaching music at Asbury, is good musician as well as good looking. Some of the boys are already wanting to learn music.

Miss Ida Chilton has a new organ. Guess Mr. M. will go over and help her play.

Miss H. is wearing a two-cent smile this week as Mr. W. J. called Sunday.

Mr. Andy says papa thinks he is handy and mama thinks he is a dandy and thinks he stands a chance yet to go to see Mandy.

Dr. J. J. Leak has sowed his yard grass seed. His residence is already the "beauty" of the country.

Mr. Abb George and wife are on the road to recovery, which we are glad to note.

Misses Claudio and Annie Arrington visited Miss Ida Chilton Sunday.

Miss Annie got struck on Mr. Joe, and says she don't care who knows its so.

Mr. Will calls down on the creek very often. I suppose he is thinking of trotting in double harness in the near future. He says pretty is Miss Net, and very sweet you bet.

Success to the Reporter and all its readers

RED BIRD.

Stop "Pitching Horse Shoes."

King, April 27.—I want to say a few words in regard to that awful play which they call "pitching horse shoes." It grieves my heart so to think every time I walk out to the store and go from one to the other, I have to walk over the devil traps. How sad it is to see those who claim to be Christians engaged in this play with the sinners. People cannot tell them apart only by their names being on the church book. Shame be upon you. Be not deceived. God is not mocked, "for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." People of King, how often you ought to gather your people together and warn them of the danger in which they are going. Sad to think we have to meet God in that great day and give account for how we spend our time here. Let us work for God while it is day "for night cometh when no man can work."

Lay aside your horse shoes and take up your bibles and study them. This play causes much trouble in homes and even causes blood to be shed. Think of this and quit playing that game or any other. God forbid that I should ever be a stumbling block in my people's way. God help me to live so that I can win souls for Christ. Dear friends quit this play in our town.

VIOLET.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

G. W. Cloyd, a merchant of Plunk, Mo., had a narrow escape four years ago, when he ran a Jimson bar into his thumb. He says: "The doctor wanted to amputate it but I would not consent. I bought a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve and that cured the dangerous wound." 25c at all druggists.

SANDY RIDGE ROUTE 1.

Sandy Ridge Route 1, April 29.

Farmers are very busy planting corn this week. Good many complaining about their tobacco plants as the flies are trying to eat the plants.

We are sorry to note the sad death of Mr. and Mrs. Henderson Mabe's little child which was burned to death by water last Thursday. It was buried at North View graveyard Sunday.

Mr. Dell Taylor, of Stoneville, has accepted a position as U. S. guard at Jamestown. He left on Monday the 25th where he expects to remain till the close of the Exposition.

Mr. J. Wesley Morefield had two barrels of sugar carried away from the Madison depot Thursday about dark. The party claimed to the agent that he was going to carry it to Morefield's store in Virginia. The party has not yet been learned and the sugar has not yet arrived.

We are very sorry to learn that Mr. Walter Fry has a very sick baby.

Mrs. J. Wesley Morefield is still on the mend, we are glad to note.

Mr. Fry, who drives Mr. J. Wesley Morefield's team, was on his way from Virginia last week, and while he was out walking he discovered a smoke and ran to see and found his goods on fire. He says it must have caught from the heat of the sun. This is a mystery to us, but still we see it was cold enough for him to have his over coat on.

Mr. J. Wesley Morefield and family, of Stoneville, are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Morefield, this week.

Miss Annie got struck on Mr. Joe, and says she don't care who knows its so.

Mr. Will calls down on the creek very often. I suppose he is thinking of trotting in double harness in the near future. He says pretty is Miss Net, and very sweet you bet.

Success to the Reporter and all its readers

RED BIRD.

"PAPA'S PET."

A Bachelor's Solace.

Across the way a taper gleams
All through the long, dark night,
I joy to see those steady beams,
They make my vigil bright.

No boon of cupid, understand,
Brings gladness to my cap,
There dwells my rival, and
The baby keeps him up.

T. E. McGrath, in Woman's Home Campanion.

When you pay your bills by check you have these advantages :

1. It is more business-like and gives others a more honorable impression of your business abilities and methods.

2. It often saves you money, as for instance when you pay a bill or debt by giving your check, the person who receives the check must put his name on the back of the check before he can get the money on it. This operates as a receipt in law. Every farmer or anybody who pays out money should always do so by check.

3. Often you want to send money by mail, which is risky, as it may be lost. Besides, it is expensive to register letters or buy money orders. The easy and safe way is to send by check, which only costs the 2-cent stamp to mail the letter.

WORTH KNOWING.

That Alcock's Plasters are the highest result of medical science and skill, and in ingredients and method have never been equaled.

That they are the original and genuine porous plasters upon whose reputation imitators trade.

That Alcock's Plasters never fail to perform their remedial work quickly and effectually.

That for Weak Back, Rheumatism, Colds, Lung Trouble, Kidney Difficulties, Strains and all Local Pains they are invaluable.

That when you buy Alcock's Plasters you obtain the best plasters made.

Briefs Adrift.

The County Commissioners will be in session Monday.

Mr. N. A. Martin visited Winston the latter part of the past week.

The residence of Mr. N. O. Petree is being given a new coat of paint.

Mr. J. D. Humphreys went to Mount Airy Sunday, returning Monday.

Messrs. J. A. Fagg and W. R. Stephens were Danbury visitors Monday.

Mr. Jesse Wall, of Madison, spent Friday night at the McCanless Hotel.

The Smith building here has been undergoing some repairs the past week.

Mr. W. W. King returned Saturday from a visit to Greensboro and other points.

Sheriff Petree will sell quite a number of tracts of land here Monday for taxes.

Esquire R. W. Hill and Mr. John Covington, of Meadows, visited Danbury Sunday.

Deputy Sheriff Robt. Coleman, of Peter's Creek township, was in town on business Monday.

Mr. D. S. Watkins, representing the firm of Watkins & East, of Walnut Cove, was here Friday.

Stokes Superior court convenes next Monday. Judge G. S. Ferguson will preside over the term.

Miss Blanche Pepper, a student at the State Normal College, spent Saturday and Sunday at home here.

Mr. C. M. Jones and family, and Misses Claudia and Agnes Johnson, visited Piedmont Springs Sunday.

Rev. S. S. Oliver left Monday to spend a few days visiting friends and relatives at Madison and Stoneville.

It is the consensus of opinion that the tobacco crop in this country will be short owing to scarcity of plants.

The many friends of Mr. John M. Taylor will regret to know that he is in bed suffering from bruises sustained in an accident recently.

Rev. S. S. Oliver, of Franklin, West Va., preached at the Presbyterian church here Wednesday night and Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

The world's fair at Jamestown is now going in full blast, though many of the buildings are not yet completed. The fair will remain open until Dec. 1.

Mr. W. J. Byrly, cashier of the Bank of Mt. Airy and Vice-President of the Bank of Stokes County, spent Thursday and Friday in Danbury.

Mr. Fletcher Hawkins has recently resigned his position with Mrs. R. L. Hartman & Son, of Hartman, and accepted work at Jamestown, Va., with the Expansion Company.

Mrs. Dr. C. W. Joyce, of Wheatland, Okla., is expected to arrive here Friday to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Petree. Mrs. Joyce will be accompanied by her friend, Miss Hedrick, of the same place.

Salary Appropriated For Presbyterian Preacher Here.

The recent Presbytery at Madison appropriated \$600 salary to be paid to a Presbyterian preacher for the Danbury charge. A pastor has not yet been secured, but Revs. Goodman and Rankin of Greensboro will, it is thought, be assigned to the work.