

# Rockingham Rocket.

H. C. WALL, Editor and Proprietor.

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## Mining Gems in North Carolina.

From the Detroit Free Press.

Despite the talk about diamond fields in Kentucky, but few gems of any sort have been found in the limits of the United States. The most celebrated diamond beds are in India, Brazil and South Africa, although single stones have occasionally been picked up in Virginia and North Carolina. Mexico furnishes many gems, particularly opals, but North America, while rich in gold and silver, appears to be poor in precious stones. North Carolina has furnished some interesting stone, particularly the hiddenite, a grass-green gem allied in chemical character to the topaz, but of a color previously unknown. It occurs in Alexander county, in the foothills east of the Blue Ridge, and was named for its discoverer, Hidden.

In the same region in McDowell county where there are gold mines, are also found in great variety stones of more or less value. The mining is carried on chiefly for gold by the hydraulic sluicing system, in which the mountain streams are employed to wash down the hillsides. The earth is sluiced out for gold, and all the stones which remain in the sluices are carefully examined. A correspondent from the mines states that valuable rough specimens are often found, and as much as the value of \$4,000 in opals, topazes and other fine stones has been found in one day, and on one occasion a diamond worth \$1,000 was taken out. There are other localities in that region that are without doubt equally rich.

In some quarters of New York city the price of soda water has not only dropped to two cents a glass, but the glass is twice the ordinary size. We are getting things down to a fine point in this country.

If one gets the worst of a trade he may as well make the best of it.

## Indispensable to the Toilet.

Darby's Prophylactic Fluid cures chafing, eruptions and inflammation of all kinds; cures inflamed or sore eyes; relieves pains from bites or stings of insects and sore feet; destroys all taint of perspiration or offensive smell from the feet or any part of the body; cleanses and whitens the skin. Used as a dentifrice it purifies the breath, preserves the teeth and cures toothache, sore gums and canker. A little of the Fluid in the water used in bathing is very refreshing and especially beneficial to the sick.



**ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure.**

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 WALL ST., N. Y.

## BOOKS for SALE!

The "Prayer and Praise"

is by far the most popular Song Book now in use among our people. I constantly keep it on hand and can furnish it at the following prices:  
Single copy, (shaped or round notes), .75  
Per dozen, ..... \$8.00  
Per half dozen, ..... 4.25  
I keep on hand, and am continually receiving, an elegant line of GOOD BOOKS, BOTH RELIGIOUS and LITERARY, which I can furnish at very low prices.—BIBLES and HYMN BOOKS a specialty. Can get you any desired book on short notice, at publisher's prices.  
F. L. TOWNSEND.

## WOMAN'S LOVE.

Oh, say not woman's love is bought  
With a vain and empty treasure;  
Oh, say not woman's heart is caught  
By every idle pleasure.  
When first her gentle bosom knows  
Love's flame, it wanders never;  
Deep in her heart the passion glows,  
She loves, and loves forever.

Oh, say not woman's false as fair,  
That like the bee she ranges,  
Still seeking flowers more sweet and rare,  
As fickle fancy changes.  
Oh, no! the love that first can warm  
Will leave her bosom never;  
No second passion e'er can charm;  
She loves, and loves forever.

## A Young Man of Push.

New York Letter.  
The longer we live the stronger grows the conviction that despite the pooch-poochers there is a great deal in "the art of putting things." I have just heard of an incident that illustrates this significant truth in a very striking manner.

Twelve years ago a young man came to New York in search of employment and fortune. He carried his own trunk to a lodging house because he could not afford the luxury of a hired carrier. His honest face and frank speech won for him his landlady's consent to a week's living on tick. So far good. Now then for the bold plunge. He went down to the offices of the Herald, Times and Tribune and invested his last shilling in an advertisement in these words:

I WANT something to do and must have it within twenty-four hours. Address PUSH, this office.

In a little while he had received about 300 answers to his unique demand for employment. One business man wrote: "Call at 9 o'clock to-morrow and I may give you a chance to show how vigorously you can push."

The tone of that reply pleased the young adventurer, and at the appointed hour he presented himself at the writer's office. The result was a trial engagement, which has continued until this time. Young 'Push' is now the confidential man of the house. His salary is ample, and he lives in handsome style in one of the prettiest little homes in New York where pretty homes, in the poetic sense of the word, are, as we all know, lamentably scarce. 'Push' is his dominant characteristic and his employer has had ten thousand reasons to congratulate himself on the impulse that led him to reply to that little ad.

If the young man had gone on a quest for employment in the stereotyped way he would in all likelihood have still been waiting for a chance to show the quality of his metal.—Business men are quick to judge human nature, and they generally know a good thing when they see it. Manliness, originality and pluck are pretty sure to carry their possessor to the front. My friend Push's chief has often assured me that he couldn't think of parting with him, and there are portents that before the present year wanes he will be raised to a partnership in the house he has served with tireless energy ever since that memorable 9 o'clock meeting with the employer who was so quick to gauge his value.

## Brace up.

You are feeling depressed, your appetite is poor, you are bothered with headache, you are fidgety, nervous, and generally out of sorts, and want to brace up. Brace up, but not with stimulants, spring medicines, or bitters, which have for their basis very cheap, bad whiskey, and which stimulate you for an hour, and then leave you in worse condition than before. What you want is an alternative that will purify your blood, start healthy action of Liver and Kidneys, restore your vitality, and give renewed health and strength. Such a medicine you will find in Electric Bitters, and only 50 cents per bottle at W. M. Fowlkes & Co's Drug Store.

The question is now asked if the re-union of the citizens who have left North Carolina and the visit of President Cleveland in October bring together as is expected one hundred thousand people, how will Raleigh take care of them? In answer we would say "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Let 'em come—old Van Winkle is wide awake and ready.—News and Observer.

## TAX REDUCTION.

Views of Hon. S. J. Randall on the Important Question of the Day.

PAOLI, PA., July 11.

Chas. W. Knapp, Esq., Washington Bureau, Missouri Republican:

Dear Sir—I am in receipt of your letter and, as explained in a previous interview when you called upon me, I understand your object to be to ask an expression of my opinion as to the probability of legislation this winter to reduce taxation. Your chief object, you state, is to develop the possibility of uniting the Democrats of the House upon a measure having an unmistakable party stamp. You then subjoin suggestions which you state have already been submitted to Democratic members of the fiftieth Congress in similar letters of inquiry. You inquire: "1. Is there a practicable basis of compromise through which the Democrats of the House can unite?" There is such a basis, and has been all along, which might have been adopted for the creation of a fair and just system of revision of our present tariff and internal revenue taxation. But nothing can be done in the future, as nothing was done in the past, if the House is organized as heretofore, deliberately, it would seem, on the theory that the dictum of a few so-called leaders—not without the suspicion of representing other interests—must be taken without question and accepted in every point and as an alternative, if it be rejected, that then nothing shall be permitted to be done. There must be a disposition shown to act fairly all around, and that disposition can never exist when we were told by one of these self-constituted leaders: "Let us take one-fifth now. If that does not reduce the revenue, we can take off more. Some time we will cut to the quick and draw blood. If twenty per cent. will not reduce the revenue, perhaps fifty will." I do not entertain any feeling of vengeance against the producers of this country because they are enjoying a season of prosperity. I prefer their welfare to their distress, their success to their ruin.

The revenue is too great, and a reduction of current surplus is necessary. Some think this is so to an extent about equal to the amount collected under our internal revenue law. If that amount is too much, it would compel a closer approach to the "revenue only" line, as demanded by a certain class of Democrats. In this light why not abolish the internal revenue system? Excise taxes are "war taxes." They have been so regarded at all times, and from all their inquisitorial and arbitrary character they have been esteemed always as dangerous to the peace and comfort and civil rights of our people. It is true that they are quickly collected, and in times of war have been resorted to with great advantage. It has been the unvarying precedent of Democratic administrations, under like circumstance, to abolish the internal revenue taxes just so soon as the necessities of war had rendered them unnecessary. The tax upon tobacco, which the agricultural interests throughout the country have clamored against for years, would have been repealed at the last session of Congress if the representatives of the people in the House of Representatives had been permitted to vote thereon, for it is well understood the Senate would have concurred in such repeal. This was denied by an assumption of power for which there was no constitutional authority. Think of it! The whole number of the representatives of the people of the United States deprived of the right of relieving their constituents from the imposition of unneeded taxation. Such a procedure will not occur soon again.

In reply to your second question: "Would an equal cut of internal and tariff taxes afford such basis?" I answer in the negative.

The reduction in the tariff rate of duties should be a matter of separate and distinct consideration, and be done with a due regard to the conditions existing as to wages in this country as compared with wages paid for like labor in producing such articles as are imported, which would, when here, come in competition with like articles produced in the United States. I am ready, on this basis, to enter in good faith upon such a basis of reduction—that is, wherever such can be done without danger to our American producers. This proposition is in substance the utterance of the Democracy at Chicago in 1884, when and where the free traders were utterly routed and made confession at that time of their complete discomfiture. We must distinctly adhere to the spirit and letter of our platform on which Mr. Cleveland was elected.

You ask, third: "Assuming this acceptable, is it feasible to carry the element of compromise into the selection of the tariff schedule?" and fourth: "Are there concessions of any other kind the majority of the party can offer without sacrifice of principle?" I have said in my speeches in Congress that I was not a protectionist *per se* or free trader *per se*. Carried out to their logical consequences, both would produce precisely the same result and compel the raising of revenue by direct taxation. The free traders would hardly dare to carry out their theory and policy if they had the power. Why, therefore, are they continually disturbing the healthy progress of business and preventing the strengthening of our party by making an issue which is destructive alike to our prosperity and our continued party success? The history of the world in recent years has not been favorable to the extension of the free trade theory, but on the contrary it has been seriously called in question, and even the English colonies have repudiated it very generally. Recently the Parliament of New South Wales discussed the question and decided adversely.

Our people have grown accustomed to raising revenue by duties on imports. It is collected without friction at the border. It permits the encouragement of all domestic manufactures which are unable to compete successfully in the market of the world with foreign productions. I am opposed, therefore, to any legislation which will destroy, or seriously cripple, any American interest. Of course I should not refuse, but favor, legislation conceived and executed in such a spirit of concession as would bring about a schedule of tariff duties which would reduce taxation to the lowest figures required for an economical administration of the government, but at the same time in the laying of these duties I would insist that wherever it is necessary and within the proper purview of the law itself, to see to securing the fullest encouragement and incidental protection to our industrial interests. It should be done, no matter in what part of the Union they may be located. The course of action is in harmony with Democratic history and it is likewise prompted by a due regard to the advancement of our interests as well as an approach to the destiny of our country. We would be worse than heathens not to take care of our own.

Very truly yours,  
SAM. J. RANDALL.

Mr. Randall has apparently overlooked the fifth question, regarding the advisability of a caucus. In his personal interview with the Republican's correspondent last month,

however, he indicated distinctly that he did not favor a caucus. No caucus had ever been binding in matters of legislation, he said, but he added that he was quite willing to go into a conference for the purpose of harmonizing differences.

## Southern Literature Must Not Be Provincial.

From the Wilmington Messenger.

The boom in Southern literature has begun. We hope it has come to stay, but there is a possibility that the counsels of persons purely provincial may endanger its usefulness and stability.

There is no reason why the South should not produce a literature distinctly its own. Many of the most successful writers have acquired fame by developing, within the environments and limitations of legitimate romance, the phases of human endeavor and human thought that are characteristic of certain prescribed boundaries. This is all very well in its way, but the fact remains that the writers who were the most successful in this domain of literature were artists, not provincialists, and their work is, therefore, cosmopolitan.

We have faith in the intellectual capacity of many of our more modern Southern writers. We rejoice over every one of their achievements. There is not a word of commendation that comes from Northern critics which does not give us pleasure. And in the very nature of things the North must be the centre of criticism as it is the centre of literary endeavor. There literature is not only an art and an expression of genius, but it is also a business, a very practical, concrete business.

What our Southern authors have to guard against is the counsels and the canons of those who are only provincial, who would have their writings adapted only to the people of whom they write; who would have a Southern literature as contradistinguished from every other literature; that is, a field of letters whose acreage is confined to certain geographical limits.

We wish our Southern writers to be such in name only and such in the *habitat*, if we may be pardoned the expression, of the subjects which they treat. As to the treatment, that can no more be exclusively Southern than it can be Arabian or early English.

Literary treatment cannot be local. Sir Walter Scott wrote of certain localities, but his development of the theme was not provincial. It was artistic, and the same artistic ability would have made the treatment of a Dutch, a Mesopotamian, or a Hotentot topic equally as worthy of commendation.

Southern literature can only be local in the topics of which it treats. Its development must be cosmopolitan and in accordance with the literary canons which in all ages and countries have been accepted as inherent in the master.

There is another consideration which is, perhaps, sordid, but it is practical. No Southern author can expect to find among his own people a sufficient patronage to justify him in making literature a calling. Provincial counsel abounds, but provincial shekels will be scantily doled out to him. A plethora of counsel no more than a superfluity of kind wishes will "make the mare go." The Southern author cannot expect a living within his own pent-up limitations, and although this is a humiliating fact, he has got to admit it and confront it. Besides, the literary man writes for the world—not for a section—and the South is generously fertile in the topics which it presents.

If, through the success of the agitation for women's rights, women ever come to sit in the jury box, infants will probably get to be criers in court.

It is so hot down in New Jersey that farmers are doing their haying by moonlight. They use Jersey lightening on their nights.

## Polygamy in New York.

The government does not countenance polygamy and strong efforts are being made to wipe it out in Utah. While this is right and proper, we have an instance of polygamy in New York, existing under the protection of the law, and from the accounts of the affair, it looks as if a rich man can have as many wives as he wishes; and yet a great "hue and cry" is made over the Mormons for this very thing. The long story is thus briefly stated by the Atlanta Constitution:

A young girl was sought in marriage by a man who frankly admitted that he had married some years before, but his wife had deserted him, going to Europe, and he did not know whether she was living or dead. This did not matter, because under the laws of the State he was free to marry again, as five years had expired without any tidings of the missing wife. The girl consulted with her sister. The two were the daughters of a clergyman who had taught them that neither in the Old or the New Testament is monogamy enjoined, but on the contrary polygamy was supported by all christian doctrine. So the girls did not see anything wrong in the proposed marriage. The wedding took place, and for a time all went merrily and happily.

Gradually a strong affection developed between the husband and his sister-in-law. The wife found it out and gave the pair some advice. The husband dutifully obeyed. He went to Chicago, obtained a divorce, and married his sister-in-law, who had accompanied him to Illinois.—The Chicago divorce was of no effect in New York, but the Illinois marriage was recognized as lawful everywhere. The sisters remained good friends, but it was found desirable to have separate homes. As the husband was a millionaire, this was easily arranged.

At this juncture the first wife returned from Europe. Her rage was unbounded when she found that her husband had consoled himself with two lawful wives. She brought suit to annul the second marriage, intending after that to smash the third, but the court held that such an application could only be made by the second wife.

As the matter now stands the husband has three lawful wives in New York. He supports them all because they are entitled to it. The facts came to light through the anxiety of one of the wives as to her property rights if her husband died intestate. Since the matter has been made public it has been ascertained that numbers of wealthy people in New York practice polygamy in the same way, strictly according to the mixed inter-state system of marriage and divorce laws resorted to in such cases.

## Don't Box the Ears.

From the Toronto Truth.

Boxing the ears is a too common form of punishment practiced by irritable and ignorant persons, and it is almost always done in fits of sudden anger. I say done by irritable and ignorant persons, because it seems to me that no person of any information on the subject would allow his passion to get the better of his judgment in such a matter. The drum of the ear is of paper-like thinness; it may and has been, in numbers of cases, ruptured by a single slap on the side of the head, incurable deafness resulting. Says an eminent physician: "All strokes on the head of children with an angry hand are brutal and criminal." In the same connection he adds that a "generous, wise and humane parent should allow a night to intervene between the commission of the fault on the part of a child and any decided punishment. The veriest thief should be allowed time, lest the law be vindictive and wrathful. And shall a man or woman punish an unresisting child with angry consideration, with unreasoning wrath in the heart? It is monstrous."

Send us your orders for job printing.

## Job Printing.

Having recently purchased a first class outfit, we are prepared to do all kinds of

## PLAIN AND FANCY

## JOB PRINTING

IN THE

## BEST OF STYLE

And at Living Prices.

THE DIFFERENCE.

Oft in the chilly night,  
Ere solar rays had bound us,  
Have we for heat cried out,  
With blankets all around us.

But now when Sol has got the call  
To burn us up like tetter,  
We sigh for ice, with breezes nice,  
And civil-service weather.

## SMALL TALK.

A fast man is very slow when it comes to paying his debts.

A man who gave himself away is said to be anxious to take it all back.

Ability and genius may command the ship of life, but luck holds the tiller.

Don't be mulish. Never kick simply because people talk behind your back.

It is not enough to make a virtue of necessity. You should make a necessity of virtue.

A girl may be like sugar for two reasons. She may be sweet, and she may be full of grit.

Dr. Storrs said in a recent address, "The crown jewels of the great American republic are her public libraries, her schools and colleges."

Hereditary gout is a most unjust disease. The father has had all the fun and the son catches most of the pain.

The Mobile Item says: "The Graves of a Household" will appear next week." Cremation cannot come too soon.

"I hear that there is an American college at Rome," observed Mrs. Tripper. "Is there?" replied Tripper, "how does its base ball club stand?"

A balloon is like a boom. It inflates easily, rises very high, and nobody is hurt until it comes down, and then it wrecks alike the just and unjust.

Kentucky liquor men have decided to limit the output of whiskey. What our temperance friends want is to limit the input as well as the output.

Patient (dissatisfied with dietary restrictions)—"Say, Doc, I'm blamed if I'm going to starve to death just for the sake of living a little longer."

"Why do not women get bald?" asks an exchange. It seems to us that any one ought to be able to answer that. It's because they don't have wigs.

Not greedy.—Miss Charlotte (who has \$70,000 a year)—"Really, Mr. Hunter, someone else has my love." Mr. H.—"Well, that ought to satisfy him—I will be contented with the rest."

A lady who advertised for a girl "to do light house work," received a letter from an applicant who said that her health demanded sea air, and asked where the lighthouse was situated.

It was the firm belief of the Tartars that whoever touched a beautiful woman with a kingfisher's feather would gain her love. This was before the age of the golden dollar, however.

## A City of Beautiful Women.

Detroit, Michigan, is noted for its healthy, handsome ladies, which the leading physicians and druggists there attribute to the general use and popularity of Doctor Harter's Iron Tonic.

## Give Them a Chance.

That is to say, your lungs. Also all your breathing machinery. Very wonderful machinery it is. Not only the larger air passages, but the thousands of little tubes and cavities leading from them.

When these are clogged and choked with matter which ought not to be there, your lungs cannot half do their work. And what they do, they cannot do well.

Return this paper, if borrowed.