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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent at the National Capitol—the Political Nerve Center of Our Country.

Washington, D. C., April 8th.—“The Democratic party can win and will win in 1904, if the convention is guided by common sense,” said one of the leading Democrats of the nation to me a few days ago. As I said in my last letter, I cannot give his name at this time because he is not ready to be quoted, but he nevertheless wants his opinions filtered through the press of the country in order that the people may think them over.

“The Democratic party should not surrender to the so-called reorganizers,” continued this distinguished gentleman. By that I mean that we should not nominate a man for the presidency who bolted the party organizations in 1896 or 1900. There are fundamental principles and tenets of faith in the Democratic party which are immortal, and which will forever keep this land a free and independent republic, and to which the vast majority of the people of the country subscribe, and when they are not beleaguered by fanciful and extraneous theories the result will show itself in a great Democratic majority, popular as well as in the electoral college. The Democratic position on the money question in 1896 and 1900 was a policy adopted at that time in order to relieve the necessities of the people and the business world that were clamoring for more money to do the business of the country. It simply involved the quantitative theory of money, and our every contention in that regard has been amply proved by subsequent events. We wanted and needed more money in circulation and advocated bi-metalism as the remedy. The remedy came but it came in the shape of one metal only, superinduced by the failure of copper in the old countries, by the war with Spain and by the flood of gold from the mines of Alaska. The result was the same. Prosperity returned to the country just as we said it would if we could get more basic money on which to do the business of the country.

We now have three times the volume of money in circulation that we had in 1896, and the result is that we have comparative prosperity where then we had stagnation in all lines of business. Therefore, the money question is no longer an issue.

“The question of special privilege, the parent of monopoly, and opposition to which is a fixed principle of the Democratic party, is one upon which we have won a complete and decisive victory. On this platform, constructed as above indicated, I think it will be wise for us to place a young and vigorous Democrat whose Democracy is known by his works, whose name will appeal to the laboring masses of the country as well as to the business interests and acceptable to both. We must take into consideration the conditions that confront us. The farmers have not yet begun to feel the fact that the trusts are charging him more for everything he buys than they do for the foreign buyer of the same article, and the majority of the farmers are ‘standpaters,’ and while those who are Democrats probably would not vote the Republican ticket, they might not realize the significance of the election. In the face of this fact we must nominate a man who has the confidence and can carry the vast labor vote of the cities of the country. An overwhelming majority of this vote will turn the scale in many of the pivotal States of the Union, especially in the East and the middle West, and bring victory to the Democratic party. With that kind of leader on a platform that denounces monopoly and special privilege in all its ramifications and demands tariff revision, trust control and, where necessary, trust extinction, an income tax and election of United States Senators by vote of the people direct, we can and will win.”

The President of the United States has started on another huge swing around the circle which he modestly calls “an unpretentious little outing for the purpose of avoiding publicity.” Let us see about that. The schedule calls for about 300 speeches and the party accompanying the President consists of two secretaries, one doctor, three stenographers, two secret service men, one postmaster, representatives of three press associations, one official photographer, and two telegraph operators. What a delightful original way of avoiding publicity. It is surprising that he did not take along a brass band with which to hunt those bears. The truth of the matter is that the gentleman who occupies the highest civic position in the country is never so happy as when he is in the limelight on the front of the stage. This trip is a stamping tour pure and simple. He wants that nomination a heap more than he wants those bears, and he is not overlooking any bet that will pile up the blue chips in front of him.

I said some time ago, in this correspondence, that the President would call an extra session of the 58th Congress some time in the early part of next September. I missed it about a month, as it is now given out from an official source that the extra session will be called early in October. It is given out as the ostensible reason that this extra session is to be called for the purpose of disposing finally of the Cuban reciprocity treaty by obtaining the concurrence of the House of Representatives, which the Democrats compelled the Republican Senators who were working in the interest of the Sugar Trust, to agree to before they would vote to ratify the treaty. The real reason why this extra session is to be called was given in this correspondence some time ago when it was stated that J. Pierpont Morgan had called on the President and informed him that Wall Street could not hold out longer than the fall and that there must be some legislation in its interest, presumably the Aldrich bill, or there would be a smash-up and possibly a panic. Wall Street continues to dictate the policy of this administration.

Unless all signs fail, they may well start in on their financial bill when the session meets, because they are not going to get through the concurrent resolution of the House endorsing the Cuban treaty by December 31, except it carry with it the elimination of the differential on refined sugar. The Democrats have made up their minds to fight for that in the interest of the people. There are about forty-five Republicans from the best sugar states, and if the Democrats can round up about twenty kickers who will stick the House will send the Senate the Cuban reciprocity proposition for the second time with a knife under the rib of the sugar trust. That will kill it, for those trust-owned Senators dare not pass a thing that will take about \$6,000,000 a year out of the pockets of one of their bosses. If the House Democrats do not succeed in getting the differential off, then the Senate Democrats will talk on the tariff question until the end of the extra and regular sessions. Mark the prediction.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

The Money Value of Good Roads.
Some interesting and valuable calculations have been made by an Indiana civil engineer as to the money value of good roads to a community what they save in transporting products to and from market. He has taken into consideration all kinds of roadways, from the sandy road to asphalt streets, and his figures furnish a strong argument for modern highways. The cost of moving one ton by horse power over one mile of any sandy road, according to his estimates, is 64 cents over wet sand, 33 cents over rutted and mud, 39 cents over broken stone runs, 28 cents over an earth road that is dry and hard, 18 cents over a broken stone road in good condition, 8 cents over a compact gravel road, 6.5 cents over paving, 3.3 cents; over asphalt, 2.7 cents. He never tried to figure the matter out with this exactness, he will, no doubt, see at a glance that there is much reason in what this Indiana engineer says. If we apply these estimates to a wide section of country—say the state of Georgia, for instance—and take into consideration the vast amount of hauling that is done, the money saved to the people, especially the farmers, by good roads would be enormous. There is no reason why Georgia farmers might not have compact gravel roads on which to transport their products to and from market at an average cost of 7 cents per ton—instead of from 39 to 64 cents, as is now the case in most counties. We believe the time has come when the farmers themselves are inclined to look at this good roads proposition from a dollar and cents standpoint. Here, then, are some figures that will help them.—Atlanta Constitution.

The Happy Man.
The happiest man in the world is the common every day chaps who makes his own living, pays his bills and has the respect of his neighbors. He saves a little money as he goes along, but he doesn't strive to get a corner on the local output, and he is slave to neither ambition nor society. He never expects to wear out the seat of his trousers figuring how to get rich off of others, and when he slides into his clothes in the morning he never wastes any time trying to pick out the right tint of tie, suspenders and necktie that will blend with the general effect. He wears a “biled” shirt when he feels like it, and when his pet corn begins to jump he whips out his jack-knife and cuts a 4 inch gash in the side of his foot, and nothing is said about it in the papers. He has an appetite like a cyclone and he never has to sit up at nights to polioize his conscience. He believes in the doctrine of live and let live, and when he encounters one of the newly he doesn't stutter with his pocket-book. The plain plug of a man is happy because he is satisfied and doesn't spend the best of his life in yearning for something about four sizes too large for him.—Ex.

Missouri has paid the last dollar of her public debt. We do not think there is another State in the Union which can say that she has not a bond outstanding. The State of Missouri was saddled by her Republican officials with a heavy debt in the old Reconstruction days. When the Democrats came into power they set about paying off this debt and have ever since worked diligently to that end. Their labors have been rewarded. The other day, in the presence of a large crowd and in the midst of great jubilation the last State bond was burned. So much for honest Democratic administration of State affairs.—Exchange.

VENGEANCE ON CRIMINALS.

Let the Law Be Made a Terror to Evil Doers of High as Well as Low Degree—A Terrible Arraignment of Those Who Carry Concealed Weapons.

The painfully large number of recent homicides is the occasion of much talk and moralizing. Of course good men are discussing remedies. On the subject much can be said. The removal of the causes is the thing to be sought. The easiest thing to say about it is that the slayer be promptly and fairly tried, and if guilty speedily and fully punished in every case. The law, abstractly, is no respecter of persons, and the courts should not be. It may be that where there is much money and a reputable family name the criminal escapes altogether, or too lightly. The poor and defamed only, get the righteous and full penalty of the law, promptly enforced. If this is true we dare say the juries are as much responsible as the judges and lawyers. The death penalty inflicted on a few murderers in high life might have a good effect. The law should be made a terror to evil doers among all classes. The guilt before God, if not the criminality before man in all the late homicides, is very great. There is the evil doing that leads to the carrying of deadly weapons in order to be ready to do the dreadful killing. Heaven and earth cries out alike for vengeance upon the criminals.

One of the signs of a bad and dangerous character is the carrying of a pistol about. It may be hid under fine clothes, and the name of the man may be fair, but the man who does it is a cunning, low-down, law-breaking and dangerous wretch. Such a man is unworthy of companionship, and unsafe for trust. He is a moral leper and coward. The exceptions are the officers of the law and the very ignorant. The fellow who goes about with a pistol in his hip pocket either expects to kill somebody contrary to law, or expects somebody to shoot him for some crime low and base he has committed already. No decent man can have the same respect for confidence in a man after seeing a gun hid under his clothes. We have never seen a Christian gentleman carrying one. Doing the right things before God and man, and keeping good company, is worth for protection more than all pistols of the world.

It Did Look Funny.
A first baby, went to the furniture factory and wanted to buy a carriage for the baby, and having selected a nice one and being answered by the salesman that it was substantially built and of their own manufacture, they bought it and placed the baby in it. They started down street toward their home, but as they went along every one who met them looked at the outfit and then would laugh very heartily. This greatly embarrassed the young couple, who could see nothing wrong, so the lady, in desperation, told her husband to walk ahead, while she rolled the carriage, and then turn and meet her and try to discover the cause of all the merriment.

He advanced a few steps and turned back, then made a spring at the carriage and tore a card off the front of it which read: “Our Own Make.”

A Little Laborer of Georgia.
Not many descriptive articles can throw so much light upon child-labor in the South as does a little story in the April McClure's called “Who was her keeper?” The author, Mary Applewhite Bacon, is, her editors tell us, a native of Georgia, and thoroughly familiar with the conditions she describes. The central figure of the story is a seven-year-old girl, whose family leave a Georgia farm to live in a cotton mill district, having been promised “a good house to live in, painted white, with three rooms in it,” and “cash money every Saddy night.” The point of the story is the tragic effect of her long hours and night-work in the clanking mill machinery.—A story in McClure's.

Western North Carolina in the Spring.
Western North Carolina is attractive at any season of the year, but certainly during the spring months, when the trees are budding and the flowers blossoming, what could be more inviting than a trip to this beautiful mountain country. The months of April and May in the Land of the Sky and Sapphire Country, including Asheville and Hot Springs, N. C. are very enjoyable. The climate at this season is delightful, the scenery most beautiful, and the opportunity for the enjoyment of sports, including golf, cannot be surpassed. The hotels in this region afford the very best accommodations. If you wish to know something of this delightful region, communicate with the nearest Southern Railway ticket agent, or address S. H. HARDWICK, G. P. A.

Rheumatism is caused by an excess of uric and lactic in the blood, Rheumoid, the great blood purifier, laxative and tonic, cures the disease by driving the acids out of the blood. At Druggists.

May Die From Swallowing Perisperm Seeds.

Some time during the fall of last year the eight-year-old son of Mr. Leander Woolley, of Arcadia, this county, while eating perisperm, accidentally swallowed one of the seeds. For several days the young man was slightly bothered by the seed but the bad feeling finally passed away and the incident was nearly forgotten. Some time ago, however, a pain in his breast made its appearance and for several weeks he has suffered excruciating agony. Physicians who have examined the boy say the seed has lodged in his lung and that an operation is the only means of saving his life. He is unable to partake of but very little food and those who have seen him say the boy is scarcely more than a living skeleton. It is more than likely that an operation would prove fatal and his death under the present conditions is likely to occur at any time.—Lexington Dispatch.

One Negro Kills Another.

Sunday night about 8 o'clock, Mayor McNair shot and instantly killed Frank Rodgers at Vestal, a station on the A. & A. road three miles west of Troy. Both are colored. McNair was arrested and brought here Monday morning by deputy sheriff Jordan, and having waived trial was committed to jail. The shooting took place in McNair's home, and he claims that he did it in self defense. It appears that the two had been quarreling for two or three hours prior to the shooting, and McNair had driven Rodgers from his house with an ax; but later the latter returned with a gun, and had reached the door when the former fired the fatal shot. The dead man fell fatally in the house where he lay till morning.—Troy Examiner.

Boy Shoots His Father.

A tragedy occurred a few miles above Concord last week in which James Ashby was shot by his son. It is not known how the affair occurred. A neighbor said that Ashby was chastising his daughter about not rising promptly at a very early hour when the son interfered for her protection and shot a load of shot in his father's abdomen. The physician tells me that he regards the case as critical but time only will tell the extent of his injuries. The boy quickly mounted the best horse on the place and left for parts unknown.

How Mr. Roosevelt Lives and Works.

Will be entitled some time to know more than they have as yet been told about the way in which President Roosevelt accomplishes so much and yet keeps in prime order. His physical constitution was, of course, built up as everybody knows, years ago, by systematic exercise and much outdoor life. His mental vigor would seem to have been acquired by a somewhat analogous method. The President does not flinch from the task in hand. He has schooled himself to do the day's work as it comes. He arranges his day well, is very abstemious in eating and drinking, does not allow himself to be cheated out of a fair amount of exercise, does not rely in the least upon stimulants, such as tobacco, and perhaps above all, never tries to surpass himself or to expend his reserve strength in the achievement of something of importance to attend to, he simply does his best as he goes along, deals with every problem that arises in a simple, direct, and natural way, and thus finds the day sufficient unto itself. He borrows no trouble, sleeps soundly, and meets the morrow refreshed and with full courage.—from “The Progress of the World,” in the American Monthly Review of Reviews for April.

A Spring and Summer Tonic.

Go to the glorious mountains of Western North Carolina, the “Land of the Sky” and “Sapphire Country,” a natural paradise at all times of the year, a pleasant spot, rich with color and enjoyment, health and recreation. For temperature and climate it is unequalled. Reached by the Southern Railway. Write for descriptive book of “Land of the Sky,” mailed free upon application to any agent of the Southern Railway, or Mr. S. H. Hardwick, General Passenger Agent, Washington, D. C.

Spoiled.

Of 320 females in the negro schools of Atlanta who were asked to tell what they intended to do when grown, only sixty-three said they expected to be engaged in housework. Of the others, 158 proposed to follow professional pursuits. The sixty-three who announced their intention to engage in housework could not have been long in school. By the time they are ready for their white dresses and pink and blue ribbons they also will pretty likely be aspiring to the professions. But what a waste of valuable bone and muscle is thereby indicated.—Peter Poche, in Southern Farm Magazine of Baltimore for April.

Negro Pays One Cent Tax.

Perhaps the smallest tax ever collected by a sheriff of North Carolina was recently by Sheriff Gaddy, also (Deek) Moore, sheriff of Morven township, was the man from whom the tax—one cent—was collected. No attempt was made to divide the tax between State, county and school, but the entire amount was turned into the treasury for the benefit of the general county fund.—Wadesboro Messenger.

Littleton Female College is preparing for a great commencement the last week in May. Bishop A. Coke Smith will preach the annual sermon. Dr. C. F. Reid, of Nashville, Tenn., will deliver the missionary address and Gov. Aycock will deliver the literary address.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

Live Items of Interest from Different Sections of the Country.

A. H. Borden, of Salisbury, has been renominated to succeed himself as Mayor of that city.

Sheriff Taylor, of Hertford county, N. C., was robbed of \$520 while in Norfolk, Va., last week.

The 6-year old son of William Davidson was run over and instantly killed last Friday at Charlotte by a street car.

Judge H. G. Connor, of the Superior Court, has accepted an invitation to deliver the literary address at the commencement of Salem Female College in May.

W. R. Bond horse-whipped a man by the name of Charles Hamlin on the streets of Kinston last week for interfering when he (Bond) was chastising a bawky horse.

Ollie Clark, an employee of the Spencer shops, was painfully hurt by the bursting of an emery wheel one day last week. A portion of the wheel struck Mr. Clark under the chin cutting a deep gash.

Rev. C. W. Byrd, D. D., a prominent minister of the M. E. church and a native of Wake county, has been elected president of Wesleyan Female College at Macon, Ga.

Because she had grown tired of life and wanted to end her existence, Lovie Horne, a young white girl living near Durham, drank ten drachms of laudanum one day last week. Her life was saved.

While defending the home of his sister-in-law at Wilmington last week from the disorder of a drunken young man, Rosier MacRae, engineer of the Wilmington Cotton Mills, was stabbed by Sam'l L. Mann. MacRae's condition is considered dangerous.

Mr. Sanford Dimmett, who was accidentally cut in his head by an axe in the hands of Mr. John Burbano, near Romby, the other day, has since died from his wound. He lived about twelve days after a portion of his brains had been taken out of the wound by attending physicians.—Union Republican.

At Troy Shops, in Davidson county, April 2nd, Capt. C. E. McMurdo committed suicide by shooting himself with a shot gun. No cause for the deed is known. Capt. McMurdo was a famous dog trainer of Charlotteville, Va., and has visited Davidson county for several years during the hunting season.

Charles Mollay escaped from the jail here Saturday night. He had might take some exercise. He made a hole through the upper door, tore his blankets into strips, let himself down from the window and escaped.—Charlotte Observer.

Thursday night a valuable horse was stolen from Mr. A. H. Murray, who resides about four miles east of town. The following afternoon the thief, a negro by the name of John Elison, was captured, and brought home, near Burlington, and brought to Greensboro and lodged in jail. In addition to being tried for stealing a horse, Elison will probably also be called on to answer the charge of burglary, as he is said to have entered Mr. Murray's residence Thursday night and stolen some eatables. He has served a term in the penitentiary for killing his brother.—Greensboro Patriot.

The report of the commission, of which we were only to print a brief summary, will probably not please either the mine operators or strikers entirely but it appears to give the strikers a good showing. They are granted an increase in wages and shorter hours, but the union is not recognized. The latter will please the mine operators but will not satisfy the strikers. So far as we can see however, in a hasty examination, the commission seems to have sought to do equal and exact justice and both sides should accept the result promptly, as they agreed to do in advance.

Some anxious souls continue to wonder why so many people are indifferent as to the education of their children. Remember that the cure for such indifference is to convince parents that it is as much their religious duty to train their children as it is their duty to observe the law: “Thou shalt not steal.” All the people are convinced that stealing is morally wrong, hence they will not tolerate thieves in good society. Whenever parents are convinced that ignorance is morally wrong, they will not tolerate that crime any more than they now tolerate crimes against property rights.

The Pistol Habit Epidemic.

It required a whole week of the present term of Northampton Superior court to try the cases on the criminal docket, a longer time than at any previous court for years. Many of the cases were for carrying pistols.—Roanoke-Chowan Times.

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For a Lame Back, Sore Muscles, in fact, all Lameness and Soreness of your body there is nothing that will drive out the pain and inflammation so quickly as

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If you cannot reach the spot yourself get some one to assist you, for it is essential that the liniment be rubbed in most thoroughly.

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Largest stock to select from and prices that are sure to catch those seeking bargains.

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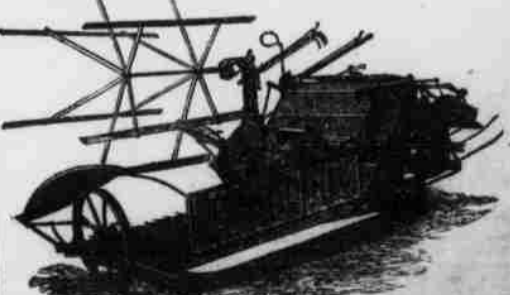
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