

THE DURHAM RECORDER.

"I KNOW NOT WHAT THE TRUTH MAY BE; I'LL TELL IT AS IT WAS TOLD TO ME."

State Library

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Stagville News.

STAGVILLE, Feb. 18.—Miss Bell Durham, after visiting friends and relatives here for the past week, has returned to her home near Chapel Hill.

After a short visit to relatives at Willardville, Miss Lola Southard again greets her young friends here with a pleasant smile. As we look out from our warm and cosy fireside, the world clothed in her mantle of whiteness, looks beautiful. While the snow may cause much suffering in towns and cities yet we can but look on it as a great blessing, not only in the increased production of the soil and the advancement of health, building up of the system, destroying the germs of diseases, and to reflective minds carries us back to the days when we watched our traps and lead-falls and chased the hare.

Probably some man who has grown old in sin may in thought be carried back to a pious home of his youth, and his heart softened so that it may be a turning point that will lead him to a new and better life.

The cold and snow has not proved a great hindrance to our progressive Stagville. Mr. B. Cameron ever with an eye to business took advantage of the occasion and filled two large ice houses.

We cannot imagine anything comparable to the pleasure with which the small boy here watches his traps and slyly swallows a handful of snow which his mother has told him will cause little boy's throats to become sore.

We are reminded by the jolly sound of the huntsman's voice cheering on his ever faithful cur that the hare is not enjoying the the peace that is calculated to make him happy.

Our school, under the care of our excellent teacher Mr. William Woods is progressing finely with a good attendance despite the inclemency of the weather.

Mr. W. A. Southerland, who has been in delicate health for some time improves slowly.

Col. B. Cameron lost a fine mule a few days back.

From our law makers we can hear but little. Congress has taken the prize from the old hen that set herself to death on the door knob, but the result of hatchling is the same. As to our Legislature body, we can only exclaim in the words of the parson, "From such oh Lord deliver us."

After a careful perusal of the columns of last week's RECORDER we discovered that our communication had found its way to the wastebasket. [The letter failed to reach this office. E. J. RECORDER]

Respectfully,
JAMES B. LASHLEY.

PERMANENT PROSPERITY.

Hon. M. F. Laphay, member of the National Democratic Committee from California, in an interview with the Washington Post regarding the financial question says:

"I do not believe we shall have any permanent prosperity in this country, until our currency system shall rest on the broad and sensible basis of bimetalism. To strike down one-half of the money of the country means appreciation of the other half, and a consequent shrinkage in the value of all products. I spent ten months of last year in Mexico, and though that nation is on a silver basis, it is very prosperous, and developing its home industries far more rapidly than our people have any idea of. Were it not for her heavy foreign debt, which is a grievous burden on the people,

Mexico would today be in splendid financial condition, because it is a country of wonderful resources and untold mineral wealth. Though the Mexican silver dollar is worth abroad only half its face value, at home it is not depreciated in purchasing power in the slightest degree. With its greater wealth and more advanced civilization, I am fully satisfied that the United States could maintain a bimetalism system with or without the cooperation of European gold standard countries."

GREEN TO JOHNSON.

A very solemn looking man, who appeared to be sixty years old, with his bald head and gray eyebrows, was sweeping the steps of Sheriff Rigbee's office the other day when a chunky chap of his color, dressed in a black suit and carrying a cane, came around the corner and was passing down the street by Dr. Carr's office when the old man hailed him with:

"Heah, yo' pusson, cum back heah?"

"What yo' want?" asked the chunky man as he returned.

"Hain't yo'r name Johnson?"

"Dan's my cognomen, sah."

"Cum down heah, 'bout a month ago from Hillsboro?"

"Yes, sah."

"One time heah waitah ober to de Orange House?"

"Yes, sah, I occupied dat occupashun. What does yo' want, sah?"

"What does I want? Does yo' know what buildin' dis am?"

"It's de cote house, I reckon."

"Yes, sah, it's de cote house, whar all de law bizness am transacted. Does yo' know wlo I am?"

"Does yo' understand de posishun I dun occupies aroun' heah?"

"No, sah."

"Well, sah, I wants to adventuate a few remarks for yo'r benefit. My name are Green, an' al-lus spelled wid a big 'G.'"

"Yes, sah."

"While I'ze under de jaintor of dis cote house, Mars William Henry Harrison Carter, I'ze a sort of assistant to all de judges."

"I see, but what has dat got to do wid me?"

"What has dat got to do wid yo', sah? I fur instance, if I should go upstairs when Judge Gus Graham comes here, an' tell him dar was a sawed off, one-story nigger in dis town who was swellin' aroun' an' passin' dis cote house widout speakin' to me, what ambiguous disobservashuns do yo' imagine he would fling out?"

"He couldn't do nuffin!" replied the chunky man, though evidently somewhat alarmed.

"He couldn't! Pusson, don't yo' deceive yo'self! He would say to me, he would: 'William, yo' keep yo'r eye on dat afore said nigger. De next time he passes yo' widout bowin' I'll hev de Sheriff bring him in heah, an' we'll try him for alimony an' send him up fur five y'ars! Dat's what he would say, sah, an' yo'd quit yo'r swellin' around mighty sudden!"

Misser Green, kin I spoke to yo'?" humbly asked the chunky man.

"Yes, sah."

"Den I should like to say dat owin' to my precarious hurry to catch de depot I didn't perceive yo'r presence."

"Den it's all right—all right, Misser Johnson. Not dat I keer about bein' perceived, yo' know, but it's fur yo'r own benefit. In de fucher, when yo' pass dis cote house an' see me around heah, it will be jist as well if yo' articulate de prognosticashun an' recognize my existence." [In our ramble

for news Friday morning we ran across the above. We suppose it was written by Colonel R. E. Carr, and believing that he intended it for publication, we take the liberty of publishing it in his absence, as we learn he went to Raleigh to visit the Agricultural Department in regard to his ground hog.]

HARRIES THE SLAVE.

The Khedive signed a marriage contract with his favorite slave last Thursday in the presence of the Egyptian ministers. This act constitutes a marriage to the slave, and there will be no public ceremony.

About ten or twelve years ago Khedive's mother purchased several Circassian slave girls as upper servants for her children later on. These Circassians were then mere children and have since been brought up in the palace. On the accession one of the young women was attached to the apartments of the Khedive in order to watch over his wardrobe. The Khedive took a great liking to her, but for some time she did not become his concubine, declining to enter into that relation with him. But when the Khedive's mother, went to Constantinople last year and a marriage with some Turkish princess was talked about the Circassian held out no longer, seeing that her only hope of advancement was to become concubine to the Khedive, and thus, if a son were the result she could claim marriage and the proclamation of her son as Crown Prince.

When the Khedive learned of the relation which existed between the Khedive and the Circassian, she was very angry, but upon her son asking her forgiveness and stating that he wished to marry the girl, she relented and gave him her blessing. It was thought that the Khedive would marry the girl, who is three or four years older than himself, before the birth of the child, in order to insure its legitimacy, as there was some doubt as to whether legitimacy could be affected by a marriage after-birth, the girl not being the slave of the Khedive, but of his mother. According to certain of the best authorities the Khedive cannot acquire the property of his slave, as his mother has no power to sell or give away any slave, such an act being contrary to the Egyptian slave law. The other members of the Khedive's family are furious at the situation of affairs, as they fondly hoped that the Khedive and his only brother, Mohamed Aly, might die childless.

SIX PER CENT.

From the Shelby Aurora, 21st.

The Populists have complained of scarcity of money and hard times, so to bring prosperity and more money in circulation they passed last Monday the six per cent interest bill.

When money is scarce of course lower interest will make it more plentiful, bring gold and silver from Wall Street and make the hard-hearted Shylocks lend it at six per cent interest and help the borrower.

1. In Shelby a New Orleans company has lent money here on land for the last five years to many in Cleveland and Rutherford. They have instructed their agent, R. L. Ryburn to discontinue lending money in this state. So it drives out cash capital in North Carolina.

2. It is aimed for the benefit of the poor man and to cripple Shylock seeking big interest, but this may hurt the poor man and force him to buy supplies and merchandise on a credit at 50 per cent premium from a store, instead of borrowing at eight per cent the cash

with which to buy supplies. Is it not better to pay eight per cent interest for money than 25 to 50 per cent for goods bought on a mortgage from the stores?

3. It is a trite and undisputed maxim in commerce that navigation and trade should be free and not bound by arbitrary laws. Let trades between individuals be free and not subject to class legislation. When you restrict and frighten away Capital, Capital retreats to its fortress, bars the steel doors to its vaults and hides until the storm is over. It can retire for one year from business and remain in its castle, while Labor, gaunt and hungry, can not fight long without money and bread.

4. If I can hire a \$100 horse or mule on a farm one year for \$20 rental, or rent a \$100 cottage for \$2 per month to a tenant or mill operative, why should not I have the right to rent the use of my \$100 cash for \$8 for one year? Why force me to take \$6 per annum or six per cent interest on \$100, when my neighbor rents a town cottage for \$24—four times higher. If one is unjust and a heavy burden, why is not the owner of the cottage oppressing the poor man as well as usurious Shylock?

5. It is not more unjust to rent a \$1000 farm for \$100 for one year than to rent or lend \$1000 cash for one year. But you say money is different and every one has to have money, so they also have to have houses and lands and the landlords charge higher for houses when houses are scarce.

If you can not regulate by legislation the price of calico, a horse, a farm or the rent of a house, but allow freedom of trade and contract between the parties, then why not let money be free, invite more capital which the South now needs to build mills and develop her hidden resources? Let money be the subject of contract, then you invite more capital.

6 Usurious laws are a relic of barbarism and the tendency of civilization is to allow freedom to the borrower and lender and to submit to the laws of supply and demand which governs money and everything else. All writers on political economy oppose usury laws as unwise and impolitic.

7. The value of money varies in different places, in different years and seasons, and legislation can not fight against the laws of supply and demand. Interest regulates itself according to supply and demand and let men of sense and business capacity regulate their own trades. In New York money is more plentiful and cheaper than in North Carolina or Virginia. In the South the farmer needs money in the summer to run his farm, while in the winter he can do without much cash.

8. The rate of interest should vary or fluctuate with the risk and promptness of the borrower. There fore one standard of interest is unjust.

The United States government borrows money at 3 to 4 per cent, so do some of our national banks borrow at four or five per cent, because the risk is less, the ability and promptness to pay are greater than with you or me dependent upon crops, accidents and vicissitudes of fortune.

A loan on a real estate mortgage worth four times the debt and with a legal and undisputed chain of titles extending 21 years at 6 per cent is better and safer than an 8 per cent loan on a crop lien or a personal surety.

A loan to one man at 8 per cent is better than to another improvident man at 12 per cent.

Capitalists say that a thirty-year bond at 6 per cent. is better than short bond at 7 per cent. So you see these fluctuation in the rate of interest, which law cannot change or regulate.

9. It is often inoperative and a dead law, rarely executed. It has not the sanction of business men who borrow often and largely from national banks.

A farmer can avoid it successfully and legally by selling five-cent cotton for seven cents on time payable one year, from date, or he can sell his corn at a higher price on time and charge for his risk. I can discount or buy a \$100 note for \$90 on B or C, and the laws cannot prevent. I can buy a \$100 horse and sell him for \$125 on time. It is a dead law, a relic of the past.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS.

After the American Wheelmen have drawn the color line, it will be in order for the American Wheelwomen, to draw the garter line.—Chattanooga News.

"The bunches of snow on the magnolia trees," says the Birmingham Age-Herald, in poetical mood, look like magnolia blossoms. The snow is typical of the north and the magnolia of the south, and the blending of the two is suggestive of the union of the north and south." Very suggestive. It is a "freeze out" for the south.—Charleston News and Courier.

Banking statistics as furnished by the treasury department at Washington indicate a more healthy condition of affairs, the reports from most of the states showing that the amount on deposit in the various savings institutions of the country are steadily increasing.—Chattanooga Times.

"I am not in favor of negro rule" is a common saying with the populists. They will vote in favor of negro rule every time they change a city charter in Eastern North Carolina. They will be judged by their acts rather than by their professions.—Raleigh Observer.

The United States imports sugar to the value of \$118,000,000. Alabama planters could raise cane enough easily to make all the sugar that is used in the state. There is nothing needed for man or beast that cannot be easily and successfully grown in this state.—Montgomery Advertiser.

The Gainesville Sun is opposed to the whipping post for wife-beaters, as it is barbarous and a cruelty of a by-gone age. Is it any more so than a big, strong man chastising a weak and frail woman by kicks and cuffs?—Jacksonville (Fla.) Metropolis.

AN EXTRA SESSION TALKED.

The country has borne up bravely under the disappointments which this congress has inflicted upon it, but the knowledge of the fact that there was a turn in the lane, that congress was bound to die, has served to keep up courage. It is not, therefore, to be expected that it should view even idle talk of an extra session with any sort of equanimity. While Senator Chandler, it will be admitted, not infrequently talks of things he knows nothing about, the mere suggestion of an extra session will make timid people uneasy until all danger of such a prolongation of misery is at an end.

However, there is little of a substantial character behind this suggestion by Chandler. There is nothing an extra session of congress would do that the country wants done, and there is nothing the country wants done an extra session of congress would do. About the only thing, it is generally believed, that would induce the president to call congress together again would be the failure of the general appropriation bills to pass, and they are pretty sure to get through all right.

A few weeks ago the finances of the government were in such condition a nd congress was so deter-

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mined to prevent any amelioration that the extra session was looming up as a sort of nightmare. But the president's determined stand and bold action changed all this. Even they who are loudest in their denunciation of the bond deal must admit that it had much to do with averting an extra session of congress. The country should willingly spare a few millions to be saved from that calamity. The republicans of the house and senate have not shown such a regard for the welfare of the nation as would lead anybody to believe that they would accomplish much for the country's good in an extra session.

MA Harrisville, Mich., man recently trapped a black fox and the felt sold for \$150.

Henry Griffin, the 17-year-old jockey, has engagements for this year that will net him about \$30,000.

Nashville is the first city in the world for hardwood lumber, and the largest milling city of the South.

"The Campbells are Comin'" is a very old Scottish air Copies of it dating back to 1620 are known to exist.

Providence, R. I., is one of the chief cities of the world for the manufacture of jewelry and silver goods.

Of the 12,000 Canadian Indians on the Pacific coast, 800 have been baptised or attend Christian worship. The gospels have been printed for them in four languages.

Ca Wisner, Neb., Mrs. McDer mott carried her child four miles to be baptised. As it was blizzard weather she wrapped it up so close against the cold that it was smothered before reaching the church.

The tailor bird takes its name from its habit of sewing together two leaves in order to make a pocket, in which it places its nest. Its thread is a vegetable fibre, though it will in preference, use a string thread or cord, if such can be found.

Friday while testing the torpedo outfit on the United States steamer Minneapolis, at Newport, one of the torpedoes became uncontrollable and dashed itself to pieces against the stone breakwater. These torpedoes are run by compressed air, and it is presumed that the water so chilled the torpedo as to make it ineffective. Unlike the Howell torpedo, the Whiteheads do not run well in cold water, and are better for summer use.

Mrs. Lynn Linton, who is the most popular of English writers, will follow Mr. Hawthorne in the News' short story series, and a novelette by her, "Between Scylla and Charybdis." Mrs. Linton is a graceful and charming writer and this new story from her pen will undoubtedly prove a treat.

A STORY SENATOR PALMER TELLS.

"My grandfather," said Senator Palmer, "was born down among the fish and oysters of Northumberland county, Va. There are plenty of Palmers down there yet, and my friend, Colonel Jones, has had a great deal to tell of them. He went to see an old lady one time when I was expected down to make a speech and when he discovered that her maiden name had been Palmer he told her that there was a man up here in the senate of that name whose grandfather was born down there. The old lady remembered that branch of the family perfectly and claimed kin at once. She could even detect in me some unmistakable family traits. 'But, aunty,' said Colonel Jones, 'Senator Palmer fought in the northern army.' That staggered the old lady, for she is as loyal to the lost cause as anybody in the south, but once she had claimed kin she wasn't going to back down. 'Well, honey,' said she, with a sigh, 'there's always a black sheep in every family.'"

NOTES OF INTEREST.

Boston boasts Chinese druggists. The world's railways employ 321,000 people.



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