

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

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GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1897.

No. 24.

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GOOD ROADS.

Working Convicts on the Public Highways.

Washington Post.

Our esteemed contemporary, the New York Tribune, thus moralizes upon one of the important questions of the day:

"Bad roads, as we have said, are an evil of all the year round. The remedy for them must be applied, in greater or less degree, all the year round. Good roads, that is to say, need constant attention to keep them good. But making them good is a task that can best be performed at certain fixed seasons, and these are the seasons at which the average farmer can least well arrange to do the work. They are the seasons when he is busiest on his farm, and when for him even to go out with plow and scraper and work out his road tax means to neglect his crops. But all the plowing and scraping in the world cannot make a good road, and to ask a farmer to do more, to enter upon the work of grading and draining and macadamizing, is to ask a practical impossibility.

Just here, however, is where one great advantage of convict labor on the roads becomes evident. The inmates of the state prisons have no other duties to perform than those they may be set at. They can be put to work upon the roads at just the best possible time for road building, and so can do the work to the best possible advantage. They can also be set to work on them at any time to repair them and be kept at it as long as may be necessary without in the slightest degree interfering with ordinary agricultural or other industry. When to this it is added that road-making is work which all able-bodied men can do, whether skilled or unskilled, and that it is just such wholesome, variegated, out-of-door work as prisoners most need for mental and physical health, the argument for this employing convicts seems well nigh unanswerable.

For years past we have been industriously advocating this idea. It has always seemed to us that State convicts could in no other way be employed so usefully as in road making. We have not thought it quite fair to honest laboring men to subject them to the competition of convicts, neither has it seemed merciful to the convicts themselves to refuse to them the opportunity of wholesome exercise and occupation. Road-building, therefore, has suggested itself to us as being in every way the best solution of the difficulty. In this way convicts can be made to render the most valuable possible service to the State; in this way their welfare, physical and moral, will be most effectively promoted; in this way honest labor will be protected against an injurious and unfair competition.

Whatever may be said in favor of making, mending and keeping in repair the roads in Northern States, can be said with infinitely more force touching roads in the Southern States. With the exception of Tennessee and Kentucky and certain scattering districts in the richer planting States, it may be asserted that really good roads are unknown in the South. To this fact we ascribe the low price of Southern agricultural lands, the tendency of intelligent and cultivated people to the cities and the practical abandonment of the farms and plantations to the negroes. The gregarious instinct is strong in man and he rebels against the weary winter months of imprisonment by mud and his total segregation from all human sympathy and intercourse. Nowhere in the world are good roads needed more than in the South. Nowhere would the construction and effective maintenance of good roads exert so beneficent an influence upon the moral and material welfare of the people. Every word the Tribune says concerning the North in this connection applies with tenfold eloquence to the South. If the states in that section would employ their convicts to build and keep in repair the public roads instead of leasing them to contractors to work in competition with free labor it would be better for the tax payers, the convicts and society at large. It would usher in a new dispensation of agricultural prosperity throughout the section.

Electric Bitters.
Electric Bitters is a medicine suited for any season, but perhaps more generally needed, when the languid exhausted feeling prevails, when the liver is torpid and sluggish and the need of a tonic and alterative is felt. A prompt use of this medicine has often averted long and perhaps fatal bilious fevers. No medicine will act more surely in counteracting and freeing the system from the malaria poison. Headache, indigestion, Constipation, Dizziness yield to Electric Bitters. 50c and \$1.00 per bottle at T. A. Albright & Co.'s.

Newton has voted in favor of electric lights.

The Obstacles to Public Education.

Fayetteville Observer.

The Observer, in keeping with the spirit of the times, is in favor of popular education, and it commends the motive of those who sought to stimulate interest in that cause by the local option device which we are to vote upon in August. But speaking now only for Cumberland county, we have to express the earnest hope that all those who cherish Anglo-Saxon civilization and who believe that in Anglo-Saxon supremacy alone lies our hope of escape from social and political ruin, will cast their votes against placing one cent more of public money in the control of the present board of education.

Our reason for taking this position is the fact that the authorities in this county have placed upon the race which won this country from the savages and afterwards from European control the most unbearable affront that they were capable of. They have chosen as one of the three members of the county board in control of all the public school moneys, the public school teacher (female as well as male) and the public school children, a negro man—no doubt a very worthy man of his race, but still a negro man. No white man worthy of his race will vote more power into the hands of a board so constituted.

The law gives the white man and the negro equal individual voting power, but circumstances have given the whites of Cumberland a large majority over the negroes. As the negroes in the late election chose to draw the line rigidly against the whites, will the latter be so men as to turn the other cheek now that they have felt the blow? We do not believe it. Except for the unpatriotic action of selfish men (speaking generally for the state and a number of the counties), who preferred to sacrifice their counties and state to the negro party rather than part with their party positions, Cumberland county and the state of North Carolina would not now be in the disgraceful plight they are in. But we still have the power to call a halt to our downward progress. Let us exercise it.

No one goes beyond the Observer—and in this we believe we speak for Fayetteville and the county of Cumberland—in regard for the negro in his place, and an earnest desire for his moral, intellectual and material improvement, but an heredity of thousands of years of injustice and beliefs diametrically opposed to our civilization have so suddenly enlivened by a constitutional amendment—whether honestly enacted, as the one giving suffrage to the negro was not, or corruptly secured, as that one was.

Let it be distinctly understood that while the white man cheerfully pays nearly all the taxes that support both the white and the black schools he will draw the line against the disbursement of these taxes by the blacks.

Marvelous Results.
From a letter written by Rev. J. Gunderman, of Dimondale, Mich., we are permitted to make this extract: "I have no hesitation in recommending Dr. King's New Discovery, as the results were almost marvelous in the case of my wife. While I was pastor of the Baptist church at Rives Junction she was brought down with pneumonia succumbing La Grippe. Terrible paroxysms of coughing would last hours without little interruption and it seemed as if she could not survive them. A friend recommended Dr. King's New Discovery; it was quick in its work and highly satisfactory in results." Trial bottles free at T. A. Albright & Co.'s. Regular size 50c and \$1.00.

Alamance Comes Next.
Raleigh Observer.
The auditor is now getting from the sheriff's reports of the corporations in their counties with the capital stock of each. Guilford has the largest number (93) and the largest total capital stock (\$2,000,000) invested. Alamance comes next with sixteen corporations and \$1,500,000 capital stock. Some counties report no corporations at all.

Eternal Vigilance.
Is the price of perfect health. Watch carefully the first symptoms of impure blood. Cure boils, pimples, humors and scrofula by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. Drive away the pains and aches of rheumatism, malaria and stomach troubles, steady your nerves and overcome that tired feeling by taking the same great medicine.

Hood's Pills are the best cathartic and liver tonic. Gentle, reliable, sure.

Mr. William Schaub, a farmer, was killed by lightning, near his home, King's Cabin, Stokes county, Thursday afternoon a week. Mr. Schaub was in his wagon when the flash came. His two horses were also killed, while his wagon was badly torn to pieces.

The Democrats in Ohio.

New York Journal.

The special correspondent of the Journal in Ohio, Mr. James Greelman, calls particular attention to the general harmony existing among the Democrats in that State. Although a strong declaration by the convention in favor of free coinage of silver was a foregone conclusion, former gold Democrats and men who voted directly for McKinley, sat in the convention as delegates and heartily approved its every act. Such eminent recalcitrants of 1896 as ex-Governor Campbell and others have returned to the fold and come seeking nominations to office. The fusion of the Populists and the Free Silver Republicans with the Democrats is complete.

It would be an overstatement to assert that the return to the Democratic allegiance of so considerable a proportion of the deserters of 1896 is wholly due to their conversion to belief in the merit of the free silver dogma. Rather is it probable they have discovered that by their antagonism to that article in the Democratic creed they have brought down upon the United States evils vastly greater than even they could conjecture as resulting from literal enforcement of the Chicago platform. They have seen plutocracy triumphant throughout the land. Congress has been surrendered to greedy tariff eaters and has yielded servile obedience to the crack of the trust magnates' whip, Illinois, which contributed heavily to McKinley's election, has fallen into the hands of corruptionists and spoilsmen, and her people are crying for a chance to turn the Republic out. New York is doing the penance for the fatuity which led its voters to put a Republican in the Governor's office. Everywhere the spoilsmen are becoming more lawless, everywhere the trusts are more oppressive and insolent.

The enthusiasm and harmony of the Ohio Democrats spring as much from a knowledge of Republican weakness and failure as from their confidence in their own principles. The strength of their platform as a protest is in no whit behind its force as a declaration of party principles. To them is offered a glorious opportunity to give the first expression of the verdict of the people upon the McKinley Administration, and for the credit of their party and the good of the country it is to be hoped they will make the verdict clear and unmistakable.

Overcharges by Stewart Bros.
Raleigh cor. of Charlotte Observer.
The ex-public printer, Stewart Bros., are in fresh trouble. Your correspondent today interviewed R. C. Rivers, one of the two expert examiners of public printing. Mr. Rivers said: "Stewart Bros. put in a bill for printing one and a half million of fertilizer tags. They are printed in blocks of eight, but Stewart's bill counts each tag separately, thus making each impression of the block of eight as eight impressions, and, of course, increasing the bill seven times more than it should be. The bill is for \$2,000 while it ought to be \$225. I allowed the bill on Stewart's statement that they could furnish these tags singly if they were so disposed. I did not then know of the law requiring them to be printed in blocks of eight. Ex-Secretary Bruner and Secretary Ramsey, of the agricultural department explained to me that the printing in blocks of eight was required. Now I have made an official statement that only \$225 and not \$2,000 should be paid for this work."

Was there ever anything quite equal to this public printing business? Was there ever a contract so poorly, so loosely drawn? Were defects on the part of the state's representatives ever made use of more quickly? How much has the "jay" legislature of 1895 cost the state, anyway? These are some of the questions one hears. Of course in these degenerate days it is difficult to get a Populist to say that anything it does is bad and vice versa. But this public printing business proves too much even for the most hardened. They are squealing.

"Be regular and punctual in all things" was one of the old maxims, taught long ago. The last is not forgotten, but the first is scarcely remembered, so irregular is the life of most people nowadays. The only corrector of this evil is Simmons Liver Regulator, which keeps the liver active and prevents the ills of irregular living; Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Constipation, etc. It also cures these troubles.

Arthur Spruill, steward at the Northampton county State farm, died suddenly Friday morning a week.

The proper way to build health is to make the blood rich and pure by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the one true blood purifier.

A Greensboro Fire of 1849.

Greensboro Record.

Mr. J. B. Lossing relates the following incident in his Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution, Vol. 2, p. 389, found in the library of Greensboro Female College. He says: "On the 24th day of January, 1849, I left the borders of Alamance battle ground, and its associations, at 1 o'clock, and traversing a very hilly country for eighteen miles arrived at little after dark at Greensboro, a thriving, compact village situated about five miles southeast from the site of old Guilford Court House. "It is the capital of Guilford county and successor to old Martinsville where the court house was formerly situated.

"Very few of the villages in the interior of the state appeared to me more like a northern town than Greensboro. The houses are generally good, and the stores gave evidence of active trade. Within an hour after my arrival the town was thrown into commotion by the bursting out of flames from a large frame dwelling a short distance from the court house.

"There being no fire engine in the place the flames spread rapidly and at one time menaced the safety of the whole town. A small keg of powder was used without effect to demolish a tailor's shop standing in the way of the conflagration toward a large tavern. The flames passed on until confronted by one of those broad chimneys on the outside of the house so universally prevalent in the South, when it was subdued, after four buildings were destroyed.

"I never saw a population more thoroughly frightened, and when I returned to my lodgings, far away from the fire, every bed in the house was packed ready for flight. It was past midnight when the town became quiet, and consequently a late breakfast delayed my departure for the battle field at Guilford Court House until 9 o'clock the next morning."

"Then he goes on to relate his visit to the battle ground and gives a description of old Martinsville, "once a pleasant hamlet," he says, "but now a desolation."

We have done everything that we can to make the BUCKSKIN BREECIES perfect. We believe they are as near perfect as good jeans, good thread and careful work can make them. That's why we put the printed guarantee in the pocket of each pair. It means if you don't find them all right, in every way, you can get your money back.

What A Horse Can Do.
An ordinary horse will walk a mile in twenty minutes; and he will gallop a mile in from 3 to 4 minutes.
He weighs as much as seven men and is as strong as five men.
He can pull a weight of 900 lbs. without wheels on a dead level.
He can lift 500 tons ten feet high in a working day of eight hours.
He attains his greatest size when five years old; usually lives sixteen years, but may reach the ripe old age of twenty-five.
He can exist five days with solid food and without water, seventeen days without water or food, and 24 days with water and without solid food.

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The Sweet Girl Graduate.
So stately and so dignified,
"She looks in cap and gown,
I hardly dare to speak to her,
This grad of great renown."
I scarcely can believe my eyes,
It surely can't be she
Who always seemed so very shy,
So very coy to me!

But suddenly the spell departs,
And I give thanks to fate;
For anxiously she asks me if
Her mortar board's on straight.
—Harvard Lampoon.

After the Boys!
During the Endeavor convention in Boston one of the delegates came suddenly upon the red-faced citizen who had been patronizing the hotel bar. Buttonholing the delegate unceremoniously, he said:
"What are you fellows trying to do, anyway? You are hot in temperance, I see by the papers. Do you think you could make a temperance man of me?"
"No," replied the delegate, looking him over from head to foot with a keen glance, slightly contemptuous, "we evidently couldn't do much with you, but we are after your boy."

At this unexpected retort the man dropped his peculiar tone and said seriously:
"Well, I guess you have got the right of it there. If somebody had been after me when I was a boy I should be a better man to-day."
Exchange.

A New Shop.
When in need of a Neat Hair Cut or a Smooth Shave, in fact anything in the Barber line, you will do well to call at my shop in the Vestal Building, over T. A. Albright's drug store. My shop is first class in every appointment.
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We wish to become personally acquainted with every man, young and old, who buys his clothes in Greensboro. We are in the clothing business and must have your support if we succeed. We are confident that if you will give us a trial, we will make a customer of you. Our expenses are small, our stock is all new, we make no bad debts, we do business on our own capital, hence we can sell you

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