

**THE FRANKLIN TIMES.**

J. A. THOMAS, Editor and Proprietor.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 19, - - - 1891.

Mr. A. C. MELKE, a prominent Baptist of Lumberton, who died June 1st, made in his will bequests for institutions of his church as follows: to Wake Forest college \$25,000; for a Baptist school at Lumberton \$15,000; endowment for a home for the aged and infirm university at Raleigh \$500.

ONE day last week the President appointed Col. T. C. Fuller, of Raleigh, as one of the Judges of the newly established U. S. Court of Land Claims. His salary is \$5,000 and expenses. The court consists of five Judges, and the President appointed three Republicans and two Democrats. It is generally conceded that Col. Fuller is indebted to Senator Ransom for the appointment.

As THE Charlotte Chronicle says, the election of Prof. Chas. D. McIver as President of the Girls' Normal College to be located at Greensboro is an admirable one. He is really the creator of this promising State institution. He has done more to awaken a spirit for public instruction in this State than any other man, and he is not yet thirty-one years of age. Bold, aggressive and as patriotic as Murphy and Wiley, he is only second in importance to President Winston, of the State University, and if woman's education and life are as momentous as man's, he ranks equally with Winston in honor and usefulness.

The last issue of the Progressive Farmer says: It seems certain that the Alliance can get two of its measures—the free coinage of silver and the reform of the tariff—through the next Congress. It seems also certain that the securing of these two measures would give the order such prestige with the country by relieving the situation that it could demand any other just measure of reform with the certainty of success. The vital question just now is, will our brethren have enough wise conservatism to undertake, with might and main, the things that are possible, or will they take the unwritten and unspoken risk of attempting the doubtful? In a few words, these are the questions that press for answering now, and they must be, they will be, answered, one way or the other, within the next few months. Do we need the union of all other forces? Do the needs of the country demand the union of all our forces? Can we win with disunited and contending factions? Shall the conservatism that has always been the boast of the farming classes make itself dominant in the present crisis? We assure our readers that these are immensely important questions. As these questions shall be answered so shall it be well or ill with the Alliance movement.

**DEMOCRATS ONLY WANT A FAIR CHANCE.**

Democrats only want a fair chance to put the farmers on as prosperous basis as it is possible for the general Government to do. They should not be held responsible for drouths, May frosts, and long seasons of rain, the failure of the apple crop, the presence of the hessian fly, the falling of cotton squares and all the other seasonable ills that attend the farmers. The Democrats have never framed a platform in convention, or advocated a measure in Congress that would hurt the farmers and the reforms that they are laboring for today will meet the cause of depressed agriculture so far as is possible to reach it. The opposition in some portions of the South to Democrats is not in accordance with common sense, nor with the dictates of gratitude. The Democratic party has redeemed the South from a worse condition than Ireland, and if there is any gratitude in politics, this party, when it has arrived at a point when it can be most useful to the country, should be the recipient. —Charlotte Chronicle.

**FOURTH PARTY.**

A recent issue of the Mecklenburg Times, Alliance organ, contains the following criticisms upon the new party:

The party which was born at Cincinnati last week, was called the 'People's Party.' The name of a party should always indicate its principles. The word 'peoples' indicates nothing. It is a catch word used mostly by demagogues. No party by that name can live. We have no doubt that a number of well meaning men believe that a new party is a necessity, and that the one recently started at Cincinnati adopted a grand platform and is destined to live and achieve wonders. We can imagine the pride that swells the bosom of some of the great leaders who hope to have some future historian record, their names among the originators of this new party. Indeed it is possible that some of the advocates of this new move may imagine that they will some day, by some unknown upheaval of human events ride into some big office on the back of this new party.

But the bright visions and beautiful pictures which these ambitious men entertain are like the visions of refreshing waters which the traveler sees in crossing the desert. As he journeys onward he realizes that what he thought were shade trees and rippling streams are only clouds. So these visionary Fourth party dreamers as they grow a year or two older will find that what they thought was a new party is only vapor. Permanent parties do not spring in existence like mushrooms. They grow like the great trees of the forest. They are the result of the gradual absorption of some great principle by the people, as for instance the abolition of slavery. It required a century of education before the people saw the injustice of human slavery. The abolition of saloons and extension of suffrage to women, are questions involving great principles and either of them may grow into a great party in the remote future.

But the Cincinnati party is manufactured out of nothing. No principle underlies it. It is a mixture of Democracy, Republicanism and Socialism.

However there has always existed a class of men who believe that all this is necessary to form a new party is to persuade people that the world is coming to an end, call a convention and nominate a ticket.

In 1852 a few of such men organized the Know Nothing party which was designed to prevent immigration of Irishmen to America. It made a flourish and disappeared from the public stage amid the laughter and ridicule of the people.

At the close of the war the Greenback party was formed demanding the issue of fiat money. But it never amounted to anything and is now out of existence.

In 1878 a new party was born at Toledo, Ohio, with a platform similar to the one adopted at Cincinnati. Much enthusiasm prevailed and its leaders predicted that it would entirely do away or absorb the two old parties. It was called the National People's party. It received 500,000 votes, but did not carry a state in the Union. Two years later it had nearly gone out of existence. However with Gen. Weaver as its candidate for President there was enough of it left in 1880 to cause New York, Indiana and Connecticut to go Republican and thus continue the Republican party in power. In 1884 there was another clamor for a new party. A big convention was held and a grand platform adopted. It was also called the people's party. Old Ben Butler was its nominee for President. It did not amount to much but came within 1,100 votes of defeating the Democrats in New York, and electing another Republican president of the United States. The Peoples party was never heard of after that campaign.

The labor party was formed and nominated a candidate for President in 1888, but its candidate made a poor showing at the polls. Several labor candidates have been run for office in the Northern States but never with success.

On May 19th 1891 another attempt was made to form a people's party. Such men as Gen. Weaver, the greenbacker who has been in every new party since the flood and such cranks as Ignatius Donnelly, and Mason Green editor of Edward Bellamy's paper the Nationalist, which advocates socialism, were leading spirits in the meeting. We have no doubt that this new 'People's party' like all other so called 'Peoples' parties, will die in about two years and be buried with all the misguided leaders who have anything to do with it.

This new party fever is a sort of epidemic that attacks the imagination of a vacillating class of men every few years.

We do not believe that the Microbe will find many victims in the South.

The present year, says the Bonham (Texas) News, has been a remarkable one in many respects. The whole world is in commotion. The very elements are stirred up. Storms sweep over the world, showing that the atmosphere is unusually active. The nations of the old world are daily growing envious and jealous of the power and prosperity of each other. Monarchs are startled by the agitation surrounding them. Preparations for war are surely going on, and so soon as all things are ready a sufficient provocation can easily be found to start the ball in motion and put on foot the most extensive war the world has ever witnessed. The early hour at which the great political agitation has commenced in our country, shows that this nation, too, is restless. The field is full of demagogical agitators who are putting in their work and stirring up strife. Whether these great storms in the natural world will purify the atmosphere and add to our physical health, or whether the great commotions and agitations in politics will purify and make better the governments of the world, is yet to be ascertained.

**IS IT WISE?**

Is it wise for the friends of reform in our national affairs to ignore the reform of the tariff and put all their strength into the agitation in favor of the Sub-treasury bill and in favor of the free coinage of silver? We answer this question without one moment of hesitation with an emphatic negative. It is constantly assumed by the reform press that the tariff is not a financial measure at all. This assumption is violent and unfair. It is, indeed, the most vital financial question that is now before the people, or that can come before the people. Any other measures of financial reform will be only partial and unsatisfactory without such a modification of our tariff system as will amount to the entire regeneration of our customs regulations. The mere statement of this truth must carry conviction to any mind that is capable of reasoning upon these questions at all.

Some who read this article may be inclined to say that the free silver issue should not be abandoned in favor of the tariff issue. Most certainly not. Those who think that the pressing of the tariff reform issue involves the abandonment of the free silver issue, have little ability to think upon this or upon any other question of public policy. These two issues are related, and they should be pressed together. The Ocala demands call for reform in the tariff just as loudly and just as imperatively as they call for the free coinage of silver. And those who exalt the one and slur the other over as unimportant, are not wise.

To select one issue out of such a complication of infamous legislation as the country is suffering under at the present time is a very shortsighted and narrow, if not a positively blind and fatuous policy. But toward such a policy the agitations and discussions within the Alliance seems to be drifting. One hears a good deal nowadays about being true to alliance demands; and not a few men have been denounced as Judases and traitors to the Alliance, because they do not agree with the majority upon certain questions of method. We want to remind those who are so ready to deal in denunciations against their brethren, that the reform of the tariff is just as much a part of the Alliance demands as is free silver. And we want to remind our brethren also that the man with one idea is dangerous in more senses than one.

We are in favor of tariff reform, and we are in favor of free silver, because we think the Alliance can get these measures, and because we think that the men in the other parties, who will help them to get these reforms, will be willing to unite with them to secure any other reforms that may be demanded for the good of the country. We say it emphatically that those who press the silver issue to the ignoring of the tariff issue, are neither wise advisers nor safe leaders in this crisis. —Progressive Farmer—Alliance Organ.

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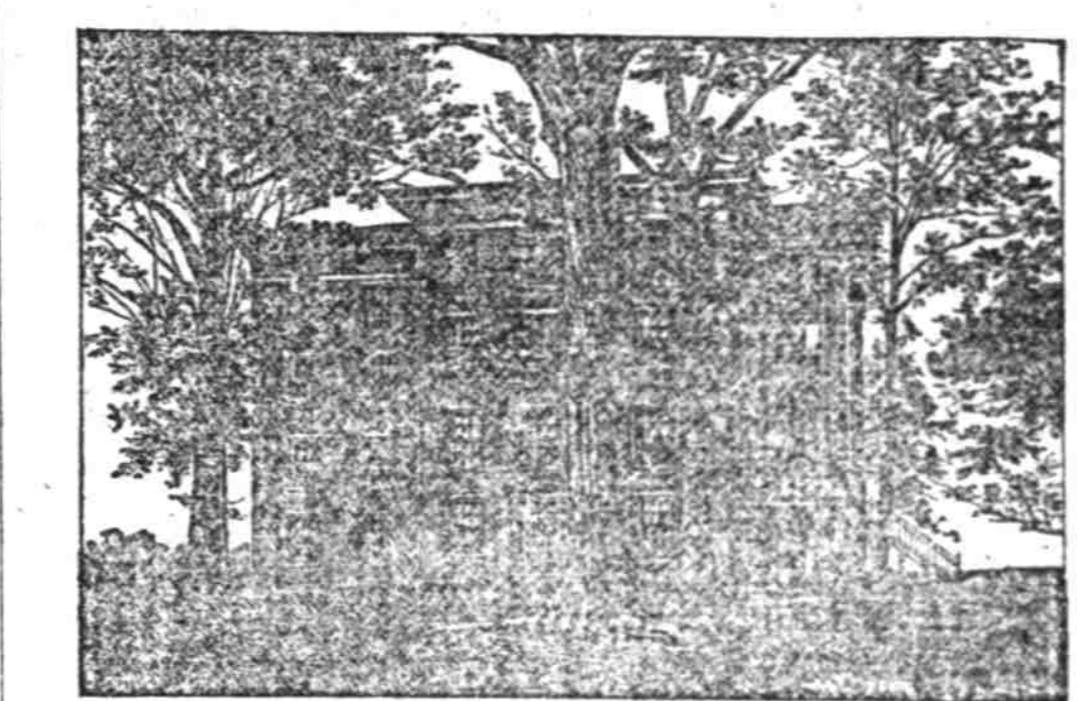
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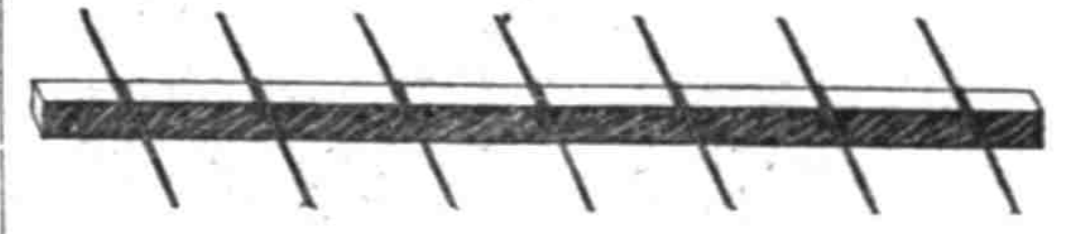
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