

# The Lenoir Topic.

VOLUME XVI.

LENOIR, N. C., WEDNESDAY, APRIL, 29, 1891.

NUMBER 32.

## ITS' AN ILL WIND

That Blows No One Good.

In the midst of the Panic which has just passed over the money centres of this country our buyers were on the market placing orders for

## SPRING GOODS.

Panic has been defined as "People Losing their Heads". The definition is a good one. During the crisis a dollar in cash was worth a handsome premium. Holders of Merchandise who found themselves in need of ready cash were driven to make

## SALES,

and the opportunities for profitable investments were not wanting. It is only necessary to add that we have taken advantage of the situation to the fullest extent and as a result are prepared for the

## Spring Trade

as we have never been before. Economical management, small profits and a large volume of business, we have always believed, the surer road to success. This will continue to be our policy. To merit the good will and support of our friends and customer always foremost in our minds and starting into the

## New Year

with such auspicious prospects it affords us great pleasure to invite their continued co-operation.

Very Respectfully,  
**Wallace Bros.**

Statesville, N. C., January 1, 1891.

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The best school for young ladies in Western North Carolina.

Fall term begins Sept. 11th.

A full faculty of scholarly, experienced, and cultured teachers. All are graduates of the best schools of the United States. Liberal and useful courses of study. Music and Art are prominent specialties. Aims to develop the highest type of cultured womanhood.

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## A PLEA FOR CLEVELAND.

Comments upon Dr. Beall's Able Article

CLEVELAND AND THE SOUTH.

Wilmington Messenger.

The opinion is growing that Mr. Cleveland's views upon silver have not really very seriously injured his chances for the nomination next year. It is true that several leading members of the Congress, and Senator Voorhees, Pugh and Harris are among them, are antagonizing his nomination, but if the newspapers can be taken as good witnesses the sentiment among the people at large is overwhelmingly in his favor. Of course prominent, able men in politics can lead off a good many people in opposition, but the masses at heart are for Cleveland. Unless a very decided change takes place in North Carolina before June 1892, we feel very sanguine of the success of the great ex-President in capturing the delegation if it votes as an unit. And so we believe it will be in the South generally. There may be a reaction against Cleveland within the next fourteen months, but it will not be brought about because he antagonized "the unlimited coinage of silver."

The outlook is altogether favorable to a campaign based against Force bills and a Higher Tariff Tax. The people crave peace and economy. The currency is a dividing question, and the Democrat will deserve to be defeated again even by so inferior a mortal as Harrison if they allow the Republican party to draw them over the precipice into the whirlpool of "free silver coinage."

We are not discussing the merits of that proposition. Free silver coinage may or may not be the right thing, the sound thing, the fair thing. What we are concerned about now are the dangers lurking in a measure that will inevitably divide the Democratic party and lose either the West or the East and imperil some Southern States.

We not long since published a letter from Dr. R. L. Beall, a prominent physician at Lenoir, and it has since appeared in other papers. The Charleston News and Courier copies it and credits to another North Carolina paper in which it appeared after its publication in the Messenger. It editorially discusses what the Doctor so earnestly said, in favor of Mr. Cleveland's re-election and approves of his declarations. Dr. Beall is exactly correct when he says:

"Mr. Cleveland is not opposed to silver as a circulating medium any more than to gold, but he is opposed to issuing it in such vast amounts as to depreciate its value; and he wants its value as compared with gold to be fixed so that when we farmers ship our cotton, tobacco and wheat direct to Europe (as we hope to do if his tariff reform is carried out) we will have a fixed standard by which to adjust balances and not be compelled to take a depreciated currency in exchange."

## WHY HE SUPPORTS CLEVELAND.

Charleston News and Courier.

When Mr. Cleveland's letter to the Reform Club of New York was published in February, defining his position on the question of free silver coinage, there was great rejoicing among the political quacks, cranks and spoilsmen at Washington and throughout the country because, as they said, it rendered him wholly unavailable as the Democratic candidate for President in 1892. Many of the staunchest advocates of honest money, we entirely agree with Mr. Cleveland's views, were startled by the boldness of his utterances and deprecated the publication of the letter at such a crisis, while the weak-kneed and timorous souls, who seem to have secured a refuge in the Democratic camp, generally took to the woods. The senators, to whom Mr. Cleveland would not truckle when he was President and the whole of the Democratic Mafia heaped maledictions on him and turned upon him to destroy him and with him the only hope that the party has for victory in the next great national contest. If the letter had been written on the eve of electing delegates to the National Democratic Convention, perhaps it would have defeated him, for the Anti-Cleveland Democrats are "given to lying," but it was written in the proper spirit, at the right time, and challenging the admiration of friend and foe alike for the courage with which he expressed his convictions, it has made the election of a Democratic President in 1892 conditional upon the nomination of Mr. Cleveland.

It is precisely as we predicted that it would be when Mr. Cleveland's letter was first published. The Representatives at Washington of uncertain constitutions, and the

senators who represent special industries, having exhausted for the present their stock of misrepresentation and misinformation, the people are beginning to think and speak and act for themselves. We reprint to day from the Progressive Farmer the Alliance organ in North Carolina, a very insignificant article by R. L. Beall, of Lenoir, himself an earnest and intelligent representative of the Farmers' Alliance in the Old North State, a man of power and influence, and a Democrat from choice and conviction. He did not lose his faith in the principles of the Democratic party when he joined the Alliance, and joining the Alliance did not destroy his confidence in the honesty, ability and political sagacity of Mr. Cleveland. He shows that Mr. Cleveland has been an honest and consistent friend of the South, and an able and effective champion of economy in the administration of the Government. "Southern farmers and Alliance men," says Mr. Beall, "should remember with gratitude his vigorous war on the iniquitous tariff, which, in my humble opinion, is the source of more evils than all other causes combined."

In regard to Mr. Cleveland's position on the silver question, Mr. Beall says very truly that "Mr. Cleveland is not opposed to silver as a circulating medium any more than to gold, but he is opposed to issuing it in such vast amounts as to depreciate its value; and he wants its value as compared with gold to be fixed so that when we farmers ship our cotton, tobacco and wheat direct to Europe (as we hope to do if his tariff reform is carried out) we will have a fixed standard by which to adjust balances and not be compelled to take a depreciated currency in exchange." Mr. Beall, shows in conclusion, that the silver legislation against which Mr. Cleveland protested, was especially designed to promote the interest of the owners of silver mines and silver bullion, and not for the benefit of the farmers and workmen of the country. He begs that the Farmers' Alliance will not antagonize one who has always fought on their side and for their interests.

Mr. Beall represents a very large following in North Carolina and throughout the South. The free unlimited and independent coinage of silver will help the millionaires and still further impoverish the people. "Saddest of all," says Mr. Cleveland in his Warner letter, "in every workshop, mill, factory, store and on every railroad and farm, the wages of labor, already depressed, would suffer, still further depression by a scaling down of the purchasing power of every so-called dollar paid into the hand of toil."

## CLEVELAND AND FREE COINAGE

Springfield, Mass., Republican.

This letter from R. L. Beall, Lenoir, N. C., a prominent member of the Alliance, upon Mr. Cleveland's attitude on the silver question, is worth reading as indicating a change in sentiment that is apparently very generally taking place among the men supposed to be most completely under the control of the free coinage delusion. After speaking of Cleveland's friendliness to the South, and his loyalty to tariff reform, Mr. Beall turns to Cleveland's letter on the silver question, saying:

"After all may it not be that he foresees what is dangerous to the prosperity and financial safety to the country a little more clearly than we plain farmers? If I understand him, Mr. Cleveland is not opposed to silver as a circulating medium any more than to gold, but he is opposed to issuing in such vast amounts as to depreciate its value; and he wants its value as compared with gold to be fixed, so that when we farmers ship our cotton, tobacco and wheat direct to Europe (as we hope to do if his tariff reform is carried out) we will have a fixed standard by which to adjust balances, and not be compelled to take a depreciated currency in exchange. Let us not say that he is our enemy in opposing that free coinage bill until we see clearly what it means. I can see this much, that when the government purchases silver and coins it, 20 cents on the dollar is saved to the people. I can also see that if every owner of a silver mine makes 20 cents on his silver dollar and the people lose that much. Let us not be ungrateful. Let us not be in haste to condemn a friend who has always proved faithful."

This is sensible and should be effective with the readers for whom it was intended; but it is equally interesting as showing the hold Cleveland has upon the Southern farmer, even though he be an Alliance man. This fact is gradually penetrating the consciousness of politicians, particularly the congressmen who have been at home long enough to understand just how their constituents regard the situation. As a consequence we are hearing less now about the impossibility of Cleveland for 1892, and a great deal more about the impolicy and folly of making a question the issue which will be sure to divide a party, and the advisability of making the fight in 1892 on the tariff question, leaving

the silver issue one side. Senator Ransom of North Carolina is a convert to this view, and so are several others who might be mentioned. Its opponents seem to be principally a few irreconcilables with a grievance against Cleveland, a few others who have not waked up to the situation, like Senator Pugh of Alabama, and the scattering Hill contingent, who seem to be making the most noise.

## A NOTABLE LETTER.

New York Evening Post.

A notable letter on the silver question has been written by R. L. Beall of Lenoir, N. C., a prominent member of the Alliance. After speaking of Mr. Cleveland's friendliness to the South and his loyalty to tariff reform, Mr. Beall turns to his letter on the silver question, saying: "After all, may it not be that he foresees what is dangerous to the prosperity and financial safety of the country a little more clearly than we plain farmers? If I understand him, Mr. Cleveland is not opposed to silver as a circulating medium any more than to gold, but he is opposed to issuing in such vast amounts as to depreciate its value; and he wants its value as compared with gold to be fixed, so that when we farmers ship our cotton, tobacco and wheat direct to Europe (as we hope to do if his tariff reform is carried out), we will have a fixed standard by which to adjust balances, and not be compelled to take a depreciated currency in exchange. Let us not say that he is our enemy in opposing that free-coinage Bill until we see clearly what it means. I can see this much, that when the Government purchases silver and coins it, twenty cents on the dollar is saved to the people. I can also see that if every owner of a silver mine or of silver bullion can have it coined free, he makes twenty cents on his silver dollar and the people lose that much. Let us not be ungrateful. Let us not be in haste to condemn a friend who has always proved faithful."

## HENRY M. STANLEY

## Was He a Deserter From the Confederate Army?

Atlanta Journal.

I have some very strong convictions on this question, and have had a strong inclination to express them. But I have purposely waited until after the delivery of Mr. Stanley's lecture in Atlanta, because I did not wish to say anything to lessen the receipts of the library association, though I confess to a decided opinion that their committee ought to be more careful whom they invite to lecture for them.

I have had little sympathy with the apologies that have been made for Stanley, and little patience with the courtesies that have been shown him in the South. The facts in the case are simply these: At the outbreak of the war Stanley was living in New Orleans where he had been treated with great kindness. He enlisted in the Confederate army. He was afterwards taken prisoner (when, or where, or whether by the fortunes of war or his own act I am not advised,) and soon after volunteered in the service of the United States. In plain English he became a deserter from the Confederate army and joined the enemy, and had he been caught he would have been shot, and the world would have approved the sentence, for there is no greater crime known to military law than desertion.

These facts have been frequently published, and never successfully denied, but I quote in proof the following from a friendly sketch of Stanley in Appleton's Cyclopaedia, vol. xv., page 307. "His benefactor died intestate, and young Stanley, at the outbreak of the civil war, enlisted in the Confederate army, was taken prisoner, volunteered in the United States navy, and subsequently became an active ensign in the ironclad Ticonderoga. I confess to very great surprise that a Confederate deserter should be countenanced in any Southern community, and to compare him to LaFayette, the patriotic hero of the Revolution, and to class them together as 'soldiers of fortune,' is simply amusing to me. I am always ready to take by the hand the brave soldier who 'wore the blue,' or any man who conscientiously took the other side in the great 'war between the States,' but the man on either side who deserted his colors and fought against his old comrades should have 'deserter' branded on his forehead and be despised and scorned by all right-thinking people."

J. WILLIAM JONES  
Atlanta, April 3, 1891.

Holland Window Shades at M. M. Courtney's.

## LETTER FROM RALEIGH.

News From the State Capital and Other Parts of the State.

RALEIGH, N. C., April, 10.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Topic:

One of the events of the present week was the resignation by Gov. Holt of the Presidency of the North Carolina railway. His successor in that position is Gen. R. F. Hoke. The latter is one of the most prominent officials of the Seaboard Air-Line system, which has for years been at daggers' points with the Richmond & Danville System, which has a long lease of the North Carolina road. People who look ahead speak of the possible merging of the Atlantic & North Carolina and North Carolina railways, giving one line from Charlotte to Morehead City. Railway affairs are very puzzling. Gen. Hoke's election may mean a great deal to the State. He has proved an exceedingly able president of the Georgia, Carolina and Northern railway.

Governor Holt is making a very pleasant impression. He has spent a good deal of time here during the past twenty years, and is very much esteemed. He is quiet, but strictly business. It is predicted that his administration will be very like that of Governor Jarvis, which is so well remembered.

The Governor's first official act was to issue an order to the State Guard regarding Governor Fowle's death and the second one was the ordering of troops on duty at Charlotte, or rather instructing them to cooperate with the civil authorities there in prompting a lynching and also rioting.

It will surprise many people in this State to know how much attention is directed to the well organized Farmers' Alliance in North Carolina. Ex-Congressman Wharton J. Green was interviewed a few days ago at Washington City and said: "There is no danger of the Farmers' Alliance starting a third party in the South. I am a member of the Alliance, and I know that it is not the intention of our organization to support a third party ticket. The Alliance in the South is almost entirely made up of Democrats, and I think they feel the same as I do. They would not subordinate their Democracy to any other organization. One of the leading republican papers of the West, in quoting this, says:

Col. Green is one of the Democratic leaders in his State, and expects to be the next Governor. He is evidently more of a Democrat than an Alliance man. His is the view which most of the Southern Democratic politicians take."

The same paper says: "Now on the other hand, Col. Polk, the National President of the Alliance, has prepared an address, of which 1,000,000 copies are now being mailed to all parts of the country. Col. Polk is also a North Carolina Democrat, but he is more of an Alliance man than a Democrat. In his address he says:

We are told by presumptuous and arrogant partisans and self constituted leaders that farmers and other laboring classes 'should not go into politics'; that we 'will ruin parties and ruin the country.' Who constitute parties in this country? To whom do political parties belong—to the people or to the few who arrogantly assume to control them? Who has a better right to control them? Who has a better right to go into politics than the farmers of this country? The great masses of the industrial classes, North and South, Democrats and Republicans, without regard to sectional or geographical lines, with one purpose and with one heart, have locked their hands and shields in a common cause—the cause of a common country. They have solemnly resolved to turn their backs upon the past and make one mighty effort to rescue our Government and institutions from impending peril."

Col. Polk's paper in question says, which is called to create the Third party, may not go to the Cincinnati conference, but there is little doubt where he stands with regard to third party and his suggestive address will be in the hands of every sub-alliance in the country by the time the conference meets. Polk is an able man than the country generally gives him credit of being. He knows how to put things to reach the masses.

Anything bearing on the Third party matter is just now of particular interest, of course. A force of expert copyists will make rapid progress with the great mass of records of the direct tax in the U. S. treasury department. If they get along as well as State Agent F. H. Busbee expects, the payments of the returned tax will be in full progress in June. A special auditor will consider all the claims which really do not fall in the office of State auditor.

In the world why the attendance should continue so small.

The railway commissioners have settled right down to business in their snug office. All sorts of matter sent by the various railways, on which there are over 50 in the State pour in upon them. The first "regulating" done will be of the passenger rates. There is some disparity in these, it appears.

Governor Holt has called a State immigration convention to meet here May 13. It is really to consider all matters relative to the State's advancement, particularly as regards the Inter-State exposition here and the greater World's Fair at Chicago. The Inter-State exposition's managers are certainly very busy people, having no less than fifteen clerks in the office here. The exposition will be held in a building over 1200 feet long, at the State fair grounds. It will be the greatest yet held in this part of the country. In June the whole matter of the State's exhibit at Chicago will be taken up and acted upon regularly. The military authorities are considering plans for the encampment at Chicago of the entire brigade of State troops for a week or ten days. The old North State will put her best foot foremost there.

The North Carolina Soldiers' Home, half a mile east of this city, will be formally opened May 10. The veterans and the military will participate, as will also the Ladies' Memorial Association. There will be 32 old soldiers to enter the Home at first, but quarters will be provided for 75 or more. The buildings are cottages, the location is superb, the grounds ample and well shaded. The old soldiers will at last have a home indeed. The opening will be quite an event.

The board of State Administration of the World's fair is composed of the Governor, A. B. Andrews, T. B. Keogh, Mrs. Fred W. Kidder and Mrs. Charles Price. It is called to meet here in June, in conjunction with the board of Agriculture.

The supreme court has thus far during the present term had only four justices on the bench. Hon. Joseph J. Davis being unable to do any work. He broke down last year, it will be remembered.

The trustees of the Baptist State Female University, which is to be located here, held a very important meeting this week. This city gives a \$25,000 site for the University. Prof. W. L. Poteat, of Wake Forest College, was elected President of the trustees and Rev. Dr. J. B. Boone, formerly of this State, now of Moberly, Mo., was made financial agent. The Baptists declare their intention of raising \$300,000 endowment for the university.

Such a backward spring was not known for a generation, there is no spring, it is summer, at a bound. The transformation wrought in ten days so far as vegetation is marvelous. Sunday, the 5th instant, was just like November, with no sign of leaves and a little snow fall; today might be May, as far as appearance goes.

The Governor has offered \$100 reward for the arrest of John Stowe, who in Rowan county murdered a man named William White, last winter. There does not appear to be any material abatement of crime in this State.

Several geologists arrived here this week and represent the U. S. geological survey which will later get to work in Ashe county. Prof. Holmes, the State geologist, has charge of the party which is making a hasty trip through the State.

The revenue officials keep right on after the moonshiners in this district. Day before yesterday they captured a big still in Orange county, about 20 miles from here. This is the seventeenth still captured since January 1.

The Secretary of State has appointed Gen. G. W. Lewis State engineer under the new shell fish law. The oyster patrol boat went into commission January 30, goes out of service Monday.

The following are appointed to represent this State at the national conference of charities and corrections at Indianapolis, May 13-20: Dr. E. Burke Haywood, J. H. Mills, Rev. J. Rumble, Rev. E. A. Osborne, Rev. W. C. Wilson, Dr. J. F. Miller, Dr. P. L. Murphy, Thom. as Patton.

There is no sort of trouble with farm labor in this part of the State. No negroes have left the State in nearly 12 months. They are working well and willingly. Farm work so long delayed is now going on rapidly. Cotton planting is in progress. This crop will be below the average in acreage.

T. H. DEAL. M. DEAL.

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