

JUSTICE'S LETTER.

Mr. Editor.—As an additional reply to the question of my young friends of the Daily Sentinel, this city, which in substance was—what has the Republican policies done for the South—I want you to publish a few extracts from various papers for their information in the first issue of THE REPUBLICAN for the New Year 1906. The first I will ask you to publish is taken from the Philadelphia Press of Dec. 28th, and is as follows:

WEALTH IN THE SOUTH.

"No other part of the U. S. is taking longer strides forward than the section which once made up the Confederacy. In the race for wealth the Southern farmer is abreast of the Western granger and the Northern manufacturer. He is no longer hampered by poverty and a tradition. From all over the South come reports of expanding industries. It is computed that farm properties in the 11 States that once seceded from the Union have risen in value more than a billion dollars in two years. The average yield of these lands since this century began is \$200,000,000 a year greater than it was in the preceding 6 years. The South now not only grows cotton for the world, but manages the marketing of it. The speculator, who once got all the cream, gets it no longer. The planter is strong enough to fight his own battle, which means that he can defend his own property. It is 40 years since the downfall of the Lost Cause. There have been many sore trials during these four decades. Paralyzed industries, bankrupt railroads, lack of capital and to a certain extent a bitter recollection, combined to make distress widespread. Happily, these conditions are now wholly changed. Southern mills, factories and farms are as prosperous to-day as those in any other section of the country. What is the best of all, the last shred of resentment toward the North seems to have disappeared, and the Southern States stand out as happy, loyal Commonwealths, which look to the future and not to the past."

The tale this article tells is the strongest funeral oration that could be preached over the grave of Democracy. The full import of what this means may not be apparent to all without a word of explanation which I will make as brief as possible. This article says that the farm properties of the 11 Southern States have been increased more than a billion dollars in 2 years. This is almost too good to believe when, we remember that the entire wealth of the whole U. S. before the war, as shown by the census of 1860, was in round numbers only \$16,000,000,000. Just think of it, in only 2 years, under Republican policies, the people of the South alone, to say nothing of the rest of the Union, have accumulated one sixteenth as much additional wealth as the whole union did from the landing of Columbus to the war. I challenge the world to match such a showing and beg my young friends to give this statement their serious consideration.

Of other statement and I will pass on, and that is that the average value of the products of the farm is \$200,000,000 greater a year for each one of the 5 years since 1900 began than for the 6 years before, that is taking in the period during which the Democrats had the power to make our laws and shape our policies. It looks to me like a Southern farmer who votes the Democratic ticket with these facts before him, should be taken down to the hurray bush, as old Mode Crews says, and be dealt with and more especially when we remember that the taxable value of property, especially in North Carolina, actually decreased under the Democratic administration from 1894 to 1898.

The next clipping I will ask you to publish is the following from the Sentinel of Dec. 27th, which says:

BIG GAINS MADE.

Raleigh, Dec. 27.—The North Carolina Corporation Commission issues a summary of statement of condition of State, private and savings banks under their supervision, which shows an aggregate of \$41,095,539.92 resources, an increase of \$9,491,356.46, over the report for November, 1904. There are 238 banks now as compared with 183 at the corresponding period of last year. The summary shows \$29,614,318.55 on deposit at the time of the last report, November 9. The summary represents all North Carolina's banking interests, except national banks.

This shows that our State banks have increased their assets in round numbers about 30 per cent. in one year, a showing that is perfectly wonderful. Now contrast this with the story of broken banks and bankruptcies of all kinds under Democracy from 1893 to 1897, and then give me one good business reason for voting the Democratic ticket and I will promise to do my best to get the editor of THE REPUBLICAN to vote that way at the next election. Writing along the same line the

Philadelphia Press in its issue of Dec. 26th says:

THE MEASURE OF PROSPERITY.

A more lavish Christmas was never seen in this country than yesterday, one when the entire mass of the community came to the day after a prosperous year of unbroken employment at a fair and satisfactory return. As compared with the previous year, or any year, the advance in the great industrial machine is unprecedented. Our exports and imports for the calendar year run \$130,000,000 for exports and \$160,000,000 for imports over last year. Railroad gross earnings are some \$120,000,000 over 1904, and net earnings some \$40,000,000, estimating the total mileage from returns from one-half. This growth is about 7 per cent. on railroads and 10 per cent. on foreign trade. Bank clearings are about \$34,000,000,000 more than in 1904, or a growth in overturn of a third. In all this December is estimated. This accounts for the unprecedented activity in all trade, beginning with iron and steel, running at 27,000,000 tons a year, and going down to Christmas shopping. This addition to the usual overturn has swollen all exchanges, all traffic and all records.

This article needs no comment from me but the astounding measure of the prosperity it tells of is worthy of deep consideration by all, and the means and measures that have contributed to make it possible should be studied and continued as long as possible. I want my young friends of the Sentinel to think of this the next time they go to vote.

In commenting on the conditions of the country under the head of "Trade, Price, and Christmas," the Philadelphia Press says in its issue of Dec. 25th:

"A Christmas trades much larger than any preceding that all records are broken at all points, and, most of all in the purchase of useful articles for the mass, closes a year of unprecedented prosperity.

These records not only pass previous experience in the aggregate, but the growth is greater. The great impulse given to trade comes from railroad expenditure and building. Railroads west of Chicago have \$333,000,000 of new construction and improvement under way, and in 1905 they have completed \$245,000,000, almost twice the amount in 1904, which was \$137,000,000. The amount of new work east of Chicago is as great or greater.

In all some \$700,000,000 of new railroad work is in progress, and at least \$500,000,000 has been expended on work completed in 1905. In addition, new equipment has cost \$268,000,000, 168,000 cars and 5152 locomotives having been built. For all, the railroads of this country have spent on new construction and new equipment in the past year about \$750,000,000."

This is another wonderful story to be true. But we know that there is no mistake about it; for here in our own town we see the railroads pressed to their utmost capacity and the Southern doubling its tracks from Washington to Charlotte, and still it cannot handle the business in a satisfactory way. Also what this article says about Christmas buying we have all seen here. The writer was in several stores during Christmas and the crowds were so great that it was with difficulty any one could get waited on and when the holidays were over the stores in town looked like a cyclone had struck them; their shelves were so bare of goods, and yet during all these days I did not see a single face that bore the signs of care and depression; all were happy and contented, in fact jubilant, and all seemed anxious to do all they could to make others happy. This made this one of the happiest Christmases I have ever known, and my sincere desire and hope is that such may always be the case. Now Bob, you and Henry have said this is your experience and observation in the following, taken from your issue of Dec. 23rd:

"The glad Christmas time is here again! Today old Santa Claus has been just as busy as he could possibly be and it will be near the midnight hour ere he completes the arrangements for his annual visit to the many happy homes that are now eagerly awaiting his coming. There is a Christmas air about everything. The throngs that have crowded and elbowed each other in the stores, on the streets and in the cars have all been in the best of humor. Everybody appears to be happy and our Twin City people are to have a merry Christmas. The small boy is in his glory. His pocket is loaded with all kinds of things and the bag of candy he got at the Christmas entertainment is not yet gone. He has all details completed for that Christmas hunt, when, with his new air rifle and a pug dog, he goes forth to meet and slay everything that comes in shooting distance. Then, too, the little girls are happy. We fellows are unable to fathom their minds to tell just what makes them so. But perhaps 'tis a doll that Santa will bring. Anyway, they are happy and gay and no one doubts but that good old Saint Nick will remember them. Among the older 'girls' the Christmas cheer is also noticeable. All day they have been passing by with boxes and bundles, with hearty greetings and a glad smile. The men folk, too,

those fellows who forget the cares and troubles of life at this season, are imbued with the Christmas cheer—every man to his own taste. Wag-on loads of holly and evergreens have been used in the decoration of homes in the Twin-City. This home decoration at Christmas time is carried on to a larger extent here perhaps, than in most places, especially in Salem. And then, too, the mistletoe has not been forgotten for its berries glitter in the light as its invitingly hangs beneath the parlor lamp. But where is the Christmas cheer more noticeable than at the railroad station. The outgoing and incoming trains are carrying the boys and girls, men and women "home"—the dear old place where the aged father and mother, the brother and sister, friends and sweethearts are awaiting them. These pilgrims are returning to worship at the shrine where love and friendship are the ministering angels and where the sweetest memories call them hither. Everything, in fact, presents a "day before Christmas" scene. And the Twin-City folks in general will all join in Tiny Tim's blessing and to all mankind say, "A merry Christmas to you all and God bless us every one."

In this you join me in a prayer to the Almighty that such universal happiness may always abide with us. This article found a hearty echo in the following from the Journal.

OUT-OF-DOOR DAY.

The streets were thronged all day with busy shoppers and people hurrying to and from the trains. Santa Claus will come heavy laden."

Yesterday was a great out-of-doors day for the people of this city. The streets were crowded by shoppers and by people hurrying to and from trains, some coming in to spend the holidays and others going to visit relatives and friends in other cities and in the country.

The precipitation of rain during the morning checked to some extent the busy throngs but there was no rain during the afternoon and at night and there could be seen on the streets up to an unusually late hour a mass of surging humanity.

Indications are that Santa Claus will come heavy laden Sunday night and Monday morning will dawn upon thousands of joyous shouting children.

Now when election comes again let me beg you boys to go and vote as you pray just as I do.

Continuing our quotations from clippings, the next I will ask you to publish is from our friends' paper, the Sentinel, of Dec. 26th. It says:

A WAVE OF PROSPERITY.

"In a recent lecture ex-President Horace Davis, of the California State University, said:

"Record breaking is a feature of the year in all directions. More iron will be made this year by fully four million tons than the furnaces have heretofore turned out in a calendar year, and the coal output will exceed that of 1904, although the latter was carried to the tremendous aggregation of 361,000,000 tons. Our exports and imports will show great gains, and railway tonnage is about to create a new and wonderful record. The railroads are in fact unable to handle the immense volume of business that the country is pressing upon them. The country is short in riding a glorious wave of prosperity that means more to more people than any previous wave the country has ever known."

Now Henry, I will bind myself to present you and Bob, both, with a fine Christmas turkey for your next Christmas dinner if you will find me such an article published during all the four years of Democratic law-making from 1893 to 1897 and I will give you all of 1906 up to Christmas day to find it. Look for it boys, and if you find it call on me for the turkey. But as a matter of precaution for fear you don't find it you had better not put off arranging for a turkey elsewhere. Just under the article just quoted I saw the following piece of poetry which with a little changing so fully describes the conditions under Democracy that I will ask you to publish both the original and as I have changed it:

THE DAY OF RECKONING.

'Twas the day after Christmas, And all through the house The children were having A merry carouse; While pa in his study Was tearing his hair As he gazed at the bills That were piled everywhere. —Town Topics.

'Twas the day after Christmas, And all through the house Was the silence of death, Nothing stirred even a mouse. While o' pa out of work Was bowed in despair As he looked in the larder And found nothing there. And mother grew paler As each set of sun And tears wet the cheeks Where roses had grown.

This sounds like it was written for 1893, the first Democratic year had after the war. In its issue of Dec. 6th the Charlotte Observer published as its leading editorial the following:

THE SOUTH'S MANUFACTURES. The great development of manu-

factures in the fourteen Southern States is forcibly set forth by figures taken from the Manufacturers Record, of Baltimore, and secured from other sources, all of which are reliable. In manufactured products the increase from 1880 to 1890 was from a valuation of \$450,000,000 to \$917,000,000; in 1900 the figures were \$1,600,000,000, while for 1905 the valuation is placed at \$1,750,000,000. The output of pig iron in 1880 was 397,000 tons, and this year it is 3,300,000.

In 1880 the Southern States had \$21,000,000 invested in cotton mills, operating 600,000 spindles, while ten years later \$61,000,000 represented the amount invested in the industry and 1,700,000 as the number of spindles; this year \$150,000,000 is invested and there are 9,000,000 spindles. These mills now consume 2,250,000 bales of cotton, as against only 188,000 bales in 1880. The possibilities of the industry are shown by the statement that there are in the world a total of 110,000,000 spindles and the South can supply cotton for 80,000,000 spindles, while there are in the section in which the staple grows but 9,000,000 spindles. These figures would seem to indicate that, other things being equal, there is no danger of too many mills being built in the South. This section raises the staple and it should also manufacture the greater part of it, thus to greater extent reaping the benefit to be derived therefrom.

Twenty-five years ago there were but 40 cotton oil mills in the South, with a capital stock of \$3,000,000, and in most places cotton seed were regarded as worthless, being used mainly for filling gullies and making fertilizer. Now there are 1,000 cotton oil mills in operation and their total capitalization is \$80,000,000, more than half the amount invested in cotton manufacture in this section.

The figures quoted above give some idea of the rapidity with which the Southern States are coming to the front in the matter of manufactures and are indeed gratifying. Taken in connection with the fact that this development may now be said to have only fairly begun they paint a most glowing picture for the future.

This needs no comment; it just needs reading and re-reading before any man votes to tear down the Republican doctrine of protection that has done all this for us. It seems to me it would be an insult to ask a man to vote the Democratic ticket with the facts embodied in this editorial fresh in his mind. But to this let me add the following from the Sentinel of a few days ago:

"Factories of different kinds are constantly being started in the South."

Now I will ask you to please publish the following from the advanced sheets of Dun's review of this year:

THE YEAR 1905.

In the history of the youngest, yet most virile of the great nations, the year 1905 stands out as the one of most rapid progress and greatest success. Yet the past year has been so exceptionally prosperous that the attention of a busy people should be called to some of the most noteworthy accomplishments. Over a million immigrants were absorbed in a single year without glutting the labor market in any other nation sociologists would ponder the problem with amazement, but such an unheard of occurrence in the United States arouses little comment. So as to reports of foreign commerce and practically every measure of internal trade, to say nothing of agricultural production and transportation. The mileage of the railways has steadily increased and the issues of stocks and bonds are beyond precedent; yet the market value of the sixty most active securities has risen far above all previous records, the earnings are much greater than ever before, and frequent complaints have been heard because traffic facilities were inadequate. Manufacturing plants have turned out quantities of products much in excess of any earlier year without causing accumulation; in fact, it was often the case that goods could not be delivered as specified, and in the iron and steel industry orders will be carried over into 1906 equal to the entire annual production a few years ago. Prices of commodities have risen to the highest position in twenty-two years. Failures are fewer in proportion to the number of firms in business and liabilities are at the minimum ratio to solvent payments through the clearing houses, which have also reached a new high-water mark. Faster than the growth of population has been the increase in the amount of money in circulation, the average now standing at the heretofore unequalled sum of \$31.75 per capita, and the stock of gold in the Federal Treasury has eclipsed all previous records of this or any other nation at over \$765,000,000. All an index that tells a story of national prosperity to the student of economics.

Now I want my young friends to compare this with Dun's Review of 1893, the first Democratic year, when he says: "Starting with the best trade ever known, mills crowded to their utmost capacity, etc., for sudden shrinkage in trade and commercial disasters, the year 1893 has proven the worst for 50 years." But should my young friends think the picture overdrawn by Dun I will ask them to ponder awhile over the following from their own paper of Sept. 30, 1893: "Dun's report of the business situ-

ation for the past week cannot be said to be encouraging. We trust that the events of the coming week will be such as to put a brighter and more hopeful face upon the financial and commercial interests of the country."

Also the following from the Sentinel, of October 3rd:

"In the memory of us all the year 1893 will be long remembered. It is a year of disaster from the storm, of loss of life by accident, of murders, thefts, lynchings. One of its most remarkable aspects is the enormous number of failures, computed now at some 12,000, with liabilities of \$324,087,768. The year 1893 is peculiarly a year of financial disturbance, not merely in a business sense but also in a legislative sense."

Let me tell my young friends, they will find food for thought, world without end, if they will just turn back and read the files of their paper for 1893, '94, '95 and '96. But these conditions are summed up most concisely in a speech of Charles B. Landis, who said:

"In 1892 Grover Cleveland was elected. That was the greatest mistake the Democratic party ever made. They found themselves facing the people of the country in the midst of a domestic prosperity never before equaled. They were pledged to improve it. Capital was employed; they promised to employ it better. Wages were high; they promised to make them higher. Labor! There was not an idle man in the United States of America unless he was idle from choice; and you are acquainted with the result.

"Scarce three months passed until the idle men commenced roaming over the country. Bankruptcy became an epidemic. Idleness got to be a profession, and hard-time festivals became popular social functions. You did that, gentlemen. You brought about that condition of affairs—you prophets, you promoters, you arraigners. You packed the side tracks of the railroads of this country with empty cars. You sent the price of corn so low it was burned as fuel. The farmer fed 30-cent wheat to 2-cent hogs, and horses were not worth wintering, and sheep shivered and died on the range because they were not worth sheltering, and as many as 100 idle men were found on single trains roaming this country in search of work."

This was not the condition in Indiana alone, the State from which Mr. Landis came. But it was universal, as the following extracts from other speeches will show:

"On August 18, 1893, Mr. Haines, of New York, in a speech on the question of a bill repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman Act, said:

"At the present moment its (his district) agriculture and its commerce are languishing, its factories are shutting down, its mechanics and laboring men are suffering in enforced idleness, and their families are in want. The farmers of the West and South—and I do not blame them for getting wild when they think of it—have lost millions of dollars by the fall of prices."

On the same day Mr. Simpson, of Kansas, addressing the House on the same general subject said:

"I want to go over a few of the conditions that I think have brought the people of this country almost to the verge of bankruptcy, a few of the conditions that have produced paralysis of business and thrown laboring classes out of employment until I suppose today there are not less than 4,000,000 men asking for work in this country.—Congressional Record, volume 133, page 492"

From a speech by Mr. Talbert, of South Carolina, made on the same

day as the foregoing and on the same subject:

"When I stand on the portico of this Capitol and look over this city I am inclined to agree, Mr. Speaker, that this is a great country. But when I go to the homes of the American farmers, among whom I live, what do I see there? I see and hear nothing but the song of hard times and worse coming. Go into the homes of the working people, and what do you see? Nothing but starvation, poverty, and death."

This is what Democracy brought, not only to the South but to all the Union, and this I want my young friends, and indeed all the readers of THE REPUBLICAN, to contrast with the conditions of today, as I have shown them, and with the conditions as they existed when Mr. Cleveland was elected, as shown by the following extracts taken from different sources:

On the 17th of July, 1892, the New York Herald remarked:

"The business of the country is in a provokingly healthy condition. \* \* \* New industrial enterprises for manufacturing iron, cotton, and woolen fabrics are going into operation in various sections. \* \* \* In the face of such condition of things the calamity howler must remain silent."

On July 15, 1892, the Boston Herald, a pronounced advocate of Cleveland and free trade, asked:

"Where is the idle woolen-mill today? There is none. \* \* \* Not only are the great majority of the woolen mills employed, but many \* \* \* are contemplating enlargements and improvements."

On the 10th of September, 1892, the Dry Goods Economist, also favoring free trade, was constrained to remark that:

"Dress goods manufacturers ought to be happy this season, because they are busy delivering the goods already ordered and booking orders for more. \* \* \* They can confidently look forward to a continuous run of business for the next six months."

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Report (non-partisan), in July, 1892, said:

"A fiscal year never matched in the history of the country in the volume of industrial productions, in magnitude of domestic exchanges, or in foreign trade has just closed."

The eminent free trader, Edward Atkinson, says, speaking of the country under Republican rule:

"There has never been a period in the history of this or any other country when the general rate of wages was as high as it is now, or the price of goods relative to wages as low as they are today."

To which I will add that Dun's Review for 1892, published the last day of that year, said: "The most prosperous year this country ever knew closes today."

I want to ask my young friends of the Sentinel, Do you know now what the Republican party has done for the South that our young men should join it?

JUSTICE.

P. S. Since writing the above the Daily Sentinel, of January 2nd, says:

"One of the significant facts about the progress made here last year is that so many of our local industrial concerns made notable enlargements of their plants."

And again: "North Carolina's growth in manufacturing last year was hardly exceeded by that of any State in the union."

The Governor offers \$75 reward for David Boyd, of Beaufort county, charged with murder.

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