

# Hillsborough Recorder

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS—THE GUARDIANS OF OUR LIBERTY

Vol. XLVI.

HILLSBOROUGH, N. C., MAY 9, 1866

No. 2336.

## THE SOUTH MUST BECOME A MANUFACTURER.

If the time ever comes, says the Richmond Whig, as we hope it will before many years shall elapse—when Southern agriculture shall reach that high point of development of which it is capable—when the Southern staples of corn, wheat, rice, sugar, tobacco, and those numerous other products to which our soil is adapted, shall be produced in the abundance so easily attainable under an adequate labor system and a judicious management—a new occupation, scarcely less profitable than agriculture, will be opened to us—manufactures.

Hitherto our planters and farmers have been in the habit of investing the profits of agriculture in negroes and lands. The abolition of slavery has rendered the former mode of investment of capital impossible, and that renders further investment in land undesirable. How will, how should, the profits of agriculture be invested? Obviously in manufacturing facilities.

It is to the interest of every people to make all they can out of the raw material they produce. We, of course, do not mean that the farmer shall himself turn manufacturer. One pursuit is enough for one man. We simply mean that when the producer has performed his function, and got the raw material ready for market, it would be desirable for the manufacturer to be at hand, and work it up on the spot, in the various fine fabrics suited to the markets of the world. The perfection of an industrial Commonwealth is, that it shall make all that can be made out of its crude productions. Why sell these products to a New Yorker or an Englishman, to be shipped to the North, or to Europe, and there manufactured, and to be returned in those fine and costly fabrics that are in almost universal use. When thus returned and purchased by the original producer, he has to pay, as part of the price, the cost of transportation to and from the point of manufacture. With manufacturing establishments on our soil, and at our doors, this important element of cost will be saved, not only to him but his neighbors, his whole community and section, and all the immense manufacturing profits will go to swell the coffers of that community and section, and to build up private fortunes. The industrial system of that country that makes cotton, for instance, and sells that product to a foreign manufacturer, and then buys his fabrics at a high price, is immature and imperfect. It involves an unnecessary sacrifice of gains that should be reaped by itself. There is but one Southern staple out of which the South has made what it ought to make—tobacco. That has not only been made, but it has been manufactured in its various forms at the South—but only, to any considerable extent, for chewing and smoking purposes.

If manufacturing should, as it ought to, become a leading business at the South, it will duplicate and re-duplicate its wealth, population and influence. To suppose that this would diminish exports is to suppose an absurdity. The condensation of value, which is gained by reducing the bulk of the raw material into the more portable forms of marketable fabrics—for instance, of compressing a hoghead of tobacco leaves into compact and convenient boxes of chewing tobacco; or of reducing a bale of cotton to cotton cloth; or a bushel of wheat to its proper measure of flour—is a great point gained in international commerce, besides the profits realized and retained at home by the performance of every function necessary to put the raw material in these shapes. This condensation of values increases exports, for it enables us to send abroad what would otherwise be too bulky for transportation. The smaller the bulk the less the cost of transportation, and much of production has been, and will continue to be, lost to the commerce of the world by reason of its not being put in portable shape at the point of production.

The great exporting nation is England. Why? Not because it is the great producing nation, but because it draws the raw material from all parts of the world, manu-

factures it into fabrics and then sells it at high profits to the producers. Its exports are its manufactures, and they are made out of the productions of other and less shrewd and enterprising nations. It has been appropriately said that "England purchases our skins and pays us back with the tails." If England raised the raw material, which she manufactures into all the various fabrics, her profits would be so much the greater. That is precisely what the South should do, and doubtless will do in course of time. The South raises these products, she ought to manufacture them; supply her own population on cheap terms with all the needed fabrics, and throw the surplus into all the markets of the world. The home consumption would be inconsiderable compared with that without her borders.

The manufacturing advantages possessed by the South are not exceeded by those of any part of the world. The extent of them was not fully comprehended until recently. Living in comfort, nay luxury, upon her agricultural resources, the need of other resources was not felt. We think we may go so far as to say that the manufacturing advantages of Virginia are greater and more varied than those of any other locality in any part of the world. She has a boundless water-power—inexhaustible supplies of wood, coal, iron and minerals of every description. She has it in her power to manipulate all her raw productions and manufacture them into all the diversities of fabric needed in the markets of the world.

The time cannot be far distant when Virginia will take the lead not alone in agriculture but in manufactures. In this age of enterprise, development and progress, it is not possible that her immense resources and capacities can be long neglected. She has hitherto been known as the Mother of States and Statesmen; the time will come when she will be known as the great centre of industry and capital.

## NITRO-GLYCERINE.

This new explosive agent, composed of the sweet principle of oil and nitric-acid, has introduced itself to the notice of the world in the most terrible manner. Its vast explosive power was recently manifested at San Francisco, and with the most fatal effect, but more recently still, at Aspinwall, and with a noise as terrific as the thunders of Sinai. Compared with it, gunpowder is a feeble explosive agent. In small quantities of it condensed, powers of destruction are developed that cause it to be regarded with almost a superstitious fear. It is too dangerous and deadly to be useful. A Mr. Nable has the patent for the United States and territories, to secure the rights and profits of his invention. It was issued from the Patent Office at Washington on the 6th of October, 1865. The municipal authorities are beginning, everywhere, to make war upon it. It has a disagreeable way of exploding without rhyme or reason, and there appears to be no limit to its powers of mischief. It cannot be permitted to be stored in cities, nor do we see how it can be safely transported in vessels, on railroads, or any other conveyance. Its chief use is for blasting purposes, but its usefulness is so much more than counterbalanced by the dangers connected with it that it is not likely to retain a permanent place in the commerce of the world, unless indeed it can be more effectually guarded against sudden spontaneous explosion. As there is much curiosity in regard to this most formidable explosive agent, we subjoin an interesting account of its discovery, its properties and uses:

### NITRO-GLYCERINE—WHAT IT IS.

"Glycerine is the sweet principle of oil, and is extensively used for the purposes of the toilet; but it has now received an application of rather an unexpected nature. In 1846 a pupil of M. Pelouze's, M. Sobrero, discovered that glycerine, when treated with nitric acid, was converted into a highly explosive substance, which he called nitro-glycerine. It is oily, heavier than water, soluble in alcohol and ether, and

acts so powerfully on the nervous system that a single drop placed on the tip of the tongue will cause a violent headache, which will last for several hours. The liquid seems to have been almost forgotten by chemists, and it is only now that M. Nable, a Swedish engineer, has succeeded in applying it to a very important branch of his art—namely, blasting. From a paper addressed by him to the Academy of Sciences, we learn that the chief advantage which this substance, composed of one part of glycerine and three parts of nitric acid, possesses, is, that it requires a much smaller hole or chamber than gunpowder does, the strength of the latter being scarcely one-tenth of the former. Hence, the miner's work, which, according to the hardness of the rock, represents five to twenty times the power of the gunpowder used, is so short that the cost of blasting is often reduced by fifty per cent. The process is very easy. If the chamber of the mine presents fissures, it must be lined with clay to make it water-tight; this being done, the nitro-glycerine is poured in, the water after it, which, being the lighter liquid, remained at the top. A slow match with a well charged percussion cap at one end is then introduced into the nitro-glycerine. The mine may then be sprung by lighting the match, there being no need of tamping. On the 7th of June last three experiments were made with the new compound in the open part of the tin mines of Altenburg, in Saxony. In one of these a chamber thirty-four millimetres in diameter was made perpendicularly in a dolomitic rock, sixty feet in length, and at a distance of fourteen feet from its extremity, which was vertical. At a depth of eight feet a vault filled with clay was found, in consequence of which the bottom of the hole was tamped, having a depth of seven feet. One litre and a half of nitro-glycerine was then poured in; it occupied five feet; a match and a stopper were then applied, as stated, and the mine sprung. The effect was so enormous as to fissure fifty feet in length, and another twenty feet."

### "CHEMICAL NATURE OF THE COMPOUND."

"The Blasting Oil, or Nitro-glycerine of Mr. Nobel, is a chemical compound of six equivalents of carbon, five equivalents of hydrogen, three equivalents of oxygen, and three of nitrogen.

"Practically, it is a composition of 75 per cent. of nitric acid and 25 per cent. of glycerine oil.

"A scientific calculation of the volume of gases, developed by the combustion of this compound and the combustion of good gunpowder, proves that nitro-glycerine, compared with gunpowder, possesses thirteen times its power, when volumes are compared, and eight times its power for equal weight. Therefore, where eight pounds of gunpowder are wanted, one pound of nitro-glycerine will be sufficient to produce the same effect."

It is desirable that an agent of such power shall be, with safety, subdued to the uses of man. At present it appears to be too dangerous, too liable to spontaneous explosion, to be received in commerce without almost prohibitory restrictions. The ingenuity of man will, in all probability, devise some mode of guarding it against these sudden explosions, and rendering it as safe as the ordinary combustibles. When we consider how much power of mischief may be compressed into a modicum of this chemical compound, and with what convenience and facility it may be used by wicked men to blow up houses, vessels, cars, &c., it is almost frightful to contemplate. A Guy Fawkes—and there are Guy Fawkes in every age and country—would find it his most powerful, destructive and serviceable ally. *Greensborough Patriot.*

From the National Intelligencer, 1st May.

## THE RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.

A protracted meeting of the Committee on Reconstruction was held on Saturday morning, and it was finally decided by a large majority—twelve out of the fifteen members present voting in the affirmative—to report, to day, the following bills:

A bill to provide for the restoration of the States in insurrection to their full political rights.

Whereas it is expedient that the States lately in insurrection should, at the earliest day consistent with the future peace and safety of this Union, be restored to full participation in all political rights; and

Whereas the Congress did, by joint resolution, propose for ratification to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States an article in the following words, to wit:

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (two-thirds of both Houses concurring,) That the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid as part of the Constitution, namely:*

### ARTICLE.

SEC. 1. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

SEC. 2. Representatives shall be appointed among the several States which may be included within this Union according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But whenever in any State the elective franchise shall be denied to any portion of its male citizens not less than twenty-one years of age, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crimes, the basis of representation in such State shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens not less than twenty-one years of age.

SEC. 3. Until the fourth day of July, 1870, all persons who voluntarily adhered to the late insurrection, giving it aid and comfort, shall be excluded from the right to vote for members of Congress, and for electors for President and Vice President of the United States.

SEC. 4. Neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation already incurred, or which may hereafter be incurred, in aid of insurrection or of war against the United States, or any claim for compensation for loss of involuntary service or labor.

SEC. 5. Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Now, therefore, be it enacted, &c., That whenever the above stated amendment shall have become part of the Constitution, and any State lately in insurrection shall have ratified the same, and shall have modified its Constitution and laws in conformity therewith, the Senators and Representatives from such State, if found duly elected and qualified, may, after having taken the required oaths of office, be admitted into Congress as such.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That when any State lately in insurrection shall have ratified the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution, any part of the direct tax under the act of August 5, 1861, which may remain due and unpaid in such State, may be assumed and paid by such State; and the payment thereof, upon proper assurances from such State, to be given to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, may be postponed for a period not exceeding ten years from and after the passage of this act.

A bill declaring certain persons ineligible to office under the Government of the United States.

*Be it enacted, &c., That no person shall be eligible to any office under the Government of the United States who is included in any of the following classes, namely:*

First. The President and Vice President of the Confederate States of America, so-