State Library

The Carolina Watchman.

VOL. V.---THIRD SERIES. SALISBURY N. C., APRIL 1, 1875 NO. 75.---WHOLE NO. 79

BULISHED WEEKLY:
J. J. BRUNER,
Proprietor and Editor.
J. J. STEWART
Associate Editor.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION
WEEKLY WATCHMAN.
ONE YEAR, payable in advance.....$2.00
SIX MONTHS, " " 1.25
5 Copies to any address..... 10.00

ADVERTISING RATES:
ONE SQUARE (1 inch) One insertion $100
" " " two " 1.50
Rates for a greater number of insertions moderate. Special notices 25 per cent. more than regular advertisements. Reading notice 5 cents per line for each and every insertion

Carolina Fertilizer.

CASH PRICES
$50 00 PER TON OF
2,000 POUNDS.

TIME PRICE
$58 PER 2,000 lb. payable Nov. 1.

THE HIGH STANDARD OF QUALITY HAS BEEN FULLY MAINTAINED, AND IT IS CONSIDERED BY THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN IT A FAIR TRIAL THE

BEST AND CHEAPEST
FERTILIZER MANUFACTURED.

Liberal and advantageous Terms for Large Lots Given on Application.

Local Agents at all the Principal Depots.

DeROSSET & CO.,
General Agents for North Carolina and Virginia,
AT
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Jas. A. McCONNAUGHEY,
Agent,
Salisbury, N. C.

DAVIDSON COUNTY.—IN SUPERIOR COURT.

To Gray Wood—*Non-Resident*, You are hereby notified that the following summons has been issued against you (to wit.)

DAVIDSON COUNTY—IN THE SUPERIOR COURT.

J. K. JONES,
Against.
GRAY WOOD, } SUMMONS.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

TO THE SHERIFF OF DAVIDSON COUNTY—GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to Summon Gray Wood, the Defendant—above named, if to be found within your county, to be and appear before the JUDGE OF OUR SUPERIOR COURT, to be held for the County of Davidson, at the Court House in Lexington, on the 6th Monday after the 3rd Monday of March, 1875, and answer the complaint which will be deposited in the office of the CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT, of said County, within the first three days of the next term thereof, and let the said Defendant take notice that if he fails to answer the said complaint within the time prescribed by law, the Paintiff will apply to the Court for judgment against the Defendant for the sum of three hundred and sixty-five 80-100 Dollars and Interest thereon from the 11, Oct., 1872, till paid.

Hereof fail not, and of this summons make due return.

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court, this 20th, day of January, 1875.

S[eal.] C. F. LOWE.
Clerk of the Superior Court of Davidson County.

You are also notified that the above named paintiff has sued out an attachment against your property upon a Bond executed by you on the 11th day of October, 1872, for the sum of three hundred and sixty five 80-100 Dollars with interest thereon till Paid and that said Warrant of attachment is returnable to the Superior Court of Davidson to be held at the Court house in the Town of Lexington. on the 6th Monday after 3rd Monday in March, A. D 1875 when and where you are hereby required *to an swer*. This 15th Feb., 1875.

C. F. LOWE.
Clerk of the Superior Court for Davidson Co.
Feb. 25, 1875—6w. Printers fee $10.50

NORTH CAROLINA, } In the Superior Court.
DAVIE COUNTY.

Ebenezer Frost, Admr. *de bonis non* of John B. Allen, deceased.—*Plaintiffs.*
Against.
Giles Livengood, and Mary A. Livengood, his wife, William Allen, William Cranfill and his wife, Sarah J. Cranfill, Martha Allen, and Susan Allen.—*Defendants.*

Petition to sell Land for Payment of debts.

It appearing, that the defendants, above named, are all non-residents of the State of North Carolina, and their place of residence unknown.

It is therefore ordered that publication be made in the "Carolina Watdman," a newspaper published in Salisbury, N. C. for six weeks successively for the said Giles Livengood, Mary A. Livengood, William Allen, William Cranfill, Sarah J. Cranfill, Martha Allen and Susan Allen, the above named defendants to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court, at the Court House in Mocksville, on the 29th day of April A. D., 1875, and answer the complaint of the Plaintiff, or the same will be heard exparte as to them.

Witness H. B. Howard, Clerk Superior Court, at office in Mocksville, this second day of March 1875.

H. B. HOWARD.
C. S. C.
March 4th.—6ws.

NEW ADVERTISEM | N W ADVERTISEMENTS

GUANAHANI!

AN IMPORTED NATURAL GUANO.

A GENUINE ANIMAL DEPOSIT.

A MONOPOLY OF THIS VALUABLE DEPOSIT HAS BEEN CREATED in favor of this Company by the Crown officers. The name "GUANAHANI!" is a Registered TRADE MARK at the United States PATENT OFFICE, and all persons are warned from making use of the same in connection with fertilizers of any kind.

THE COMPANY GUARANTEE THAT

EVERY CARGO will be ANALYZED BEFORE IT IS OFFERED FOR SALE.

Examine the Analyses and Letters of Prof. P. B. WILSON, Balitimore; Prof. H. C. WHITE, Professor of Chemistry, University of Georgia; Prof. F. A. GENTH, Philadelphia, Professor of Applied Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania.

IMPORTED ONLY BY THE

GUANAHANI GUANO COMPANY,
PETERSBURG, VA.

In offering this FERTILIZER to the Agricultural Community a Second Season we do so with the utmost Confidence, feeling satisfied that the high opinion, we formed, and expressed last season based on its Chemical Constituents have been most satisfactorily borne out by the test, by which all Fertillizers must be judged, that of the Plantation.

Last season, owing to the lateness at which we commenced importing we were forced to put our Guano on the market at once, but now having continued our importations during the summer and fall, and having large and well ventilated Warehouses in this City and City Point, we are enabled to put our Guano on the market, in a condition as to dryness, and freedom from lumps, equal to any Manufactured Fertilizer.

We solicit a careful persual of our Circular containing the certificates sent us, and which can be had on application at this OFFICE, or from any of our AGENTS. Having nothing to conceal, we made an innovation on established usage, by publishing those letters received unfavorable to our Guano, but careful inquiry in many cases proves that the cause of its failure was not owing to any fault in the Guano, but to those far beyond our control We have frequently heard the same complaints of its kindred Fertilizer, Peruvian Guano, but the concurrent testimony of well known Farmers and Planters from Maryland to the extreme Western counties of North Carolina, justify us in claiming a place for our Fertilizer Superior to many, and Second to None.

We confidently expect the continued patronage of the Agricultural Community and no exertion shall be spared on our part to make

GUANAHANI
THE STANDARD FERTILIZER
FOR THE
COTTON, TOBACCO & GRAIN CROPS
OF THE SOUTH.

:o:

DIRECTORS.

President, N. M. TANNOR, of Rowlett, Tannor & Co.
Vice-President, ROBT. A. MARTIN, of Robt A. Martin & Co.
JOHN B. STEVENS, of Stevens Brothers.
S. P. ARRINGTON, of John Arrington & Sons.
JOHN R. PATTERSON, of Petterson, & Sons.
C. R. BISHOP of Bishop & Branch.
JOHN MANN, DAVID CALLENDER, W. A. K. FALKENER.
FRANK POTTS, General Agent.

FOR SALE BY
MERONEY & BRO.,
SALISBYRY, N. C.
BURROUGHS & SPRINGS.
CHORLOTTE, N. C.

In offering this Feltilizer to the people of Rowan, and surrounding counties we are satisfied that we offer them the best Guano for the least money now on the market. It has been throughly tried during the past season and the results have been even better than we hoped for. Below we append two of the numerous certificates we have received,

AN IMPORTANT TEST, PAID OVER 600 PER CENT.

SALISBURY, N. C., October 10th, 1874.

Messrs Meroney & Bro.

Gentlemen: In reply to your inquiry as to the merits of the Guanahani Guano, I will state that I have given it a fair, and, as I think, a thorough test, and believe it to be one of the best fertilizers now in use in our country. In the month of February I bought two tons and applied it over my farm at the rate of 200 pounds to the acre under Cotton, and 100 pounds to the acre on Corn. On the 8th of October I picked from one row of Cotton 14 rods long, which had been fertilized at the above rate, 8 pounds of seed cotton; from another immediately by the side of this one, of the same length, to which I had applied no fertilizer, I picked 1½ ounces the same day—showing a difference of over 8500 per cent. between land fertilized and not. I counted the number of unopened bolls in each, and making calculation on this basis, I find that the land without the Guanahani would yield 30 ounces to the row, 80 rows or 150 pounds to the acre; with Guanahani it will yield 12 pounds to the row, 80 rows or 960 pounds to the acre—showing a difference of over 600 per cent.

I have not had an opportunity to test the Corn yet, but from general observation, I feel warranted in making the statement that Guanahani has benefited my Corn at least 100 per cent.

On one acre of ground, as a test, I sowed 400 pounds of Guanahani broadcast, subsoiling at the same time 15 inches deep. This acre, under ordinary circumstances, has average 700 pounds of seed cotton; this year the yield will be at least 1800 pounds. E. A. PROPST.

DAVIE CO., N. C.

Messrs Meroney & Bro.

GENTLEMEN:—In reply to your inquiry as to the merits of Guanahani Guano, I would say that I used it last Summer on an old field which would have produced very poorly under ordinary circumstances but which under the application of Guanahani yielded me a very good crop. I had one test row and this showed a difference of over three hundred per cent. in favor of the Guano.

I am satisfied that it is a good Fertilizer and take pleasure in recommending it to every farmer who wishes to increase his crops as being fully equal if not superior to any Guano on the market.

MATTHIAS MILLER.

WE SELL GUANAHANI AT $38 PER TON.
Freight added.
CALL AND SEE US.
MERONEY & BRO.

Feb. 13th, 1875.—3mos.

FOR THE WATCHMAN.

THE DRUNKARD'S CONVICTION.

BY G.

The compass, far by rugged force
May miss the Northern pole, but when,
The needle claims its own loved course,
'Tis sure to wander back again.
And thus, when happy fortune borne,
From the sweet chalice, I abide,
Swift, when the thwarting power is gone,
Once more, I struggle to thy side.

For oh! one moment but to feel
Thy essence sweet, more wealth bestows
On me, than Perin's mines conceal,
Or golden Ophir's bosom knows.—
While thou art near, on angels wing,
How blest the moments glide away!
The morn bird scarce begins to sing,
Ere evening stills the blithesome lay!—

But slow and drear, the hours draw by,
When hindering Fates between us frown;
As journeys to the pilgrims eye
Grows longer, as the day goes down!
Ah! 'tis in vain the world is bright,
And loved ones woo with gentle tone;
If there I miss the glancing light
And murmer, which are thine alone.

And had I entered, through the gate,
Which guards the sacred throne of Fame,
And on the records of the Great,
The Laurel wreathed my deathless name,
Or stood I, with unwearied feet.
Upon wealth's topmost, pearlset shrine,
And angel voices, low and sweet,
Whispered, Behold 'tis justly thine.

Then, even then, if thou shouldst call
With thy loved fragrance unto me;
I'd lose it. Yes I'd lose it *all*,
One moment but to fly to thee.
And then though Heaven might veil its face,
And earth regard with loathing scan;
I'd drink—a wretch in foul disgrace,
A drunkard—yet a happy man!—

And as within my vains I traced
The workings of thy mystic power;
E'en while I knew that power erased
Each vestige of my sinless hour;
Still, still I'd quaff, and when at last,
A consciousness no more was given,
In slumber deep, myself I cast,—
A child of hell, that dreamed of heaven.

They say, at last with direful fate,
Thou bearest souls to Hell's employ;
But what care I? That cometh late,
And *now* thou yieldeth naught but joy!—

But hark! Whence wild, discordant sounds,
Strings of my harp seems to prolong?—
As when the deathful arrow wounds,
Some songster sweet in middle song!
What ails the lyre? Tell why is this
Not sweetly, as of yore, she sings?—
Because, I sang "Drink *now* is bliss."
And the foul lie echoed on the strings!

What! bliss, all bliss? Ah, no! the tear
Of anguish from the mother's heart,
And deep, still grief which fathers bear,
Tells that there is, a woful part—
All bliss? ah! no. The spotless name,
Virtue of soul, and genius lost,
All, *all* with burning tongue, proclaim,
'Tis not *all* gain, there *is* a *cost*!

Ah, yes! Pure truth stands clear and bright—
Grim Falsehood rolls his viel away;
And shapes unseen through gloom of night,
Grow plain, beneath the eye of day—
I know, I feel, it all, and yet,
I love the darling portion still.
E'en though, beneath its fumes, are set
Nigh all my *reason all* my will.

And I cannot cease. The sweet, sweet face,
Of earthly love, all worn with pain,
Entreats me from the strong embrace,
But the gentle prayer is all in vain.
I cannot cease, Hope golden-plumed
Would call me with her tone so dear,
To the shining portals God-illumed;—
But calls in vain, when drink is near.

No, cannot cease. Ah, e'en, did Death,
Pale, hovering o'er the awful brink,
Of mid-night-flaming Hell beneath,
Proffer to me the glass—I'd drink.
Ah, yes! e'en as I sing, I feel
The fierce desire creep o'er my soul!
I cannot quench it, cannot steal
A moment from its mad control!

'Tis come in might! Fill high the cup,
Until the seething foam run o'er;
I'll pledge my soul in one last sup,
Of the thing I loath, and yet adore!
Now let the howling fiends engage
All woes of Sin, my soul to cope!
I'll stand unblanched, for maniac Rage,
Will drown the sad farewell of Hope!—

Mother's Advice.

Allen was sent to the city when quite a lad. The new scenes and objects which met his eye, so unlike the quiet and unchanging life of his native village, filled him with interest and excitement. He never felt tired of looking and walking about in the time spared from his employment. Among other places of which he had heard much was the theatre. Some of his associates went, and there was no end to the wonderful stories they told of what they saw and heard. Allen felt a rieing desire to go too. He manfully resisted it, however.

"Come," said one of his companions, "go with us to-night."

"No," answered Allen, "not to-night."

"So you always say—not to-night: come, decide to go at once."

"Not to-night," still answered Allen, walking away.

"You shall have a ticket if you'll only come," still urged his companion.

Allen shook his head.

"No, no," said he; "no; no; keep it yourself; I cannot take it."

"How obstinate!" rejoined the other; why, what can be your reason?"

Allen hesitated a moment.

"My mother told me not to go to the theatre; therefore I cannot go," he at length firmly replied.

His companion ceased to urged him longer; he beheld in Allen's face a settled purpose to obey, and he left him without saying a word more.

He trusted to her knowledge, and confided to her judgement, and he meant to obey her; and what was better, he was not afraid to say so. It was a wise decision, and in every youth away from home had moral courage enough to decide doubtful questions in the same way, there would be many better men for it—Allen is now an excellent and honored man.—*S. S. Visitor.*

From the Southern Home.

THE USURY LAW.

General D. H. Hill:

Dear Sir:—You invite my opinion on the legality and effects of the "Usury Law," just passed by our Legislature. This act fixes the legal rate of interest for the State at six per centum per annum, but permits the rate to be made by special contract as high as eight per centum for a valuable consideration, such as the loan of money or sale of property. Before the State was reconstructed, six per centum, with very low, stringent penalties for taking any excess. Subsequently, the Legislature by an act authorized the lenders of money, only, to charge the rate of eight per centum, when it was so specified on the face of the note. By the present law, the farmer, merchant, manufacturer or mechanic, for their lands, goods and products sold on time, can take by special contract 8 per cent. as well as the lender of money. The rate of interest, as you see, is not changed. It is exactly the same, it has been for several years past. But the persons and objects to which the highest rate is applicable is enlarged. This is as it should be. For is there any good reason why the lender of money should be entitled to a higher compensation for the use of his money than the farmer, merchant, manufacturer or mechanic should receive for his lands, good or labor?

The important question arises under the law whether it applies to National Banks or not. Having given some attention to the subject, I entertain the decided conviction that it does apply to them, and that they will be compelled to conform to the law prescribing the rate per centum allowed by the act. The National Banks are authorized to charge the same rates allowed by the laws of the States in which they are located, and no greater. Should they charge a greater rate, they cannot recover it at law, and are besides liable to a forfeiture of their charters under the National Banking act. The usury law, then, not having increased or diminished the rate heretofore authorized to be charged does not appear to be in conflict with, abridge, impair, or infringe, the rights of the National Banks in any respect. Their rights are maintained on an equality with all persons and State Banks. Indeed it appears to have enlarged them, for if they are compelled to purchase collaterals or other property pledged as security for money loaned, they can resell on time the property so purchased and take 8 per cent. interest on the note given. Heretofore, no such a note, only six per centum was lawful. It will not be pretended that the severity of the penalty—the forfeiture of double the value of the money lent, and the fine of from $100 to $1,000 on the officers of the Bank, can be in conflict with the National Bank act. On the contrary, they appear to be auxiliary to the enforcement of its provisions, which have been heretofore wholly disregarded in the discount of notes.

Maintaining then, that the Usury Law is applicable to National Banks, as well as to the citizens and State Banks, you naturally inquire how it will effect the prosperity of the State This is an important inquiry. It is alleged that it will drive capital from the State. That it will go to Virginia, South Carolina and other States for investment; it will seek United States bonds, Railroad bonds &c. Of the millions now on deposit in the Banks in the State, and in the hands of individuals, to be loaned at from 12 to 24 per centum per annum, it is probable that some comparatively small amounts may find investments in other States. Still the dividends, interest or profits, of all sums so invested will come back to the State, and ultimately the principal itself (if prudent and safe investments are made abroad). If the investment is transferred to another State at a higher rate of income than our industrial pursuits will bear, and the proceeds, interest or dividends are returned to the State, where the investor lives, it is not apparent that either the State or a citizen will be injured thereby.

But few industries in this, or the United States, can afford to pay over six per centum when all, or even one-half, the capital invested in them is borrowed at that rate. If the borrower does not realize over six per centum on the money borrowed he has lost his time, labor and solicitude to no useful purpose to himself or the State, and better for him that he had not taken the loan or made an investment of it. But it is apprehended that comparatively few would be induced to invest in lands, factories, bonds and stocks of other States. What then will they invest in out of the State? The reply is, United States bonds. These are already above par in gold, even the 5 per cent. bonds. The 6s are now quoted at $120 in currency, or a premium of 20 per cent. This sum, or $105.50 in gold, invested in a 6 per cent. gold bond will only purchase a bond of $100 which will give of interest $6 in gold or $6 84 in currency, now depreciated 14¼ per centum. Now this $120 currency, invested at home at 8 per cent., will yield $9 60 in kind or $2.76 more than the same amount in the bond. Now take the 5 per cent. gold bond, quoted at $116 in currency, and it yields you only $5 70 in currency, while the $116 invested at 8 per cent. interest, at home, gives you $9.28 or $3 58 more than the gold bonds pay, or at that rate for a greater or less sum. Thus, we see that in investing in the best Government bonds issued, the profit over them at 8 per cent. investment is $2.76 and $3 58 respectively on the one hundred dollars. It would appear that but few persons would abandon 8 per cent. at home, and under their close observaliou, for United States bonds, even if they were exempt from taxation. The State, county and town taxes, except in a few cities, do not aggregate one-half the difference of yield in the bonds and home rates at 8 per cent. Then there is no time to lost and commissions on the purchase of the bonds. Besides a large proportion of the Government sixes are liable to be called in and redeemed at par, at any time, if the Government elects to do so, when the premium is paid for the bond of 5 per cent. or 6 per cent., in gold, will be lost to the investor, and the proceeds returned to the State for investment.

Furthermore, these political securities are not regarded by capitalists as the most favorable investment, especially when issued by a Republican Government. They are ever subject to fluctuations, with the changes and vicissitudes of governments—mal-administration, intestine strife, domestice and foreign wars, always depreciate them and sometimes bankrupt nations as well as States. A large majority of all the U. S. bonds are now held in Europe where the rate of interest is low, and war there or here might drive them back home, with a very depressing influence on their value. Their present high price is only maintained by the foreign demand and the iniquitous financial measures adopted by the Congress to give them credit. Of over $1,700,000,000 still outstanding, foreigners own at least $1,000,000,000, and the banks about $400,000,000 making $1,400,000,000, leaving probably about $300,000,000 in the hands of private parties in our country. The larger portion of these are probably invested in trust estates, and not for sale even for banking purposes. You will also recollect that the principal portion of the Government sixes are not payable, on their face, in gold. Congress by an act, or resolution, in 1869, declared that they should be paid. But, *quere*, is this binding after a sale of the bonds, and may not some future Congress repeal it? Every oppressive power of taxation upon the people, and odious financial schemes, have been resorted to by the Government to sustain the credit of these bonds. The present unwise Banking system has been maintained to the great detriment of the industries and labor of the country, under the pretence of furnishing a circulatiou of about $33,000,000 for the country at a cost of $20,000,000, annually, in gold, when the actual commercial wants of the country require over $1,000,000,000 in currency.

The National Banks have been, and still are, great pets with the present Administration. They have a monopoly of all the Bank currency authorized to be issued either by the Federal or State authority. The latter may charter State Banks of issue, but all their circulation has to pay a tax of ten per centum to the Federal Government, which amounts to an actual prohibition of Banks of issue. Thus, we see the Federal Government has farmed out to the Nationtion Banks the sole right to provide a currency to the people except in so far as it authorizes legal tenders to be issued. Of the $36,000,000 of legal tenders in circulation, a large proportion of them is borrowed by the National Banks from the people at 6, 8 or 10 per cent. annual interest, called deposits; thus making almost an absolute monopoly of the currency. In this way, the rates of interest have been increased and maintained at from 12 to 24 per cent. per annum. Now add to this amount the sum in the hands of the regular and private brokers who charge the small dealers and laborers from 20 to 50 per cent. discount on paper, and you see how and why it is that the country does not flourish and prosper.

What farmer, mechanic, or laborer, borrowing at such rates, can make anything, add any property to his estate, or comfort for his family, beyond the interest he pays at even the lowest rates? Twelve per centum, long continued, will bankrupt nine-tenths of the population of the richest and most productive country under the sun. It will soon transfer all the properties of the industries and profits of the working and toiling millions to the few capitalists and land sharks. What a temptation to a man in active business pursuits worth $5,000 or $10,000, after paying his debts, to sell all, cease to farm, run his saw mill, factory, or foundry, and become a money-changer at 1 per cent. per month! He or they would propably accumulate faster while they could find responsible borrowers, but the community, in the end, would soon become bankrupt, and the lenders would have to take the property at their own price, and with high taxes, and no purchasers for the property, may be reduced to the same unfortunate condition as the borrowers—that of bankruptcy. If the former absorbs all the profits of the latter, Othello's occupation is gone, and the community and State suffer.

Money, merely as money, creates no wealth. It is unproductive. The loan of it will bring to the owner an interest, which the borrower pays, but this produces no additional property, creates no new wealth to the State. Money is instituted by law, is the legal representative of property, a medium for the exchange of values. It is its application to labor, its control of labor, that creates new property and resource for the people and the States. The mere money lender is not a producer, but a consumer of production. To this extent, only, he makes a market and encourages production: his money is the motive power that brings together, combines the labor and materials and makes property, creates value. Money as instituted by law, has a legal power over all other species of property, it is a legal tender in payment of debts, a medium of exchange of all properties, accumulates interests, represents and measures all products, and is valuable in proportion to the uses and purposes to which the law assigns it. Being thus endowed with attributes and powers, by law, over all other values, it would appear strange that the law should not regulate its rate of interest, whether in the hands of individuals, associations or Banks. Its facility of transfer and combination also greatly adds to its power. Double the rate of interest of the dollar and you double its value or power over property and labor The precentage on money governs the rent or use of all property, and the price of labor, as the law of gravitation governs a falling body; hence, its per centum should be regulated by law in order to control its power over property, production and labor.

But, that we may see more clearly the relations of capital to production and labor, let us refer to Commissioner Wilson's Statistical Report on this subject. In 1869, he estimates the total investments in properties and industries in the United States at $31,000,000,000, while the average net revenue or income from these was only $1,000,000,000, or 3 1-10 per centum. The average increase of money in notes, bonds, bank stock, &c., in all the States, is estimated at 8 per cent. per annum. We are without statistcs on this question applicable to North Carolina alone. But it is doubted whether the net income from all the properties of all the industries in our State, for the last five years, will exceed two per centum annual profit, while money has averaged 10 per cent. per annum, making a difference in favor of interest-bearing obligations of 8 per cent over the aggregate industries of the country.

If this be so, is it not apparent that interest, discounts and dividens are silently and surely appropriating and absoring the larger portion of the property and productions, and that there is no just relation between the increase of capital and the profits of industry. Money at 8 per cent. per annum, with the interest reinvested annually will double itself about every ten years. By this time it has absorbed the securities it rests upon. Hence the opinion expressed of the periodical panics said to have recurred about every ten years since 1837; when the day of final reckoning comes, the borrower proving insolvent, a panic follows, property declines to half its former value, hard times ensue, hunger, famine and distress prevade the land—because interest has appropriated a large portion of the products of labor and industry.

These are the legitimate fruits of the excessive rates of interest in all countries.—The proportion of 2 per cent. on industries to 8 per cent. on capital ought to satisfy the cupidity of the most avaricious.—How tempting to all who can afford it, to abandon labor and production and bank on or lend their money. Ought then the disparity between these sources of income to be so great? Is it not detrimental to all developments and industries, as well as to the labor which, combined with capital, create the wealth, power and greatness of the State?

The changes in investments resulting from the enforcement of the legal rates will doubtless be inconvenient to many, and injuriously to some. If the power given to mortgages is oppresively exercised, great wrong may occur in individual cases. It is hoped such instances will be of rare occurrence. Eight per centum is a large income on capial in almost any country, and was so regarded in North Carolina before the war.

The opinion is also entertained that our National Banks that purchased their bonds before the recent advance, can still realise from 8 to ten per cent. dividends. They have heretofore averaged about 12 per cent., including their reserves. They can, it is believed, still discount good commercial paper, taken in regular and legitimate business transactions, at the rate agreed upon by the merchant, farmer, or holder of the same; but no paper made to be discounted at a greater rate than 8 per cent. Such would be usurious if taken at a greater discount. These legitimate commercial bills and notes constitute a large proportion of their discounts in some Banks. Then if the reduced rates of interest enable the farmer, merchant, mechanic and manufacturer to borrow at 8 instead of 15 per cent., they will leave 7 per cent. profit or advantage in their business. This will impart greater energy, activity, life and prosperity to all branches of business. In this the Banks will partake, as well as the other property of their stockholders. There will be more demand for money on discounts, the class of paper offered will be better and safer, and their funds will be kept active, instead of being held idle, waiting to get a more doubtful note at 18 per cent. per annum. It is not, therefore, clear that Banks and Bankers will be seriously affected by being confined to the highest rate of interest ever allowed by law in the State. The effects of a low rate of interest is to stimulate and multiply production. This increases wealth and prosperity. It also appreciates the value of all property both real and personal. It gives the property holder and laborer a larger margin for profits, hence the appreciation.—When interest is 13 per cent., $100 will purchase as much property as $200 will when it is only 6 per cent. A railroad share yielding 10 per cent. dividend is as valuable as two shares yielding only 5 per cent.

I have thus concisely stated some of the reasons I entertain for the opinion that the passage of the act was wise and judicious. I have considered it purely as a question of policy for the entire people of the State.

To further illustrate the affects of low rates for money, let us suppose that two steamship companies are organized to run in the transportation business from Wilmington to Liverpool, each with a capital of one million of dollars. They are in competition with each other in the carrying trade, and both working on borrowed capital. The rate of money averaging about four per cent in England, the Liverpool company get their million at 4 per cent., while the Wilmington company pay 12 per cent. The Liverpool company pays $40,000 annually of interest, while the Wilmington company pays, for the same time and amount, $120,000 of interest, or $80,000 more annually. Now, if the profits in the business do not amount to more than 12 per cent net, it is manifest that the Wilmington company is working for the public for nothing, and insolvency is unavoidable, while the Liverpool company is making 8 per cent. clear profit; a good investment, where money commands only 4 per cent. This illustrates the principle of low and high rates of interest on all industrial pursuits. It applies to every farmer, merchant, manufacturer and mechanic, who borrows money in our State. While his business is absorbed by the one rate, he would thrive and prosper on the other. This also gives the reason why the greater portion of the carrying trade between this and European countries is done in foreign bottoms. While most new countries have higher rates of interest than old and long established governments maintain, it is manifest that, if money could be furnished throughout the United States at the low rate it is in France, England and other countries, it would increase labor and its rewards—thus elevating that class—create new elements for it, revive and multiply industries of all kinds, double the value of land and other property, and vastly enlarge and extend productions and exportations. With the varied and inexhaustible resources of this extended country, we could defy the cheap labor of Europe. It would come here, and soon our exports would give us the balance of trade, and the gold of other countries would come to purchase our varied and multiplied productions. As with the United States, so, relatively with North Carolina, distinguished for the variety of her climate, the fertility of her soil, the value and variety of her minerals, the abundance of her water power, the industry and integrity of her people, she only asks equal position with other States and nations, and her people will again become contented and prosperous beyond her sister States.

Since writing the foregoing I learn that the Legislature has expressed a purpose to postpone the operation of the Usury Law until next Fall. This may be wise, and will give all persons time to adjust their business relations to the requirements of the law, and avoid some cases of hardship which might have arisen.

Nearly all the old States of the Union have maintained their usury laws, limiting money obligations to 6 or 7 per cent., except Illinois and some of the reconstructed States. In these the tendency seems to be to return to their statutes against usury. Their experience is that high rates paralyze industries and diminish productions as well as the value of property, thus impoverishing individuals and destroying the resources of the State.

It is the surplus productions of a country that give it wealth and power. In proportion as these are increased the money of the world will come to purchase them.

And now, sir, if our Legislators will offer fair and just terms of adjustment of the public debt, call a convention to remodel our Constitution, and save our railroads from speculators and rings, they can return to their homes, feeling that they have rendered the State some service.

Very truly, yours,
WM. JOHNSTON.

In a recent lecture at Cork, John Mitchell said:

"The London *Times* indeed has discovered a disgraceful crime of which I have been guilty—viz: that I was a Southern Confederate during the late war in America. As to this last charge I own the soft impeachment, I was a Confederate, and so were all the best men that I met in America. [Hear, hear!] My three sons served in the Confederate army, and two of them fell in battle. I am not such a craven recreant as to affect to be ashamed of that cause."

On Saturday last this brave and true man died in Ireland. He had crossed the ocean in a weak state of health to stand for Parliament at the request of his countrymen, and though he was twice elected there was no probability of his being allowed to take his seat. With an exchange, we say there was nothing low or groveling about John Mitchell. The people of the South respected and admired him while living and sincerely mourn his death.—*News.*