

THE WILSON ADVANCE

"LET ALL THE ENDS THOU AIMST AT, BE THY COUNTRY'S, THY GOD'S, AND TRUTHS."

WILSON, NORTH CAROLINA, JAN. 3, 1889.

NUMBER 48

FOR ALL KINDS OF

JOB WORK

SEND YOUR ORDERS

TO THIS OFFICE

BILL ARP'S LETTER

THE MONEY OF THE YANKEES COMING SOUTH.

The Hallowiness of What is Called Society. Give us Girls Who are not Ashamed to Work.

The question whether Georgia is prospering or not seems to be exciting attention and discussion in the legislature and the press. That is all right, of course, but it is mortifying that such a question has been asked. The very doubt implies a sad state of affairs. If farming does not pay, how can it be made to pay? If it pays in Pennsylvania, why not in Georgia? A gentleman from western New York told me of long ago that it did not pay there except in the vicinity of manufacturing towns. He said there were more farms under mortgage than farms that were not; that the rich were getting richer and the poor poorer; that the farmer could not get enough for his products to pay the cost of production. That seems to be the trouble here in all cotton regions. While one man in ten can make cotton at seven cents a pound, five will make it at eight and the other four at nine cents, and then sell it for seven and a quarter. Now, in the black belt, where negroes make the cotton, it does not so much concern the landlord whether it costs seven cents or ten; he will get his rent—a bale to fifteen acres—anyhow. If the farmer has nothing left he must live on it, and he does. He can't get away, and so he stays.

Now we have abundant capital to begin with and will bring hundreds of our people here and more capital to develop this wonderful region. We expect to have a cotton mill from New England planted on Pumpkin Vine Creek within a year. We expect to have furnaces and paint-mills and to manufacture firebrick and kolin and graphite. There is more graphite here in one mountain than has yet been found in all the United States, and it is of the best quality. We shall grind it up and float it and box it and furnish the south with the best lubricator she has ever had. If she believes that was a million dollars. Now there is no room for jealousy between Emerson and Cartersville, for in less than five years our interests will all be in common and northern capital will be invested in everything that Cartersville has to sell. Mr. Cleveland's administration was a good one and it goes out with clean hands and a splendid record. He believes that General Harrison will be just as good, and even better, for the south, for it will confidence to northern republicans who wish to come south. There are millions of capital up there that is idle in the banks—drawing nothing to the depositors. It moves cautiously, but it moves sure, and there is no field so inviting as the south. His solid calm earnest talk gave me confidence and filled me with increased pride for our country and for southern land. I did not know we were so rich. I verily believe that in five years' time there will be more freights supplied to the State road from Altoona to Adairsville, in Barrow county than is now shipped all along the entire road from the Chattahoochee to the Tennessee line. The State road runs thirty-two miles through our county, and every mile is rich in minerals. Every hill is full of treasures and every valley rich in agricultural capacity. From Emerson, I rode out to the mines and to the mill on the creek and saw the great black hill of graphite, and not far away a great white hill of kaolin. In another mountain the gray ore was shining like broken steel and close by the crystallized manganese sparkled like gems of diamonds. No wonder that northern men were fascinated and pitched their tents. They told me how rapidly the timber had been cut away up north in the last ten years, and now they had to depend on the south with long freights or on Canada with a protective tariff on the way. This reminded me of a letter that was read at the late forestry congress from an Ohio man who said with fine sarcasm "Congress puts a protective tariff of two dollars a thousand feet on lumber and thereby excludes Canada from our markets, and encourages our people to cut down and saw up every tree that will make a two-inch stave, and at the same time offers a bounty of 160 acres of public land to every settler who will plant ten in a walnut orchard. The colonists at Washington hit us to cut it all down and then hire us to plant some more."

I dined at the Emerson hotel a nice, new building of forty rooms, and everything clean and attractive. These yankees know what to do first when they go to build up a town. They are slipping up on us, I tell you. Nice ladies, well mannered and well dressed, waited on us at the table. I did not see a darky about the establishment. Right there is where the difference comes in. The prejudice of caste and occupation clings to us still, and it shows a lack of good sense and independence. If a young lady can help her father keep a hotel, she ought to do it. If

she can help her mother keep house and make up the beds and wash dishes and fill the lamps and sweep the rooms she ought to do it. If she can make her own dresses and some for the children she ought to do it and be all the more proud of having done her duty as a child. Not long ago an Atlanta girl whom I know said to her companion at High's "I wouldn't notice that girl if I was you—she isn't much—she's pretty enough but she makes her own clothes. She rigged up that hat she has on." I wish that all of our girls could be taught that money is of little consequence, compared with virtue and modesty and love and kindness, and that work is no degradation. I have seen many a father bowed down because the ambition of his family to keep up with society kept him on a strain. I do utterly despise the tyranny of "society," as it is called, and I never attend those fashionable receptions if I can help it. They are all hollow and hypocritical. I met a very pretty girl in Atlanta, the other day, whose fallen fortunes had forced her to go to service in a commercial establishment. She well educated, and never knew a want until recently. Without a murmur or a complaint or a look of sad despair she went to work and maintains herself. I met her on the street and kissed her, and loved her as a father loves his child. She is the best in the state, and her grandfather was always my friend. I am proud to know and respect some Barrow girls of noble families who are now earning their own living and something more from the use of pen and pencil. I know they are happier than when immersed in the giddy whirlpool of that heartless thing called society.

As the train came thundering along I boarded it, and found my friend Sanford Bell, the venerable conductor of forty years' service, was not calm and serene. He is fond of possum at this time of the year; and so is Dick Hargis, another knight of the rail, and who had a drake against Sanford, hired a grader to bring an old gray cat in a sack to the train as it halted at Emerson and to ask Captain Bell if he didn't want a possum. The train was just about to pull out and Sanford said: "Is he fat; what do you ask for him?" "Twenty-five cents, sir," said the darky, "he's fat all over, sir."

Sanford tossed him a quarter and told him to hurry up and throw the sack in the baggage car. In a few minutes he found time to inspect the purchase. As he stooped down cautiously untied the sack the cat saw the opening and made a spring for liberty. Now Sanford's eyes are getting watery and his spectacles rather dim, and still thinking it was a very lovely possum, he cried out, "Shut the door boys! shut the door! don't let that possum get away!" The cat had disappeared behind the trunk, and Sanford could not believe it was a cat until the boys had caught it and he had rubbed his hand over its furry tail.

"If it ain't a cat I'll be dog!" said he, and he went forth in solemn silence amidst the peals of laughter from the boys. When he passes Emerson now he can be seen looking all around for that darky, but has not found him. He told me he didn't know exactly who cooked that possum, but had reason to believe that it was either Dick Hargis or the devil, and there wasn't very much difference between them. "It was quite a catastrophe," said I. "It was a cat-shore," said he.

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A farmer's wife hanged herself on a tree in his garden. He married another wife, and, curiously enough, she, after a few years, hanged herself on the same tree. He married again, and third wife did the same. The farmer wrote sadly to a distant married friend to tell him of the mournful. In reply his friend wrote: "There is great virtue clearly in that tree. Send me a cutting."—Frisch John Paul.

OLOMON AND THE LILLIES.

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VAGABOND JACK.

THE LIFE OF THE WAYWARD LOVER.

A Story of a "Shiftless, Ne'er do Well" Beautifully Related.

Vagabond Jack was certainly worthy of his nickname, for ever since he had arrived at years of discretion he was not known to have any home or any fixed abode. Always wandering over the mountain and sleeping anywhere he could find a bed, he was the bare ground. All the caves, grottoes, caverns, and crevasses of Mount Ventoux belonged to him of natural right, and his sovereignty it need be over forty miles as the crow flies, from the Barron to the borders of Savoy.

His real name was John Gravier; but where will there be found a peasant in this part of the country who does not bear the name he has derived from his forefathers? Except the cure and the notary, perhaps nobody in the village knew who John Gravier was; but as for Jack the Vagabond—why, the very youngest children knew his name, and he himself would have scarcely answered to any other.

Being left an orphan while quite young, Jack was a child of nature in the fullest sense of the term. Very jealous of his liberty and even somewhat wild, he could not be brought into the house of a stranger, and soon broke loose from all guardianship. Active as a monkey, almost proof against fatigue, patient, and temperate, he rapidly became an excellent poacher, and able to give odds to the give odds to the best of the trappers. As a matter of course he soon had a crow to pluck with the gamekeepers, whose duty it was to keep order in the country; and such fame did he gain in the battles that he was now and again taking notice of him, and he was a hard place those were attributed. Matters were at this stage, and as yet he had not brought himself under the notice of the law further than having information lodged against him for the murder of a gamekeeper, tavern quarrels, and such like. When a decisive event took place that placed him in rebellion against the whole social order of his country.

One day of the conscription Jack did not appear to draw his sword along with his comrades. The man drew for him, and drew one of the most unlucky numbers. So here was Jack a soldier for seven years, at the beck and call of his superiors, to dwell in tents, to wear a uniform, to obey with a word, to submit to discipline, to sleep in quarters, and to begin anew every day for seven years the same dreary and monotonous task? Poor Jack, as it was now called, had been something if there had been a chance of fighting, as not long before; but to rustle in a royal barracks, and to be only a show soldier—the very thought of it was enough to turn his stomach. He received a notice to join one morning and paid no attention to it. The man, who was an excellent man and very fond of him, took him aside one Sunday after mass, and said to him, "Jack, you are getting yourself in a bad way; there is still time, and if you will join I shall justify your delay by a good certificate. I can do nothing more, my poor fellow—the law is the law."

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OLOMON AND THE LILLIES.

Poor Old Fellow His Numerous Wives Should do Better.

Attending service not long ago in an elegant church edifice, where they worship God with taste in a highly aesthetic manner the choir began that scriptural poem that compares Solomon with the lilies of field, somewhat to the former's disadvantage. Although never possessing a great admiration for Solomon, nor considering him a suitable person to hold up as a shining example before the Young Men's Christian Association, still a pang of pity for him was felt when the choir after expressing unbounded admiration for the lilies of the field, which it is doubtful if they ever observed very closely began to tell the congregation, through the mouth of the soprano, that "Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed." Straightway the soprano was re-enforced by the tenors, who most decidedly and emphatically not arrayed—was not arrayed. Then the alto uttered it as her opinion that Solomon was not arrayed, when the tenor, without a moment's hesitation, sang as if it had been officially announced, that "he was not arrayed." Then, when the feelings of the congregation had been harrowed up sufficiently, and our sympathies all aroused for poor Solomon, whose numerous wives allowed him to go about in such a fashion even in that climate, the choir altogether, in a most cool and composed manner, informed us that the idea they intended to convey was that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed "like one of these." These what? So long a time had elapsed since they sang of the lilies that the words were entirely lost, and by "these" one naturally concluded that the choir was designated. Arrayed like one of these? We should think not, indeed? Solomon in a Prince Albert or cutaway coat? Solomon with an eye-glass and mustache, his hair cut Pompadour? No, most decidedly. Solomon in the very zenith of his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Despite the experience of the morning, the hope still remained that in the evening a sacred song might be in a manner that would not excite our risibilities, or leave the impression that to sleep in quarters, and to begin anew every day for seven years the same dreary and monotonous task? Poor Jack, as it was now called, had been something if there had been a chance of fighting, as not long before; but to rustle in a royal barracks, and to be only a show soldier—the very thought of it was enough to turn his stomach. He received a notice to join one morning and paid no attention to it. The man, who was an excellent man and very fond of him, took him aside one Sunday after mass, and said to him, "Jack, you are getting yourself in a bad way; there is still time, and if you will join I shall justify your delay by a good certificate. I can do nothing more, my poor fellow—the law is the law."

Jack acted as he had said, and for about five years he went with marvellous success, followed every attempt to catch him, and discovered that his enemies' plans with unflinching fortitude. It must be recollected that Mont Ventoux seems expressly made to be the scene of a life such as this. Let the reader picture to himself an immense tract of country, an outlier of the main chain of the Alps, rising gradually to the height of 6500 feet above the level of the sea. Every where, from base to summit, over perhaps 100,000 acres, nothing but bare rock, barrenness and desolation. Large larches, beeches and oaks? Large game abounded in these inaccessible forests, the former beauty of which is yet attested by some scanty remains; but the wild goat, the stag, and the bear have long fled before the blind devastation which seemed everywhere fast to attend the French Revolution, and only the wolf, the fox, the marten, have remained faithful to the mountain. The small game, almost annihilated in the low grounds, find

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