

The Weekly Star.
WILMINGTON, N. C.
 FRIDAY, June 8, 1894.

Have you received a bill for subscription to the WEEKLY STAR recently? If so, is it correct? If correct, why not pay it? Is there a man on earth who can print a newspaper for nothing and pay the postage besides? Can a farmer give away his corn, and cotton, and wheat, and chickens, and eggs, and keep out of the poor-house? If so, let us have the recipe. It will be valuable to us just now.

A SECTIONAL PROTEST.
 One of the objections to the income tax is that it is sectional, and to the tax advocates of the income tax might reply with more truth and force that the opposition to it is sectional, for as a matter of fact the opposition comes, with few exceptions, from the Northeast section of the county, and is practically confined to a certain class of citizens, a class which is numerically in the minority at that. But that is the class that does the talking, the protesting, the kicking, and assumes to speak for all, for in every instance where meetings have been held to protest against it (and there have been but few of such) they are gotten up, manipulated and controlled by the class which would have an income tax to pay, if that becomes the law. The mass of the people are not opposed to it anywhere; in some States they are overwhelmingly in favor of it, and even in the Northeast section which has been opposing it the mass of the people would be found in favor of it if the proposition pure and simple and upon its own merits were submitted to a popular vote.

In those States, as in others, the majority of the people are wage-earners, are poor, and have but little, if any, personal interest in the tax. If they have any it is an interest that would incline them in favor of it because if in force it would lessen the burden they bear to the extent of the revenue derived from the tax. Our opinion is that if submitted to the votes of the plain working people of that section three out of four of them would be found to be in favor of it. They are not sufficiently interested in the rich man to become distressed or excited at the proposition to impose a small income tax upon him, a tax which the majority could pay without feeling it, if they would not feel it, if it would lighten the burden of the revenue derived from the tax. There is not an objection to the opponents of this tax make against it which does not make it stronger and more popular with the mass of the people, who see in it only a question of dollars, divested of everything in the way of sentiment. The rich are opposed to the imposition of this tax because they would have to pay, and the poor are in favor of it because they would have none to pay, and the payment by others would help to lighten the burden, of which they have for years borne more than their just share, while the men of large incomes have escaped with less than their just share.

The whole scheme of taxation, Federal, State and municipal weighs heavier on the poor than on the rich man, when the possessions of each are taken into account. The tariff as it has been constructed and operated for years lays the heaviest tax in proportion to value on the classes of articles mainly bought and used by the poor, who cannot afford to buy the finer and the higher priced articles, which are taxed in proportion to value far below the low priced goods.

The hypocritical excuse given for this is that these high-priced articles are not made in this country, or made to a very limited extent and as the object of the protective tariff is to protect our industries there is no need to impose a high tariff for protection on goods that do not compete with American manufactures, a pretence so false and hypocritical that any one with a pinch of sense can see through it at once. If it were true that the motive of the protective tariff was to encourage and foster home industries, they would so tax these high-priced goods as to practically exclude them from our markets and thus encourage the establishment of manufactures to supply the home demand. The inconsistency of their excuses does not seem to have occurred to them while making the burden of the rich ridiculously light, and of the poor heavy enough to crush them to the earth.

There is no way of reaching the rich and making them bear their just proportion of the expenses of government, from which they derive the most benefit, but through an income tax, and even then, with a tax as light as the one now proposed, and against which they protest so loudly and kick so hard, it will not do it, but in so far as it goes in that direction it is the most just and equitable

of all taxes. If there is any tenable objection to it is that it doesn't go far enough and grade the tax according to the income, making the larger incomes pay a larger tax proportionately, as is done in England.

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THE TEXAS COTTON CROP.
 The acreage of the State increased by at least 10 per cent. Ten thousand acres in Cotton in One County where Last Year no Cotton was Raised—This Year's Crop (1894-'95) will be 2,350,000 Bales.

There may be some exaggeration in the annexed telegram; but beyond all doubt the indications now point to a heavy crop in Texas.

THE FREIGHT FIGHT.
 A reduction of 65 Per Cent. from Charleston to the Interior—Possibly May Be Reached from 100.

THE NEW BANK.
 Organized Under the Name of "The National Bank of Wilmington"—Meeting of Stockholders—Directors Elected.

THE STAR'S BOOK COUPON.
 Numbers of the Books wanted—Your Name—Street—Postoffice—County—State.

GET IN THE BAND WAGON.
 How to Keep Up with the Progress in these Hasting Times—Great Dictionary as a Guide.

ATLANTIC COAST LINE.
 Will Reach Out—Surveys for a New Road from Augusta to Charleston.

BOARD OF MAGISTRATES.
 MEETING OF JUSTICES OF NEW HANOVER COUNTY.

THE COTTON PROSPECT.
 Ellison's View of the Situation—The Statistical Position Gradually Gaining Strength.

IN PENDER COUNTY.
 Strawberry Season Over—Warm Weather—Mr. J. T. Collins—Board of Magistrates—County Commissioners—Free Ferry.

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Take it when "awfully tired" Brown's Iron Bitters.
 It is the most just and equitable of all taxes. If there is any tenable objection to it is that it doesn't go far enough and grade the tax according to the income, making the larger incomes pay a larger tax proportionately, as is done in England.

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