

The Weekly Star. WILMINGTON, N. C., AT \$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

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AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION. Agriculture is depressed in the United States, but not in the United States alone.

In England it is even worse than in this country; so much worse that some of the landlords are practically bankrupt for want of tenants.

In Russia, where people were starving last year, wheat is so abundant that there is little or no market for it.

In Germany there is agrarian agitation to keep out imported foodstuffs with the view of raising the price of the products of the German farm.

In France prices have fallen below the profit limit; notwithstanding that there has been a material reduction of acreage in the staple crops.

The farmers of Great Britain, Germany and France say the trouble with them has been caused by forced competition with the food stuffs of America and other countries which can produce them more cheaply than they can.

With all the surplus crops in this and other food-producing countries, this earth has never grown half as much food as it needed.

Compared with the living of the average American workman, the average European workman lives like a serf.

This is the situation in America. It is the situation in Europe, and it is even worse in the more densely populated, older countries of the far East.

eat and to wear—to live comfortably? Because the wage they get for their labor are not enough to pay the price and this is because the money controllers of the world combine to keep down the volume of money in the world under pretence of preventing it from becoming "cheap."

We have noted the fact that Marion Butler, in the editorial columns of the Caucasian was advocating the temporary suspension of all the other demands of the Populist platform and centering upon the free coinage of silver as the sole issue.

Double the world's volume of money, double the wages of toilers, then they would eat more, live better and the food grower and the cotton and wool grower would find double the demand for their products.

This puts a damper on the continued fusion of the Pops. and Reps. as far as the next Presidential election goes, and practically merges the Populist party into the new silver party and that will be the end of the Populist party as a distinct political organization.

A Washington dispatch published in the STAR yesterday states that Marion Butler had at his own request been assigned a seat on the Republican side of the Senate.

Those carping censors who have from time to time been scoring this administration, and especially Secretary Gresham, for alleged tardiness in upholding the dignity of the American flag cannot accuse him of any unseemly dalliance in planting his foot and opening his mouth in the matter of the shooting at the Alliance, off the coast of Cuba.

A country merchant who was in the city yesterday informed a STAR representative that his sales of guano this season were considerably less than 100 tons, against 335 tons sold up to the same date last season.

THE REVENUE ACT.

The Rate of Taxation Increased Four Cents on the Hundred Dollars—School Tax Increased Two Cents—A Number of Important Changes.

The STAR is indebted to the News & Observer for the following synopsis of the Revenue Act.

As finally adopted the Revenue Act makes the State tax 24 cents instead of 20 cents, as fixed by the last General Assembly.

Expenditures for the next two years are estimated at \$200,000 or some \$75,000 more than the receipts.

The liquor tax, 8 per cent, instead of 1 per cent, heretofore. Druggists dealing in spirituous liquors must not only obtain a license upon payment of \$50 to the State Treasurer.

The Bank tax remains the same as heretofore. For each \$100,000 of deposits, \$100,000 and less than \$200,000, \$10; over \$200,000 and less than \$500,000, \$15; over \$500,000, \$20.

The State of affairs on the two railroads that Charlotte is interested in, says the Observer, the Southern and Seaboard, is after this fashion.

Both Seaboard-Trains Over the Seaboard Failed to Be Picked.

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CRIMINAL COURT JUDGES.

Governor Carr's Reasons For Appointing the Judges of the New Criminal Courts.

The following is from the News and Observer of yesterday:

Governor Carr threw a bomb into the Fusionist camp last evening.

When the Fusionists abolished the Criminal Court of New Hasover and Mecklenburg, and the Criminal Court of Brunswick, their object was to run out Democrats and give places to the followers of Fusion.

So two new circuits were created. Republicans and Populists in joint caucus nominated, and the Legislature elected Senator Charles A. Cook, of Warren, Judge of the Eastern circuit, and Representative H. G. Ewart, of Haywood, Judge of the Western circuit.

Yesterday he announced that he had appointed to preside over these two circuits Judge Oliver P. Meares for the Eastern and Judge Thomas A. Jones for the Western.

Fusionists didn't know precisely the meaning of this move.

A rejoinder saw Governor Carr in his office of the executive mansion last evening. The Governor was asked his reasons for making the appointment.

"It is the Governor's prerogative," he replied. "I claim the right to appoint these officers."

The question is a constitutional one, and will no doubt be argued before the Supreme Court.

THE PRICE OF COTTON.

The Improvement in Price Is Based on the Belief That the Acres Will Be Reduced.

Cotton producers should consider carefully the warning contained in the following from the New Orleans Picayune:

During the past week there has been quite a substantial improvement in the price of cotton compared with the extreme low prices previously ruling.

The cause of the improvement has been a growing belief that cotton is cheap at the prevalent prices, and that the consumption has been stimulated to a much greater extent than commonly believed, by the cheap cost.

While there has been an improvement, the farmers of the South must not commit the mistake of believing that the permanent advance has set in.

A general and radical reduction of acreage is the only sure means of bringing about a permanent improvement.

There was so much conflict in the Legislature about New Hasover matters, growing out of differences of opinion among Democrats, that the Democratic Representative from that county did not appear in the hands of Democrats in and out of the General Assembly.

Mr. P. H. Hensberger, Jr., received a letter yesterday from Mr. Gerald McCarty, of Raleigh, in response to one written to him in regard to holding the State Horticultural or Fruit Fair here this Summer.

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BEHIND THE SCENES.

That some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them, is a well known aphorism, and it was practically illustrated in this borough many years ago, and, though, but of mere local notoriety it only goes to prove the truth of that old adage.

Among the prominent gentlemen who composed the old Thalian Association in those days was Mr. William H. Halvey, who was an educated gentleman of much more than ordinary ability.

He was very fond of theatrical amusements and was an active member of the association which existed for so many years in this city and which numbered among its members many of the most prominent citizens of the town.

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Winston-Salem: C. Melbane and other revenue officers seized twelve barrels of blockade whiskey early Monday morning near Panther Creek.

Charlotte News: Esquire John P. Hunter, of Derita, was in town to-day and his pockets full of gold.

Greenville Reflector: Mr. Stanley Joyner, one of the best and most highly esteemed citizens of the county, died at his home near Farmville, Wednesday afternoon at Richmond, N. C.

Southport Leader: Mrs. Elouise Barrist Leonard died in this city last Friday morning.

Monroe Journal: Mrs. Anna Walsh, mother of Mr. W. W. Walsh, died at the residence of Mr. G. S. Lee, in Monroe, at a o'clock Sunday morning.

Sanford Express: The fruit-growers and farmers of this county are looking forward to a heavy fruit crop this year.

Raleigh Press: This morning Mr. Lee R. Wyatt died of an ailment which he had contracted at the residence of Mr. J. H. Holding and J. P. Wyatt as trustees.

Rocky Mount Phoenix: We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Henry Batts, which occurred Sunday last.

Monroe Enquirer: On last Monday afternoon Lonnie, the fourteen year old son of Mr. James Goodwin, of Rock Reef, was hauling wood and his team became frightened by the noise of a train.

Washington, March 16.—President Cleveland came back to Washington after his brief absence of recreation on the water.

Seaboard Air-Line. A Silver Service Presented to Vice-President Winder by Officers and Employees.

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