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THIS COUNTRY CAN LEAD.

A few days ago we reproduced in an editorial a remarkable prophecy of Wm. H. Seward, made in the United States Senate in 1852, in reference to the conspicuous place the countries on and in the Pacific were destined to take in the world's progress.

It had more special reference to the countries upon the American side of the Pacific, and only incidentally referred to the part the countries on the other side, teeming with their millions of people, might play in it.

Mr. Seward could not have foreseen the part this wonderful nation was to play in the progress of that side of the Pacific, but in one generation she has done more for the progress of humanity within her sphere of influence than was done in all the ages that preceded since the waters of the flood subsided.

She crossed the dividing waters and with her brave soldiers carried our flag into the midst of China's 400,000,000 of people and smote the vengeful, rotten personification of despotic stupidity on the brow and made it grovel in the dust and bawl for mercy she lifted Chinese manhood and made progress possible.

The President's Private Secretary contradicts the report given out by a Washington paper that the President was in receipt of many letters and telegrams urging him to call an extra session of Congress to repeal the income tax law.

Under the progressive inspiration or dictation of such a nation as Japan there are inestimable possibilities in even as moth-eaten a country as China.

Why is this? Because, as we have said, we follow the lead of England in shaping our financial policies, and look to Europe as the only market for our trade, when there is a better and a broader market on the other side of the Pacific, where we could lead in trade.

THE STRAWBERRY CROP.

There will be plentiful further south, but the crop will be late everywhere. Indications now point to a heavy crop of strawberries everywhere South.

The dealers in strawberries are of the opinion that the crop this year is going to be a good one in spite of the disadvantages with which crops of all kinds have had to contend.

So far the Florida berries have been the only ones received in this market and have been coming in for about ten days. They first sold at wholesale at 75 cents a quart, but have lately gone down to 35 cents.

There has been a great setback with all of the crops on account of this season's cold weather, but the farmers have replanted all the crops that were destroyed, and there is no reason to believe that the crops in all lines this year will not be as good and as plentiful as they have been heretofore.

VISITORS FROM OUT WEST.

The Farmers Taken on an Excursion to the Seaside. The Seaside Railroad took the Northern and Western farmers, who are here looking for a location, South to Wrightsville and the ocean yesterday.

The STAR is informed that they investigated extensively in lands near Charlotte, N. C., and some along the W. & R. R.

Where the defendant was indicted for stealing a pocket-book containing money, bank certificates and a check payable to the prosecutor, it appeared that he had been carrying the book on the train and on the day after his return to his home in Wheeling, W. Va., from a Southern tour, he made a proper and reasonable effort to discover the owner by writing to the bank which had issued the certificates, etc., and in a few days explained the whole matter to the owner and kept his property safe from him.

Telegraphic announcement was made yesterday that the Edgar Thompson foundry and machine works at Mobile, Ala., had been awarded the contract for castings for a marine railway at Halifax, Nova Scotia, having underbid other competing establishments in the United States and in England.

Under the English dictation we have practically ostracized our silver, degraded it to the condition of a mere commercial commodity, and put gold up as the only metal to be honored as a true money metal.

THE COTTON SITUATION.

Review of the present and a glance at the future. The cotton market in New York is at present in a waiting, or hesitating mood with a steady undertone, and while this steadiness might naturally result from several causes, I think that the chief factor in the situation is the attempt on the part of certain well-known and wealthy operators to bring about a material advance in the price of contracts for May delivery.

The visible supply of cotton in the world is about 380,000 bales greater than at the corresponding time of last year, while the stock held by European and American spinners is doubtless 500,000 bales greater than a year ago.

On the other hand it is to be noted that while about 3,800,000 bales of American cotton have come into sight in excess of the movement to the corresponding time last year, it has been fully absorbed that, as I have already stated, the visible supply of cotton in the world is only about 380,000 bales greater than it was a year ago.

Trade conditions are so much better than last year here and in Europe that I do not think the larger supply justifies so much a reduction in cotton acreage this spring.

The season of 1894 was an unusually good one. Indeed, it may prove to be the best season of which we have any reliable record in the history of the cotton crop in this country.

At the moment, operators are waiting for further developments in respect to the acreage of the new crop and in respect to the stock in the market. The efforts being made to advance the price of contracts for May delivery.

Those who think it time for reaction from the advance which has occurred since March 1st and who believe the visible and invisible stocks of cotton too great to enable the average of prices to rise, are unwilling to sell at a moderate rate, and are unwilling to go "short" of the market until the speculation in May contracts is ended.

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The Continent mills having a home market for the greater part of their production are doing an active and profitable business and it is reasonable to expect that for several seasons to come they will continue to increase, but they hold large stocks of cotton and should prices advance they would be in a position to withdraw from the market.

It is true that unfavorable weather for the cotton season in the British Isles is actually known and accepted by the trade. It is true that unfavorable weather for the cotton season in the British Isles is actually known and accepted by the trade.

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT.

READY FOR THE UNVEILING CEREMONY MAY 20TH. A Banquet to be Given the Men Who Did the Work—Democratic Ward Primaries—New England Manufacturers—Action to Test the Validity of the Assignment Law.

The Confederate monument has been veiled and with the exception of placing the four bronze lamps in position, it is now complete for the ceremony on the 20th of May.

The Democratic ward primaries occur to-night. There are many candidates out for the positions of mayor and clerk. The public works committee is the strongest candidate for these positions, and this fact makes the contest more interesting.

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Another Phase of the Matter—Tuller from Gov. Carr Puts a Stop to Qualifying in Newbern.

The Newbern Journal of yesterday says: "The law relating to the three additional Justices of the Peace for each township in the State, repeals all acts and clauses of acts in conflict with it, and declares that the terms of the additional Justices shall begin April 1st, 1895."

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ABOUT COTTON.

Reasonable to Believe that the Advance in Price is Permanent—Higher Prices Will Bule if Planters Materially Reduce the Average This Year.

NEW YORK, April 6th, 1895. DEAR SIR—In our circular letters of December 10th and February 16th, attention was specially called to the fact that the price of cotton had declined far beyond what the unfavorable conditions and depreciating influences warranted, and was below the cost of production.

The total visible supply of cotton in the world is 384,583 bales more than last year, 444,075 bales more than in 1893, and 80,765 bales more than in 1892.

The exports this year are 1,979,469 bales more than last year, 3,275,597 bales more than in 1893, and 593,755 bales more than in 1892.

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REPEALED WITHOUT REMEDY.

OUR MUNICIPAL ELECTION LAWS. Major C. Dowd makes a startling discovery—The Election Law of 1883 Repealed—The Election Laws Since 1883, But Does Not Provide Any Substitutes.

The Republicans of the city retained Major C. Dowd, as counsel a few days ago to ascertain if they could not apply to a Superior Court Judge to issue a mandamus compelling the Clerk of the Court of the county to appoint registrars and judges of election for the next municipal election in Charlotte.

As in a rest of his investigation, Major Dowd reached the startling conclusion that all municipal election laws enacted in 1883 and since had been repealed by the last Legislature and no election laws provided in their place.

Major Dowd said to an Observer reporter yesterday: "Section 1 of the new election law repeals chapter 16 of the Code, and all laws relating to elections and the Code." Thus all State laws for elections are repealed, and paragraph 3 is still broader.

But other cities may not be as lucky as Charlotte in this respect. Major Dowd said he saw that registration was going on in Raleigh and Wilmington under the new election law, but he presumed that it was under the amended charters of those cities—amended by the local legislatures.

The election law of the State, passed by the late Populist-Republican Legislature, does not relate to municipal elections at all, Major Dowd went on to say except in so far as it repeals them. There is nothing in it relating to towns until in the latter part of it where one or two provisions are to be found relating to penalties and qualifications for voters, but which are not in harmony with the general purpose of the bill, and were evidently interpolated by somebody who had not even read the bill.

In a city where the law may not have been amended, if there is no provision of law for present municipal authorities to hold over, they will have no city government.

Such will certainly be the case if the planters of the South will simply exercise good business discretion in gradually reducing their cotton acreage, which is so manifestly to their interest, in order to relieve the world of the apprehension of overproduction again this year.

It would be truly unfortunate for the South if the present advance in prices should stimulate planting beyond present expectations.

It is reasonable to believe that the advance in prices is permanent, and if the anticipated improvement in trade generally is realized, much higher prices for cotton will result.

DEMOCRATS IN COUNCIL.

MEETING OF STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Encouraging Reports from Different Parts of the State—Rep. Pops, Census in Greensboro—Baptist Female University—Banquet at the Yarrowbooth.

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DUKE CIGARETTES. High Grade Tobacco. ABSOLUTELY PURE. SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

Salisbury Herald: Capt. Dick Eames came up from Albemarle this morning, bringing along with him that seven-pound nugget of gold found yesterday. Those who saw it say it is a beauty.

Raleigh Visitor: Deputy collectors Davis, Smith, Sheburn, Moffitt report the seizure of three illicit distilleries in Guilford, Wilson and Randolph counties. These ranged in capacity from forty to 80 gallons. No conspirators were arrested.

Winston Sentinel: Mr. Susan Carter, of Sandy Grove, Caswell county, with a horrible death last week, while she was alone in the house, her husband being out on the farm, was in the fire and was horribly burned. When her husband reached the house she was dead. It is supposed she had a fainting spell and fell in the fire.

Charlotte News: Pat Mungo who was in the city to-day, reports that there is a good deal of activity in the gold fields of Clear Creek township. Gold mining is going on actively, and there are now in Clear Creek, two Colorado miners who expect to invest in a mine—When the conglomerate of Little Rock (colored) was discovered, the mine was laid, some money representing paper issue and silver coinage was put in the receiptable along with a Bible, hymn book and other articles. Last night a lady who had been in the street broke open the box and stole the money. They left the Bible and hymn book.

NEWS OF THE NAVY. MOVEMENTS OF UNITED STATES CRUISERS. Important and Successful Tests of Armstrong Shell and Percussion Fuses.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The Navy Department to-day invited proposals for gun forgings for the batteries of vessels for the Navy. The advertisements invite all domestic manufacturers of steel to submit proposals for the forgings.

After four years of arduous service, marked by unsurpassed courage and fortitude, the Army of Northern Virginia has been compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources. I need not tell the survivors of so many bloody battles, who have remained steadfast to the last, that I have consented to this result from no distrust of them, but, feeling that valor and devotion could accomplish nothing that could compensate for the loss that would attend the continuance of the contest, I have determined to avoid the useless sacrifice of those whose past services have endeared them to their countrymen.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became Child, she clung to Castoria. When she had Colic, she gave them Castoria. When she had Worms, she gave them Castoria. The clear factory of Henry L. Stebbins, at Robtstown, Pa., was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. Later Stebbins surrendered to the fire. He acknowledged that he had set the place on fire and wanted to be locked up. He is undoubtedly insane. The loss is about \$7,000.