

Good streets and good roads help not only the looks of the town or section in which they are located, but they have an economic value that is not fully appreciated.

CONFLICTING CLAIMS.

The gold standard advocates seem to go upon the principle that to make good their side of the case they must claim the earth, and therefore they answer the arguments of the silver men by asserting that prices and wages have been higher since the gold standard has prevailed than they were in 1860 when the double standard prevailed.

We have frequently heard the same line of assertion followed by the advocates of a high protective policy, who claimed that it was the high tariff which boomed the prices of farm products by furnishing a home market for the farmer, boomed wages by creating a demand for labor, thus bringing prosperity to the country.

It is somewhat surprising to find Democrats borrowing the arguments of the Republican protectionists to defend the position which they are taking now, and they advertise their insincerity when they assert that the farmer and wage earner are more prosperous now than in 1860, before the Republican protective tariff era set in, when for years they had been holding up that system as a colossal system of legalized plunder which robbed and impoverished the many for the benefit of the few whom it enriched.

If the people are more prosperous now than they were before that system was invented why did they go around the country denouncing it as an oppressive and plundering system and demand its immediate and radical reformation? If it was what they declared it was then the people could not have prospered under it, and if the people have prospered under it and are better off than they were before its adoption then it could not have been the plundering system which they said it was, but must have been a beneficial one, as claimed by the Republicans who invented it and defended it.

But neither is right. Higher prices and higher wages, as compared with 1860, were the result of neither the protective tariff nor of depreciated money. In the first place they were due to the fact that during the war millions of men were taken from the walks of industry and called into the army, which decreased labor and also production, making the demand for both greater.

Wilmington, Delaware, has gone Democratic for the first time in several years, and now some of the Republicans of that and other States are demanding that Addicks be thrown over as the Jonah that did it. We expect Addicks wishes he had those \$80,000 back that he spent to carry the State for the Republicans at the last election.

Senator George, of Mississippi, who has been in the Senate since 1881 and ranks as one of the ablest men in that body, is critically ill at his home in Carrollton. He is a soldier of two wars, the Mexican war and the war between the States.

RALEIGH HAPPENINGS.

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The cotton producers are, therefore, very interested in the problem as to whether or not the advance in cotton will endure. It should be said at once that the most capable authorities in the cotton trade are believers in the maintenance of the improvement, and some even predict better prices than they have seen so far experienced. It should be remembered that notwithstanding the immense crop of the past season, the price of cotton was not depressed, it is at the present moment. Considering the great increase in the production, the visible supply is not very much larger than last year.

STATE UNIVERSITY.

Centennial Celebration—Three Thousand People Present—Orations—Centennial Banquet.

By Telegram to the Morning Star. RALEIGH, May 5.—The great day of the centennial celebration of the State University opened this morning at Chapel Hill and the exercises were in every way impressive from every standpoint—especially from the Southern standpoint, that this is the only University south of Mason's and Dixon's line that is one hundred years old. There were 3,000 people present in the great Memorial Hall at 11 o'clock this morning and the audience was a picturesque contrast of young women, many of them grandchildren of alumni present fifty years ago. All joined with solemn measure in "Old Hundred," which was followed by oration by the Rev. A. M. Waddell, dean of the old University and A. H. Eller for the new.

The Centennial sonnet was read by the author, Henry Jerome Stockard, a young poet, who is well known through the Century and other magazines. It is as follows: "As what to our dim-sighted human eyes Seemings of evening gathering chill and gray Around a century's slowly sinking day, Relentlessly expunging fields and skies— In that are only morning mists that rise But to be sundered by a level ray, And backward driven from the heavens Where lift new heights engrained with unknown dies— So be thy life through centuries unborn: Around thy West no sunsets saddening No shades of night thy landscape falling o'er, But dawnning ever of some wider morn, Whose reaches unconfined suns ill- Dayward tilt years shall come and go no more."

DAVIS MILITARY COLLEGE. Annual Commencement—Society Celebrations—Military Exercises. [Special Star Telegram.] WINSTON, June 4.—The annual commencement exercises at Davis Military College are in progress this week. Lieut. W. E. Shipp, of the U. S. Army, represents Uncle Sam's Government here. The past session has been highly successful, many States being represented by cadets.

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NEW YORK TRUCK MARKETS. Full and Reliable Reports of Markets For Southern Fruits and Vegetables. By Telegram to the Morning Star.

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The cotton producers are, therefore, very interested in the problem as to whether or not the advance in cotton will endure. It should be said at once that the most capable authorities in the cotton trade are believers in the maintenance of the improvement, and some even predict better prices than they have seen so far experienced. It should be remembered that notwithstanding the immense crop of the past season, the price of cotton was not depressed, it is at the present moment. Considering the great increase in the production, the visible supply is not very much larger than last year.

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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Regular Meeting—The Tax Levy—Treasurer's Report—The Chairman Authorized to Borrow \$6,000.

The Board of Commissioners of New Hanover county met yesterday in regular session. Present: Messrs. H. A. Bagg (chairman), E. L. Pearce, B. G. Worth, J. C. Stevenson.

County Treasurer S. VanAmmringe submitted report for the month of May, showing balance on hand, \$5,408.34. Register of Deeds, J. C. Stevenson, reported 14 marriage licenses issued during the month of May, and the fees therefor, amounting to \$89.90, paid to the County Treasurer.

On motion the chairman of the Board was authorized to borrow \$6,000 from the National Bank of Wilmington, and the chairman was authorized to execute a note for that amount over the seal of the commissioners.

The Board proceeded under the new law to fix the tax levy for 1896, as follows: On real and personal property on \$100 valuation . . . . . \$0.47 On the poll . . . . . 1.41 On real estate . . . . . 1.41 For general expenses per \$100 . . . . . .38% For hospital . . . . . .04% Interest on bonds and sinking fund . . . . . .18 New road law . . . . . .18 Light Infantry and Naval Reserves . . . . . .08% On the poll— For general expenses . . . . . 0.71 Hospital . . . . . 0.34 Interest on bonds and sinking fund . . . . . .18 New road law . . . . . .18 Light Infantry and Naval Reserves . . . . . .10 With this levy the whole tax (for State and county) will be as follows: On property for county on \$100 valuation . . . . . 0.47 Ditto for State and schools . . . . . 1.29 On poll for county . . . . . 1.41 On poll for school and poor . . . . . 1.29

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FIVE CENT COTTON.

A PLANTER EXPRESSES HIS OPINION ON THE SUBJECT. He Says the People Have Learned an Invaluable Lesson From the Hard Times—This Year, for the First Time, Many Planters are Out of Debt.

Walter Wellman writes as follows from Memphis to the Chicago Times-Herald: "What a relief it sometimes is to get away from the politician, the statesman, the man of theories, and to talk to a genuine business man. There is Judge Robinson, of Robinsonville, Miss., who was a delegate to the so-called money convention. He lives in Louisville, Ky., and has a cotton plantation in the rich delta country. Judge Robinson gave me some most interesting facts about farming and business in the South. 'The hard times of the last two years have been a factor in making the people on the South' said the Judge. 'The people have learned an invaluable lesson which could have never been taught by that adversity. When cotton was 10 cents a pound and everything booming, the planter down in my section would go to town, borrow \$10,000 from a factor or banker, and then spend it in raising his crop and getting it to market. Two years ago, when the price of cotton began dropping and the hard times came on, the planter walked into a factor or banker, and then he was surprised to hear the man of money say: 'We are curtailing our business and can't let you have \$10,000. If you can get along with \$5,000, we can advance you the other \$5,000.' 'But the planter was very sure he could not get along with \$5,000. He had always had \$10,000, and \$10,000 it must be or nothing. He would find another banker.' 'Well, he looked around for another banker,' continued Judge Robinson; 'perhaps he found some one willing to lend him \$2,000 or \$7,000, but out of this reduced the balance on his \$10,000 to \$2,000 owing to the old banker. Then the planter would get on his high horse and he wouldn't put in any crop at all. The next year he would get a man could get \$10,000 advance on his cotton crop, and he would just as soon go down in idleness as in toil. He would go home, but in a day or two, perhaps, he would get a letter from the man to make out the papers. 'I'll take \$5,000, letting the balance stand, and see what I can do.' 'Then came pretty hard to thousands and thousands of men in the South,' said Judge Robinson; 'I know, because I was one of them. We were rebellious and mad at the world, but it was the best thing that ever happened to us. We went home to make the best of a bad bargain. We reduced expenses in every way possible. We were amazed to discover how much unnecessary money we had spent that year. One thing or another simply because it came into our heads of buying bacon, we began to raise pigs. Instead of buying corn for the mules and meal for the hands, we planted corn. Instead of buying cotton seed, we grew our own fruit and things, we began to garden after our gardens, orchards, vines and bushes. 'The result was? The first year the quantity of what we got through with about the same capital we had expended, and the balances against us in our town did not increase. The second year many of us wiped out the balances. The third year we wiped out the low price of cotton. This year, for the first time in their lives, many Southern planters are out of debt. Some are even able to put in their crops and go through the Summer on their own terms. The planter becoming independent of the factor. This year, with cotton up to 7 or 8 cents, as it looks now it might be, will be the best year many Southern planters have had since the war. It will be a golden year to the South if the price does not go up too rapidly. It will be better for us if it goes up a little this year, and a little more next year, than it would be if it went 10 cents again the year we have been forced to learn this lesson of thrift will say the boom has come again, and will fall into their old extravagance.' 'CLOTHING FOR THE HEATHEN. The Fate of a Lot of Clothing Sent to Africa—Some Quaker Antics of the Nineteenth—How a Chief Mourned a Shirt. The Sunday School Magazine gives the following: 'About a year ago the ladies of a certain Dorcas Society made up a large quantity of shirts, trousers and socks, and boxed them up and sent them to a missionary station on the west coast of Africa. A man named Ridley went out with the boxes, and stayed in Africa for several months. When he returned, the boxes were found to be empty. He had heard how his donation was received, and Ridley, one evening, met the members and told them about it in a little speech. 'Well, you know we got the clothes out there all right, and after a while we distributed them among some of the natives in the neighborhood. We thought they would attract the natives to the mission, but it didn't last for some time had elapsed, and not a native came to church with those clothes on. I went out on an exploring expedition to find out the reason, and I found that the natives gathered the tail up around his waist. He couldn't make it stay up, however, and they say he went around inquiring in his native tongue what kind of an article it was. He said that he had never seen that wouldn't hang on, and swearing some of the most awful heathen oaths. At last he let it drag, and that night he got his legs tangled in it somehow, and fell and broke his leg. They asked me, 'Another chief who got on a properly well padded saddle in the dark, and the people imagining he was a ghost, sacrificed four babies to keep off the evil spirit.' 'And then you know those trousers you sent out? Well, they fitted one pair on an idol, and then they stuffed most of the rest with cotton. They asked me as a kind of new-fashioned idols, and began to worship them. They say that the services were very impressive. Some of the women split a few pairs in half, and later set up the legs every body to carry yards, and I saw one chief with a corodory leg on his head as a kind of helmet.' 'I think though the socks were most popular. All the fighting men went for them the first thing. They filled them with sand and used them as boomerangs and war-clubs. I learned that they were so much pleased with the efficiency of those socks that they made a party of neighboring tribe on purpose to try them, and they say they knocked about eighty women and children on the head before they came home. They asked me if I wouldn't speak to you and get you to send out a few barrels more, and to make them a little stronger, so they'd last longer, and I said I would. 'This society's done a power of good to those heathen, and I've no doubt if you keep right along with the work you will inaugurate a general war all over the continent of Africa. They are all wearing an idol of his own. All they want is enough socks and trousers. I'll take them when I go out again.' 'Then the Dorcas Society passed a resolution declaring that it would, perhaps, be better to let the heathen go naked and give the clothes to the poor of home. Maybe that is the better way.

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I went out on an exploring expedition to find out the reason, and I found that the natives gathered the tail up around his waist. He couldn't make it stay up, however, and they say he went around inquiring in his native tongue what kind of an article it was. He said that he had never seen that wouldn't hang on, and swearing some of the most awful heathen oaths. At last he let it drag, and that night he got his legs tangled in it somehow, and fell and broke his leg. They asked me, 'Another chief who got on a properly well padded saddle in the dark, and the people imagining he was a ghost, sacrificed four babies to keep off the evil spirit.' 'And then you know those trousers you sent out? Well, they fitted one pair on an idol, and then they stuffed most of the rest with cotton. They asked me as a kind of new-fashioned idols, and began to worship them. They say that the services were very impressive. Some of the women split a few pairs in half, and later set up the legs every body to carry yards, and I saw one chief with a corodory leg on his head as a kind of helmet.' 'I think though the socks were most popular. All the fighting men went for them the first thing. They filled them with sand and used them as boomerangs and war-clubs. I learned that they were so much pleased with the efficiency of those socks that they made a party of neighboring tribe on purpose to try them, and they say they knocked about eighty women and children on the head before they came home. They asked me if I wouldn't speak to you and get you to send out a few barrels more, and to make them a little stronger, so they'd last longer, and I said I would. 'This society's done a power of good to those heathen, and I've no doubt if you keep right along with the work you will inaugurate a general war all over the continent of Africa. They are all wearing an idol of his own. All they want is enough socks and trousers. I'll take them when I go out again.' 'Then the Dorcas Society passed a resolution declaring that it would, perhaps, be better to let the heathen go naked and give the clothes to the poor of home. Maybe that is the better way.

Walter Wellman writes as follows from Memphis to the Chicago Times-Herald: "What a relief it sometimes is to get away from the politician, the statesman, the man of theories, and to talk to a genuine business man. There is Judge Robinson, of Robinsonville, Miss., who was a delegate to the so-called money convention. He lives in Louisville, Ky., and has a cotton plantation in the rich delta country. Judge Robinson gave me some most interesting facts about farming and business in the South. 'The hard times of the last two years have been a factor in making the people on the South' said the Judge. 'The people have learned an invaluable lesson which could have never been taught by that adversity. When cotton was 10 cents a pound and everything booming, the planter down in my section would go to town, borrow \$10,000 from a factor or banker, and then spend it in raising his crop and getting it to market. Two years ago, when the price of cotton began dropping and the hard times came on, the planter walked into a factor or banker, and then he was surprised to hear the man of money say: 'We are curtailing our business and can't let you have \$10,000. If you can get along with \$5,000, we can advance you the other \$5,000.' 'But the planter was very sure he could not get along with \$5,000. He had always had \$10,000, and \$10,000 it must be or nothing. He would find another banker.' 'Well, he looked around for another banker,' continued Judge Robinson; 'perhaps he found some one willing to lend him \$2,000 or \$7,000, but out of this reduced the balance on his \$10,000 to \$2,000 owing to the old banker. Then the planter would get on his high horse and he wouldn't put in any crop at all. The next year he would get a man could get \$10,000 advance on his cotton crop, and he would just as soon go down in idleness as in toil. He would go home, but in a day or two, perhaps, he would get a letter from the man to make out the papers. 'I'll take \$5,000, letting the balance stand, and see what I can do.' 'Then came pretty hard to thousands and thousands of men in the South,' said Judge Robinson; 'I know, because I was one of them. We were rebellious and mad at the world, but it was the best thing that ever happened to us. We went home to make the best of a bad bargain. We reduced expenses in every way possible. We were amazed to discover how much unnecessary money we had spent that year. One thing or another simply because it came into our heads of buying bacon, we began to raise pigs. Instead of buying corn for the mules and meal for the hands, we planted corn. Instead of buying cotton seed, we grew our own fruit and things, we began to garden after our gardens, orchards, vines and bushes. 'The result was? The first year the quantity of what we got through with about the same capital we had expended, and the balances against us in our town did not increase. The second year many of us wiped out the balances. The third year we wiped out the low price of cotton. This year, for the first time in their lives, many Southern planters are out of debt. Some are even able to put in their crops and go through the Summer on their own terms. The planter becoming independent of the factor. This year, with cotton up to 7 or 8 cents, as it looks now it might be, will be the best year many Southern planters have had since the war. It will be a golden year to the South if the price does not go up too rapidly. It will be better for us if it goes up a little this year, and a little more next year, than it would be if it went 10 cents again the year we have been forced to learn this lesson of thrift will say the boom has come again, and will fall into their old extravagance.' 'CLOTHING FOR THE HEATHEN. The Fate of a Lot of Clothing Sent to Africa—Some Quaker Antics of the Nineteenth—How a Chief Mourned a Shirt. The Sunday School Magazine gives the following: 'About a year ago the ladies of a certain Dorcas Society made up a large quantity of shirts, trousers and socks, and boxed them up and sent them to a missionary station on the west coast of Africa. A man named Ridley went out with the boxes, and stayed in Africa for several months. When he returned, the boxes were found to be empty. He had heard how his donation was received, and Ridley, one evening, met the members and told them about it in a little speech. 'Well, you know we got the clothes out there all right, and after a while we distributed them among some of the natives in the neighborhood. We thought they would attract the natives to the mission, but it didn't last for some time had elapsed, and not a native came to church with those clothes on. I went out on an exploring expedition to find out the reason, and I found that the natives gathered the tail up around his waist. He couldn't make it stay up, however, and they say he went around inquiring in his native tongue what kind of an article it was.