The Weekly Star.

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

The subscription price of the **Weekly Star** is as follows:

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We are again sending bills to our subscribers. In the aggregate they amount to a very large sum. Many of our subscribers are responding promptly. Others pay no attention to the bills. These latter do not seem to understand that they are under any legal or moral obligation to pay for a newspaper.

THE COTTON PROBLEM.

We do not know how it is going to be in other States, but if we may judge from what we read there will be an increase in the acreage of cotton in North Carolina this year. If the increase were confined to North Carolina it would not be a serious matter for our proportion of the total crop is small, but the probabilities are that the same causes which have led to the increase in this State will have similar influence in other States where as great and perhaps a greater increase may be looked for. Any increase which should prove to be general will be unfortunate for it will not require much to make a large enough aggregate to so increase the next crop as to materially affect the price.

There is a pretty general concensus of opinion among planters that the acreage should be kept down for the present, at least, to about a 7,000,000 bale crop, which would be within the world's demand for consumption, but one of the difficulties in the way is to secure some plan of co operation by which the planters might form some opinion as to the prospective acreage and thus be able to calculate on how much they should plant to keep within the desired acreage. Thus far it has been guess work with them and speculation without anything but report and the speculations of others to go upon. In this State, for instance, the indications are for an increase in the acreage, but no one can form a correct opinion as to how much. That is guess work, and this is doubtless the case in other States.

To meet this difficulty Mr. George W. Truitt, of Troup, Georgia, one of the most progressive, thorough, and successful farmers in that State, suggests a plan by which there may be intelligent co-operation, based on something like definite and reliable information as to what planters are doing. He says:

"This plan which I suggest is to make the Commissioner of Agriculture in each State Clearing House officer, to whom all of the farmers shall report. They will be glad, every one of them, to let the Commissioner know at this time the amount they are planting in cotton. All the various commissioners in the South can have their reports compiled conjointly, and thus determine at this early time of the year exactly the amount of land planted in cotton. A certain per cent. can be determined upon, and every farmer will gladly conform to it, and thus establish a joint reduction which will fix the price and insure a profit on his crop to every man who plants the staple. The planters are as anxious, in fact, more anxious, than any one else to get on a firm basis in this respect, and are sure to lend their hearty co-operation, if the commissioners will take the matter up and issue a circular calling for reports from the farmers in their separate States."

Mr. Truitt believes in keeping the acreage down and proves it by reducing his acreage last year 20 per cent. He says he will reduce it that much more this year. If every planter was like Mr. Truitt and conducted his farm in the same level-headed, business like way, there would be no need of any plan to secure co-operation, for every planter would keep posted on the crops, the world's demand and the prices, and be governed thereby, and cultivate only as many acres as he could manage without going into debt or interfering with raising food supplies and other things on the farm which must be bought if they are not produced on the farm.

At one time Mr. Truitt, like a good many other planters, cultivated only cotton, but with the low prices of late years, experience and observation convinced him that this didn't pay and he concluded to try diversified farming. He has a 1,300 acre farm, 400 of which he gives to cotton, the rest to food crops and pasturage for cattle, of which he has a considerable number, which he finds profitable. Last year it cost him six cents a pound to produce the cotton which he sold for eight and made some money, about eight dollars a bale. If it cost him six cents a pound to produce it and he had to borrow money or cultivate it on backing from his merchant, and pay up for advances and buy what he needed out of the two cents a pound, Mr. Truitt wouldn't have had much margin to put in his pocket when his crop was sold. But he raised his home-supplies, had corn, oats, pork and beef to sell, and what he got out of his cotton was clear money and remained with him.

There may be some difference of opinion as to how far the reduction of acreage should go. There are some who believe it the best policy to produce cotton enough to keep it cheap, so cheap as not to stimulate other countries which can grow it to engage largely in the culture with the prospect of high prices. They advocate keeping up the acreage and reducing the cost of production so that this country may retain the monopoly on cotton regardless of price.

But whatever the opinions may be as to the wisdom of reducing the acreage or of keeping it up there is no difference of opinion among sensible men as to the wisdom and necessity of diversified farming as an essential factor in the successful cultivation of cotton whether the price be high or low. If it be high diversified farming will help to keep the farmer out of debt, make him more independent and leave him with more money at the end of the season which he can call his own. If the price be low then diversified farming will be absolutely necessary to enable the planter to produce his cotton at a figure to keep him out of debt. He can't buy fertilizers and food supplies for men and stock, and make cotton cheaply to save his life. He might as well undertake to make money by bottling up moonshine (not moonshine mountain dew) as to expect to make his salt out of six cent cotton, when he has to buy his bread and meat and corn and hay; and six cent (or less) cotton is what we are going to have next Fall if the acreage be as much increased as the signs indicate. The farmer with the level head will not neglect his home supplies whatever he may do about his cotton acreage.

MINOR MENTION.

The gold organs are trying to make some capital out of the statement by Hon. Carroll D. Wright that the average earnings of skilled laborers in this country amounted in 1890 to $445 per annum, which is higher than the average earnings were in 1880. The purpose is to prove by this that wages have increased under the gold standard, and that, therefore, the gold standard is a good rather than a bad thing for the workman. But some of them prove too much when they compare the wages paid now with the wages paid fifty and a hundred years ago. They find it convenient to forget that there has been an increase in wages the world over save in the overcrowded Asiatic countries, and in others where there has been little or no industrial progress, and where the employments are of the most primitive character, and where money is scarce and correspondingly valuable. But the increase in wages has gone on steadily regardless of the money standard but not regardless of the volume of money, the increase being dependent, of course, more or less, on the demand for labor. The gold advocates are disposed to claim that what they regard as high wages (although they are really low wages) is the result of what they call the "sound money" policy, while the tariff protectionists claim it as the result of the protective tariff, while it is neither. Wages are higher in this country than in other countries, and have increased over what they were forty or fifty years ago because there has always been more demand for skilled labor in this country than in other countries, because there has always been more disposition to recognize the value of labor, and again because the workmen of this country are more intelligent and better organized and therefore better able to take care of themselves than the workmen of other countries. If wages have advanced under the vicious gold standard they would have increased still more under genuine bimetallism.

* * *

In his speech before the New Hampshire Republican State Convention Senator Chandler told his brethren that if the Republican party got back into power it would fix up the currency question all right, just how they would fix it he wasn't at liberty to say, but they would fix it. The new Hampshire statesman was talking through his hat. There has not been a Republican platform so far adopted which does not directly or indirectly pledge the party to do something to get our finances in satisfactory shape. But the framers of these platforms were also talking through their hats. This Congress has been in session about four months and a half. The House of Representatives has an overwhelming Republican majority, which can pass any measure it desires to pass. They all admit that the finances are in a very unsatisfactory condition, and hold out the idea that they will never get into a satisfactory condition until the Republican party gets control of affairs. In all these four months and a half with an overwhelming majority in one House, and nearly one-half of the other, not a single move has been made to provide a better system of finances, which if it didn't go through would at least have given the country some idea as to what the Republican statesmen propose, and give the people a chance to discuss it pending the next Presidential election. A free discussion by the people might give them some suggestive pointers to help them out of the wilderness.

* * *

When the Republican protectionist statesmen undertook to build a new tariff or patch up an old one they were in the habit of sending out invitations to the protected manufacturers to come to Washington to confer with the committee and let it be known on what lines of manufactures they wanted the most "protection" and about how much they would like to have. The people who paid the duties imposed were never represented at these meetings. This was a one-sided business and this is the reason why the manufacturers got about all they asked for. There is a striking similarity in the methods pursued by the so-called "sound money" engineers and the "protection" boosters. When the latter want to get any points on how they should run the financial machinery and fix up the currency question they call in the Pierpont Morgans and other representative bankers, money and bond manipulators, and ask their advice as to what should be done. Generally speaking, they get all the advice they want. This is one of the reasons why, as in the tariff business, the people haven't had much of a showing in the financial methods pursued, and why the big bankers and bond manipulators have had it pretty much their own way. But the people will have their innings by and by and then somebody will be knocked out.

It isn't well all the time to be too inquisitive. A young Ohio man who was engaged to be married to a Miss Lucas, of a wealthy St. Louis family, got the grand bounce because it was discovered that he was making too much inquiry about the financial standing of the young lady's family, which riled her folks and the girl, too. They didn't approve of that kind of speculating in futures.

A Nebraska man wants the telegraph company to pay him large damages because by the failure to deliver a telegram he missed attending his mother-in-law's funeral. The Nebraska man doesn't have opportunities like this very often and when he does he wants to show that he appreciates them.

Shoe dealers in New York city say that women's feet in that town are growing larger, and prove it by saying that they wear larger shoes now than formerly. But this may be proof only that the women are becoming more sensible and are wearing shoes that are large enough for them.

Chairman Harrity says the Chicago convention will adopt a "sound money" platform and nominate "sound money" candidates. Mr. Harrity ought to explain how he found this out. Possibly, the "wish is father to the thought."

Fighting for the C. F. & Y. V.

The Washington *Post* says: The Seaboard Air Line and the Southern system, in their fight for control of independent routes, are now engaged in a war for the possession of the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway, which runs from Mount Airy to Wilmington, N. C., tapping the heart of the mineral, agricultural and timber districts of North Carolina. This road is now in the hands of a receiver, and the New York members of the reorganization committee favor its sale to the Southern Railway. The members from Baltimore, however, are in the majority, and they strongly advocate the acceptance of the Seaboard Air Line's proposition to purchase the road.

It now looks very much as if the latter will be successful, and the Southern now threatens to tap the Seaboard's territory by the construction of a branch line to Southern Pines, connecting with the Aberdeen & West End Railway, and thus reaching at once the Seaboard's best timber districts and its greatest and most widely advertised resort.

Severely Injured.

A young man by the name of Odom was severely injured Friday afternoon at Town Creek. He was cutting down a tree on Mr. Geo. H. Bellamy's farm to capture a raccoon, when the tree fell upon him, inflicting severe injuries. He was brought to this city yesterday morning. Dr. J. H. Bellamy was summoned and dressed the wounds. Last night the patient was progressing as well as could be expected.

Will Make No Difference.

If, as now seems almost certain, the Democrats of North Carolina go into the fight this year on free coinage platforms, both National and State, it will not make any difference whether the Hon. Demosthenes Lycurgus Russell or the Hon. Optimus Hallelujah Dockery is nominated for Governor; as the Democrats will sweep the State from Currituck to Cherokee.

COUNTY CONVENTION.

Republicans of New Hanover Elect Delegates to State and District Conventions—Resolutions Adopted Endorsing Russell and McKinley.

The Republican convention for New Hanover county was held yesterday at noon in Ruth Hall, corner of Seventh and Nunn streets. All the wards and townships were represented.

The convention was called to order by Mr. Stacy VanAmringe, chairman of the County Executive Committee, and C. M. Martin, secretary of the committee, read the list of delegates. Contesting delegates from the third division of the First ward, and the first division of the Fifth ward, presented credentials.

The chair appointed a committee on credentials, with Dr. S. P. Wright as chairman. The committee retired and after a half hour's absence returned and submitted a report recommending the seating of the regular delegates.

A motion was made that the report be accepted.

Mr. Fred B. Rice, whose side was shut out, started to address the chair.

The chairman promptly called him down, as he was not a delegate, and the motion to accept the report of the committee was carried.

Mr. Rice then said his side would withdraw, which they did.

The meeting then went into a permanent organization, Mr. Geo. Z. French being elected chairman and C. W. Norwood secretary.

The chair appointed as sergeants-at-arms Jerry Hewlett, Wm. Guion, J. S. W. Eagles and T. S. Watson.

On motion, the following were elected to the State Convention: Delegates—G. Z. French, W. H. Chadboura, T. C. Miller and Thos. R. Mask; alternates—J. T. Howe, J. H. Webber, C. M. Martin and J. C. Bowens.

On motion, the following were elected delegates to the Congressional Convention: D. B. Sutton, Daniel Howard, E. M. Green and A. J. Walker; alternates, C. W. Norwood, H. S. Gause, J. M. Whitted and Joseph Anderson.

Resolutions were presented by Stacy Van Amringe and adopted, endorsing ex Judge D. L. Russell for Governor, favoring the nomination of Wm. McKinley for President of the United States, and Geo. Z. French for Congressman from the Sixth District, favoring the continuance of the fusion of 1894, and endorsing Pritchard for U. S. Senator.

On motion, the delegates were instructed to support J. B. Dudley for delegate to the National Convention.

A letter was read from Judge D. L. Russell expressing regret at his inability to be present, as he was compelled to be in Washington to argue the election case from this district now pending before the House of Representatives. In his letter the Judge said the convention must stand by fusion.

On motion, the convention took a recess until May 21st next.

RUSSELL VS. DOCKERY.

Robeson County's Republican Convention Equally Divided—There Came Near Being a Row—A Bolt in the Mecklenburg County Convention—The Bolters for Dockery.

[*Special Star Telegram.*]

LUMBERTON, N. C., April 11.—In the Republican Convention held here to-day for the purpose of electing delegates from Robeson county to the State and Congressional conventions, honors were evenly divided between Judge Russell and Col. O. H. Dockery. A number of visiting statesmen were present, among them O. H. Dockery, Jr., and Parson Leak, who were working in the interest of Dockery, and W. J. and D. B. Sutton, who were pulling for Russell. A great deal of bitterness was manifested and hot words were indulged in freely. At one time it looked as if a row was imminent, the trouble growing out of the appointment of the Committee on Credentials. After a great deal of wrangling, a compromise suggested by the Russell men was agreed upon, by which the votes of Robeson were equally divided between Russell and Dockery, each receiving two votes.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., April 11.—The Republican County Convention held here to-day resulted in a split. Out of the 102 delegates, all told, from the county, 11 claim that they bolted and 15 were rejected by the committee on credentials. The regular convention endorsed McKinley, Russell and Pritchard, for President, Governor and U. S. Senator respectively. They claim to have had 74 delegates voting.

The bolters favored, in separate convention, O. H. Dockery for Governor, and elected a delegate to St. Louis, uninstructed. They also endorsed Mr. James Smith, of Rockingham, for Congress. The factions are bitter. Loge Harriss spoke for Russell. J. C. Dancy, of Salisbury, spoke for Dockery.

The Late W. W. Barnes.

The remains of the late Willie W. Barnes, who died in Los Angeles, Cal., on the 4th inst., are expected to arrive here to-day at 12.30 p. m., by train on the Seaboard Air Line. The funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock from Grace M. E. Church. Mr. Jas. W. Barnes and Mr. John Barnes, brothers of the deceased, went to Hamlet last evening to meet Mrs. Barnes who accompanied the remains of her husband on the long journey across the continent.

"A Low Price for So Good a Paper."

[*Clinton Democrat.*]

Our excellent and esteemed contemporary, the Wilmington STAR, has reduced the subscription price of its daily edition to $5.00 a year. That is a low price for so good a paper and in consequence of this reduction it ought to double its circulation.

Maintains the Lead Among N. C. Dailies.

[*Raleigh Daily Call.*]

The Wilmington STAR, the oldest daily newspaper in North Carolina, comes to our table regularly, filled with the latest local, State and telegraph news. The STAR maintains the lead among North Carolina Dailies.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

CALLED TO MEET IN RALEIGH ON THE 25TH DAY OF JUNE.

Meeting of the State Executive Committee—Its Membership—Silver Men in the Majority—State Press Association to Meet in Wilmington—Baptist Revival in Raleigh—Tramps Injured on the Southern Railroad.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 9.

The Executive Committee of the N. C. State Press Association meets here to-day to select a place for the next annual meeting. Mr. Chas. E. Stevens, of the Southport *Leader*, who is president of the association and chairman ex-officio of the committee, is already here.

The Democratic Executive Committee will meet here to-night at 8 o'clock. There are 57 members of the committee, including the Central Committee, which is a part of it. There will likely be a very good attendance.

The most important business before the committee will be the naming of the date for holding the State Convention. There has been some talk of resolutions being adopted favoring silver, but so far as I can learn no action of the kind will be taken. The silver men are largely in the majority. A silver committeeman said to-day that the committee would certainly not go behind the action of the committee on May 20th, 1895, when silver resolutions were adopted. The committee will discuss the situation among themselves, but further than this no action will likely be taken.

It has been a long time since the names of the members of the committee were published. It is given below with two exceptions.

First District—W. G. Lamb, W. T. Cross, S. T. Beckwith, T. W. McMullen.

Second District—F. D. Winston, W. A. Dunn, J. W. Granger, J. H. Baker, Jr.

Third District—N. A. Sinclair, D. S. McIver, W. H. Oliver, T. C. Whitaker.

Fourth District—E. C. Beddingfield, F. S. Spruill, H. A. London.

Fifth District—J. L. King, W. W. Kitchen, J. W. Graham.

Sixth District—Heriot Clarkson, R. B. Davis, S. C. Weill, W. H. Neal.

Seventh District—A. H. Boyden, E. Rheinhardt, S. J. Pemberton, J. L. Scales.

Eighth District—R. N. Hockett, R. L. Ryburn, W. C. Erwin, E. B. Jones.

Ninth District—R. M. Furman, J. A. Loughran, Kope Elias, R. L. Durham.

The members of the Central Committee are P. B. Means, E. Chambers Smith, F. L. Emery, J. P. Caldwell, R. H. Battle, C. B. Watson, A. W. Haywood, J. J. Young, R. N. Winston, J. S. Carr, B. C. Beckwith, J. R. Young, E. J. Hale, F. M. Simmons, S. A. Ashe, C. E. Foy, G. W. Blacknall, and W. E. Ashley.

I have made an effort to find out those members of the committee who favor gold. The list given below is very near an accurate list of those favoring the single standard: P. B. Means, S. W. McMullen, F. W. Winston, H. A. London, S. C. Weill, A. H. Boyden, J. L. Scales, W. E. Erwin, R. M. Freeman, Kope Elias, R. H. Battle, and W. E. Ashley.

Rev. A. C. Dixon, brother of Tom, is holding a revival at the First Baptist church. His preaching is attracting great crowds. So large was the attendance last night that he began services to day in Metropolitan Hall. Mr. Dixon is a magnetic orator and a great thinker. Many persons who never heard him before, think him the superior of Tom, his brother. Mr. Dixon is pastor of a big church in Brooklyn, N. Y.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 9.—The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce having invited the North Carolina Press Association to meet in that city, the invitation is accepted. The meeting is to be held July 15th.

This morning white tramps who were stealing a ride on the blind baggage of the Southern railway train, sprung off just before reaching Greenshoro. The bones of the face of one were broken and his injuries are severe. Another suffered fatal internal injuries.

The Democratic State Convention met here to-night, and issued a call for a State Convention, to meet in Raleigh on June 25th next.

A BLOODY CONFESSION.

Holmes Confesses to Having Murdered Twenty-Seven Innocent People.

H. H. Holmes, the red-handed murderer, now in prison in Philadelphia under sentence of death, has made a confession.

Among other things the story says: In prefacing the confession, which covers in full nearly three newspaper pages, written in Holmes' own handwriting, and detailed with a minuteness that is simply at times revolting, the arch-mutilator and author of twenty-seven murders, as he admits himself to be, states with something like pathos that he does so simply that he may obtain enough money to educate his boy. Holmes writes of his blood-curdling atrocities with an abandon that simply appalls one. Not one grain of remorse seems to enter into the construction of that document and never for a moment, except in two isolated cases—one where he refers touchingly to the memory of Minnie Williams, and another time when he pathetically speaks of an outrage perpetrated on his boy—does the redeeming element, pity, figure in the case. Regret is never for a moment expressed and he comes out boldly and without compunction in his very opening with the statement: "I was born with the very devil in me."

DOCKERY IN WAKE.

He Is Indorsed by a Republican Club in East Raleigh.

[*News and Observer.*]

James Young, Russell's Marshal Ney for Wake county, received a tap on the diaphram from Dockery supporters in this town last night.

It was at a meeting of Republicans held in far-out East Raleigh last night for the formation of a Republican club that James caught it so strongly from the opposition. And Jim was there, was present in the hour of his own humiliation. Rev. R. H. W. Leak, Col. Dockery's piquant ace of spades, had planned his coup and had by his side all cards of a color. Jim's "fine Italian hand" was so badly beaten that he didn't even "call" the "little nigger preacher," who walked off serenely with the stake at issue, in the shape of an endorsement of and instructions for Dockery.

I. O. O. F.

Capt. J. M. McGowan, delegate to the meeting in Richmond, Va., of the Widows' and Orphans' Relief Association of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, for North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia, returned last night. He reports that Marsden Bellamy, Esq., of Wilmington, N. C., was elected president of the Association.

— Shallow men believe in luck; strong men believe in cause and effect. —*Emerson.*

THE HALL CASE.

Mrs. Watson Hall Held to Await Action of the Grand Jury.

The brutal murder of Mr. Watson Hall near Florence, S. C., a short time since, full particulars of which appeared in the STAR, excited great interest here where Mr. Hall formerly lived. It will be seen by the following from the Florence *Times* of the 9th that the affair has taken a new and sensational turn:

The case of Mrs. Plume Hall, wife of Mr. Watson Hall, who was so foully murdered recently, at Mars Bluff came up for preliminary hearing before Magistrate Smith to-day. The case was tried in the court house to give room for those who wished to hear the evidence. Several witnesses were examined and very important testimony was elicited, but the *Times* does not believe in trying a case of this kind through the newspapers before it has been to the court of general sessions, and therefore do not go into the testimony. Mrs. Wilkes was set free, no particle of evidence produced connecting her with the murder. Mrs. Hall was remanded to jail to await the action of the grand jury.

A Model Truck Farm.

A representative of the Clinton *Democrat*, who recently visited the truck farm and nurseries of Mr. J. S. Westbrook, at Faison, says: "It does one good to see a farm that is as pretty as a picture, and such a one Mr. Westbrook has. It is laid out in systematic order and is kept as clean as a floor and under the highest cultivation. Mr. Westbrook grows the early vegetables, berries, fruits and grapes. He has made money, and everything about his attractive place bears evidence of the thrift that goes with industry. His is a model place, one that would make any man wish to be the possessor of such a farm. It does all engaged in trucking good to visit it and get an object lesson in truck farming."

Death of Dr. W. B. Meares.

Dr. W. B. Meares, who had many relatives and friends in Wilmington, died, Tuesday night, in New York city, where he had gone for medical treatment. The remains were interred at Linwood, Davidson county, yesterday. Hon. O. P. Meares, a brother of deceased, adjourned Mecklenburg Criminal Court in order that he could attend the funeral. Dr. Meares was born in Davidson county, but had been a frequent visitor to Wilmington, where he made many friends. He was a man of exalted character, a leading citizen of his county, and stood high in his profession.

— Mr. S. H. Bell informs the STAR that the first shipment of North Carolina strawberries this season was made from Burgaw yesterday by Mr. I. B. Scott. He shipped one crate of 32 quarts to Philadelphia. Mr. Bell says they were "as large as guinea eggs and red as a rose."

— The last issue of the Laurinburg *Exchange* appeared with inverted column rules, the newspaper emblem of mourning, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Dr. Robert D. Dickson. Following a feeling editorial tribute, it reproduces the sketch of the deceased which appeared in THE MORNING STAR of the 5th inst.

FIRE IN CUMBERLAND.

One Hundred Thousand Dollars Goes Up in Smoke—Over Two Million Feet of Timber Destroyed.

The Fayetteville *Observer* gives the following account of a disastrous woods fire in Cumberland county:

The great cloud of smoke that hung over Fayetteville Monday evening like a huge black canopy and which many mistook for thunder clouds, was the result of the most disastrous wood fires that ever visited this county.

Ten thousand acres of the best belt of timber in the county was destroyed, besides miles upon miles of fencing. One house and numerous barns were also burned, and it is thought many head of cattle, pigs, etc., fell victims to the flames.

The fire started west of Little Rockfish, about 14 miles from the city, near Sessom's place; crossed Rockfish, Middle and Bones Creeks and came within 9 miles of Fayetteville, and but for the providential rain of Monday night, would have reached this city, so fierce were the flames.

Eye witnesses say that they never saw such a grandly terrific sight, for miles nothing but a sea of leaping, licking, shooting howling flames, the roar of which could be heard four miles distant.

Hundreds of people could be seen all along the line digging trenches and felling timber, but nothing could stop the mighty march of fire—nothing but providence.

A. D. McNeill, Esq., of 71st, an exceedingly conservative man, places the loss at over $100 000.

The fire swept a territory of 5 miles by 2, destroying over 2 000,000 feet of timber on an area of 10,000 acres.

SILVER DEMOCRATS CONFIDENT.

Claim That They Will Have a Pronounced Majority in the Chicago Convention.

The following from the Washington *Post* is interesting:

The officers of the Democratic Bimetallic Committee refuse to show their hand by going into details concerning their work. But they boldly declare the free coinage people will control the Chicago Convention, adopt a ringing free coinage platform, and nominate a tried and true champion of the free coinage of silver. They are not circulating much literature, rather depending upon the other organizations to do that. Senator Harris has, however, unbosomed himself so far as to say:

"The committee of which I am chairman is in receipt of abundant information from the various States to justify my assertion at this time that the free coinage people will enter the Chicago Convention with a pronounced majority, such a majority as will dictate terms from the start. These terms will be unchangeable. They will be free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and the candidate must stand squarely on the platform. There will be no surrender. As masters of the field, we shall write the platform and name the candidate."

[The Democratic Bimetallic League, referred to above, is composed of Democrats who favor conducting the fight for free silver inside the Democratic party. —EDITOR STAR.]

NEWS FROM RALEIGH.

HAYWOOD COUNTY REPUBLICANS DECLARE FOR MOODY FOR GOVERNOR.

Senator Pritchard's Organ Denounces Senator Butler—Wake County Republican Convention Called to Meet May 2nd—Neither Russell Nor Dockery Endorsed by the Committee—Wake Forest Commencement—Edenton Rioters Sent to the Penitentiary.

[*Special Star Correspondence.*]

RALEIGH, N. C., April 11.

Haywood county declares for Moody for Governor. It is significant to note that McKinley and Pritchard were also endorsed.

The Asheville *Register*, Senator Pritchard's paper, goes for Butler even worse than Holton. It says:

"The Senator regards North Carolina as his personal chattel, but he must understand once for all that he cannot bulldoze and brow-beat one single Republican in the State out of his party." The *Register* says it learns that Butler is still determined to force Republicans to abandon their organization and their party nominees for the Presidency to orce co-operation.

"Like Capt. Eaves, he needs to be taught a lesson. The Republicans and Populists who favor co-operation should immediately go to work to arrange the details without regard to Butler, just as the Republicans did two years ago, without regard to Eaves. Butler is by nature a tyrant, and his ambition is not to be a leader but a boss."

The Dixon meetings are drawing wonderfully large crowds. Last night when the service began at the First Baptist church there was not a vacant inch of space unoccupied except on the pulpit, where Dr. Dixon spoke. The vestibule was full and people were turned away by the hundreds. In the morning Metropolitan Hall is also filled, mostly with business men.

Dockery people here say that Fred Rice will support the Colonel for the nomination.

Wake county will raise more tobacco this year than ever before in the history of the county. A gentleman who has just returned from the northern and eastern section, says new tobacco houses are being erected by the dozens.

Wake Forest Commencement will be two weeks earlier than usual this year. It will occur the last week in May.

Four of the Edenton rioters were sentenced to terms in the penitentiary.

Governor and Mrs. Carr, Misses Carr, Dr. and Mrs. McKee, Dr. and Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Kenan, Dr. Lewis and Dr. A. B. Hankins and Maj. Wilson returned from a visit to the Albemarle fisheries yesterday. The party had a most pleasant trip

A steamboat will be put on the French Broad river to be used as a pleasure boat.

[*Special Star Telegram.*]

The Republican county convention is called to meet here May 2nd. The executive committee appointed a committee of five to confer with a committee of Populists to arrange for a continuance of fusion. Neither Russell nor Dockery was endorsed, though both factions claimed a majority of the members of the committee. Fusion was strongly endorsed.

A Republican paper will be started here next week, with J. C. L. Harriss as editor. It will appear weekly.

A NOTE SENT TO SPAIN.

The United States Proposes Mediation in Regard to Cuba—Couched in Kindly Phrases—Spain's Failure to Fulfill Her Promises Referred To—Asked to End the Struggle as Soon as Possible.

[*Washington Post of 11th.*]

There has been sent to Madrid from the State Department an important official dispatch bearing on Cuban affairs. It was signed by Secretary Olney and addressed to Minister Taylor. In it was laid down the attitude of the administration in the Cuban question. The dispatch is a lengthy one. Its four principal points are:

First. The President proposes that Spain accept mediation on the part of the United States looking to a settlement of existing differences between the Spanish Government and the Cubans.

Second. It refers to the correspondence between the State Department and the Madrid authorities in 1870, in which Spain promised to inaugurate governmental reform in Cuba, which promises it is said have not been fulfilled.

Third. That the present rebellion in Cuba is more serious and widespread than any which have arisen in recent years, and that the insurgents control practically all of Cuba except Havana and the near neighborhood.

Fourth. It assures Spain of the kindliest motives on the part of the United States in seeking to bring about a pacific condition of affairs in Cuba, and urges that the good offices of this country be accepted in the spirit proffered.

UNIFORM BALING.

Resolutions Adopted at the Convention of Cotton Exchanges in Augusta.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

AUGUSTA, GA., April 10.—At a meeting of representatives of the South Atlantic Cotton Exchanges in Augusta today, the matter of uniform baling was called up. Resolutions were adopted, recommending:

1. That producers, ginners and packers use bagging weighing not less than 2, nor more than 2¼ pounds to the yard, the bagging to be woven and calendered, to allow clear and distinct marking:

2. Six ties to the bale of material weighing not less than 45 nor more than 50 pounds to bundle of 8.011 to 11½ feet in length.

3. Farmers and manufacturers urged to conform to these recommendations.

4. That compressed bales have at the ship side a density of 22½ pounds per cubic foot, and 8 bands, weighing an average of 11½ pounds per band.

5. That sample hole patch be used in compressing of bales.

6. That railroads decline to receive compressed cotton of lesser density than 28½ pounds per cubic foot.

7. That attempts to enforce arbitrary penalty of five pounds per bale by the Liverpool Exchange will only retard every movement looking to the correction of the evils complained of.

EX-GOV. THOS. M. HOLT

Died Yesterday at His Home at Haw River.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

RALEITH, N. C., April 11.—Ex-Governor Thomas M. Holt died as 5.20 this afternoon at Haw River, his home. His age was 65. He served two years as Governor. He was the largest cotton manufacturer in North Carolina and also one of its weathiest citizens.

Gov. Carr has called a council of state to meet to-morrow to arrange the funeral. He has sent a telegram of condolence to Mrs. Holt.

A telegram from a member of the family to the Sauthern Associated Press correspondent says the funeral will be held at 11 o'clock Monday morning at Haw River. Gov. Carr and his staff and State officers and the Governor's Guards will attend the funeral. Ex-Gov. Holt was stricken last Tuesday and he never rallied. His death was due to Bright's disease.