

THE WILMINGTON POST.

W. P. CANADAY, Proprietor.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 27, 1883.

FREEDMAN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY.

The Commissioner appointed by an act of congress to settle up the affairs of the Freedman's Savings Bank has very nearly accomplished his duties, and if all those who hold books against the institution will send them in it will not take many more months to close up the balance of the business entirely; and we advise our readers who are creditors of the bank to send in their books at once, and they will receive the balance of their money in a few days. See Judge Knott's advertisement on another page.

THE FRUITS OF POLITICS.

We do not wish to be uncharitable, much less vindictive. We are referring to the letter of our Wilmington correspondent in the last issue of the Post, who cannot fail to remark that in politics, as in everything else, there is a principle of retribution, and that "time at last sets all things even." We are sorry for those who live where justice(?) is administered with respect to persons, and we hope our colored friends in Wilson will not think it unkind of us to remind them that they are reaping the fruits of the pernicious doctrine which some of them last year aided the Democrats in disseminating; that the choice between bourbons and independents is merely one of individual preference. After this they will, perhaps, see that even where the white men of all parties are alike bent upon engrossing the offices, it is a matter of vital concern to them that the laws should be made and administered by their political friends, rather than by those whose political creed is embodied in the maxim that "this is a white man's government."

BRING THEM UP TO THE SCRATCH.

The New York Herald is resolved on pitting Hoody and Forker against each other in public, if possible. It urges several forcible reasons in support of its suggestion, but one cannot fail to be amused to notice the semblance of childlike simplicity and innocence assumed by this experienced old diplomat of the quill. Do but attend for a moment.

"There are but two ways of conducting an important political canvass. One is by secret manipulations—by going about in private among capitalists, monopolists and speculators and raising a big campaign fund, and by the skilful distribution of a number of new two dollar bills. The other is by open, public and joint debate," etc. As if a joint canvass on the stump would dispense with the trickery, manipulation and corruption of the managers who work behind the scenes!

As regards the campaign in Ohio, we heartily concur with the Herald in favoring a mode of discussion which will give all possible publicity to the principles, precepts and purposes of the Republicans of that state. But it is far from being a fact that these political debates before the people minister to the genuine enlightenment or improvement of the hearers. Almost every member of an audience collected for such an occasion resorts to the place of meeting as the devoted partisan of one of the speakers, resolved in advance to hold up the hands of his favorite in every conceivable way and to neglect no stratagem which will operate to the prejudice of "the other side." When men are assembled in such a temper, reason, eloquence and candor are inert and unavailing. A pregnant thought or flashing witicism from an adverse orator is the chief of all offenses, while his readiest passport to the favor of his political opponents is to become himself the chief and humblest admirer of his competitor and to ward off his blows with the least possible dexterity consistent with self-protection. A serious danger and abuse connected with these public debates is the tendency to identify cause and speaker, to transfer to one the virtues, or fasten on it the infirmities belonging to the other. We learn "how awful goodness is," her port, how lofty and sublime, when upheld by some "chief of the eloquent war," but even virtue may stand abashed under the bold invectives of a Voltaire or an Ingersoll, while under brilliant championship vice will even grow haughty and stare us out of countenance. All will concede the unfairness of judging a cause by the ability of its exponents in any case, but it is equally wrong and dangerous to commit a vital political issue to the protection of an orator's powers. The self-possession, if not effrontery, the self-confidence, the capacity to fathom and arouse the passion and prejudice of mankind and other the qualities, which specially fit a canvasser for his work, are the very qualities which unfit him for the high position to which he aspires.

THE TUNNEL.

The pending unpleasantness between France and England has given renewed interest to the proposition to connect these two countries by a submarine passage. We learn from our all-informed neighbor of the Star that strategic difficulties of a serious character are urged against this work by military veterans and engineers of experience. Having resigned, in the spring of 1882, our supervision of state matters in contempt of the refusal of Lee and Jackson to profit by our campaigning pains, we have grown somewhat rusty, but we incline to patronize that large majority of British officers who laugh at the apprehension of invasion by such a vice angusts. It occurs to us that a couple of cannon placed at the mouth of the passage could give all unrivited guests Warren's "welcome" of "lead rain and iron hail," in such heroic doses as might well disturb the stoutest stomach. But it is urged by our friend of the Star that one tunnel constructed under the auspices of government would precede many others as the result of private and corporate enterprise. That does not follow. The power which establishes one could as effectually prohibit others. Again, our neighbor hints pretty broadly that it would be a kind of "tunnel" against geography and the will of Him who filled us here and roughly set His Saxons in blown seas and storming show-ers in attempting to form a physical union with the continent. But does not this "prove too much." If it is the natural duty of people to continue the same surroundings and condition in which they first found themselves, then what we have considered the barbarous exclusiveness of the Chinese is really a national virtue. Finally our friend, lapsing into poetry, which is the proverbial anti-thesis of truth, calls upon Shakspeare's mighty self to aid him, but he should have remembered that the thrifty bard was himself "apacious in the possession of dirt," and willing to say the best for the rent estate of England, not forgetting to mention its safe insular situation. But seriously, we did not know that it was customary with Britons to await invasion. In the past they have, for the most part adopted that wiser policy which regards a timely attack as the best of all defences. But now, their parliamentary committee, by a vote of 6 to 4, disavow the establishment of additional means of access to France, while the Chamber of Deputies of the latter country, nothing fearing, urge with natural eagerness and impetuosity the immediate construction of a connecting bridge or tunnel.

Some degree held in check by the dignified forbearance and caution in such matters of the larger and more responsible papers of the country. That the Sun should now reverse this wholesome example, and take the lead in what is so long aided to discountenance, could but be deplored, in any instance, but especially so it is to be lamented that this unfortunate departure should have been at the expense of one who, if suffering can ever give immunity, was surely enough afflicted in his life to be spared the attacks of calumny after death. But alas, the exigencies of politics know no conscience. With the growing "boom" in favor of Mr. Tilden, the great American ring-smasher, comes the necessity of the contrast, as marked as possible, in the conduct of officials on the Republican side. Here is to be the great offset to the Republican advantage on the tariff question, and, in the face of discrediting circumstances which in an indifferent matter would at once determine the Sun against this ill-concocted slander, the ingenuity of the editor is exercised to its utmost to give coherency and probability to the story of this accomplice, blackened by his confession, an acknowledged adept in fraud, and betrayer of his associates, who waits until the lips of his refuter are sealed in death before he gives utterance to his lies. Not long ago the Democratic press was overworked in lauding the zeal and integrity of Garfield and McVeigh in bringing to justice "the star route thieves;" for then such startling developments of "radical rascality" were to be made as would gratify the greediest of party scandal-mongers. But, lo, the "powerful rogues are acquitted" and entirely overlooking what would have been the foolhardy audacity of these officials in pursuing criminals who held in their hands the life and death of their accusers, this very same press are now the most busy conductors of the Star Route defendants in fastening the origination of their crimes on those public prosecutors whose fearless virtue they had influenced to such lofty temper in the past! That Mr. Dana should have given currency to a story so silly and incredible as that which he has been formulating for Dorsey is a matter which every friend of his must lament, not only for its immediate effect, but also for its example. How the story will bristle in capitals and exclamations points in all the little papers! "I would have for sale merchant," says Sheridan, for all slander currency, whereby not only the drawer of the bill, but every indorser would be held responsible." Well, there may be some redress against such an accommodation indorser for Dorsey as Mr. Dana, but who ever thinks of calling to account the diminutive unknown who stand around the latter?

THE ISSUES IN OHIO.

STATED BY THE NEXT GOVERNOR IN OPENING THE CAMPAIGN.

THE WHOLE COUNTRY WATCHING THE COURSE AND AWAITING THE RESULT.

THE LARGEST GREAT TOPIC IN WHICH ALL KINDS OF TRADE AND ALL CLASSES OF PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED.

HOODY AND "THE TRIFT OF THE PRESIDENTS"—THE LIQUOR QUESTION.

From the National Republican. HAMILTON, OHIO, July 21.—Judge Forker, the Republican candidate for the governorship, spoke here to-night. He made a forcible presentation of the issues of the campaign and created a most favorable impression. He said:

The whole nation is watching the fight in which we are engaged, and this outside interest is due to the fact that the whole nation is to be affected by the result. The next house of representatives is already Democratic; the senate is almost equally divided. If Ohio goes against us in October, the future administrative policy of the country is unsettled for a year to come, with a dangerous menace hanging over us of an absolute change to follow. The incoming of the next congress is attended with the threat that there is to be a revision of the tariff laws in the interest of free trade. I need not tell you people who live in this thriving manufacturing city of the effect this has already produced. Capital is sensitive; it shrinks from the very appearance of danger; it always was so, and it always will be so. It is shrinking to-day. It has been shrinking from the moment the present political situation was made manifest to the country. It will continue to shrink until we are relieved from it.

I know a gentleman in Cincinnati who is engaged in the carriage business. His establishment is a credit to the city. He employs more than 200 men, and manufactures more than ten thousand vehicles annually. He sells them, not only all over this country, but all over the world. He told me a few days ago that within the last month he had filled orders from Japan, the West Indies, Australia and Liverpool. I congratulated him upon having such business. His answer showed that he knew something more than how to make buggies, for he expressed the fear that his business was far larger than he could justify, in view of the political situation, and he went on to say,

as he expressed it, that he was already "taking in sail," and intends to continue "taking in sail" until he can see Ohio no longer in the victor's hands, and with that assurance that there was no need to fear the accession of free trade in 1884. And that man was an Englishman born and bred in the heart of London; brought up on free trade, and as firm a believer in its doctrines as Adam Smith himself, until he came to this country and learned better by practical experience.

But what this man is doing is doing precisely as he is doing everywhere. The whole country is "taking in sail," and all are watching Ohio to see whether or not they can put it out again. The consequence is that notwithstanding we have a sound currency, fruitful and abundant harvests, and all the other conditions that favor trade and prosperity, yet there is a feeling of sensitiveness developing itself in business circles that is making itself felt in declining prices for iron and coal, for wheat, corn and hogs, and all the other products of manufacture and agriculture, and this means less production, less demand for labor and lower wages for the laborer that is employed. These results are neither prospective nor speculative; they are present and actual; they are accomplished facts. But if the mere probabilities that grow out of the present political situation can effect such results, what may we not expect if Ohio increases the distrust by her verdict in October. We cannot overestimate the importance of this question. It affects every kind of trade and business; it comes directly home to every merchant and manufacturer, every mechanic, every farmer, every every laborer of every kind. How is it met by the parties?

No one needs to be told where the Republican party stands. The declarations of its platform from the first moment of its existence are all consistent, clear, plain and explicit. Every man who reads them can understand what they mean. There has never yet been any occasion for any candidate of the party in his "keynote" speech to interpret or explain them. All who read may understand, but there is no necessity to read party declarations to understand where the Republican party stands on the tariff question.

"Labor in Europe is everywhere from one and a half to three times cheaper than here. The consequence is that we cannot compete with that kind of labor unless we reduce our labor to the same level. The Republican party is not willing to do that. The laborer in this country is a part of the governing power. He is a voter. He has a voice in the government. Aside, therefore, from all humanitarian reasons, we want him to have a chance for self-elevation. We want him to eat meat and be comfortable. We want him to gather knowledge and be a good citizen, love his country, and be able and willing to take care of it. And for this reason it is that we say if we cannot go into the markets of the world without being subjected to an unjust and degrading competition, we will make ourselves independent of those markets by making markets of our own. Instead of sending our raw cotton across the ocean to be there manufactured and sent back to us, we will have cotton mills here. We will mine our own coal, develop our own materials, manufacture our own iron and steel, build our own railways with our own products, and thus have division of labor, diversity of employment, home industry and domestic commerce. This has been the policy of the Republican party in the past; we intend to continue in the future. The wisdom of it is best known by its results. Under its influence the material prosperity of the country has been such that it is absolutely without a parallel except in the political growth we have enjoyed during the same period. When the Democratic party went out of power, the credit of this nation had been so impaired that six per cent government securities could be sold in the markets of the world only with difficulty, even at ruinous rates of discount; but to-day our securities stand more than three per cent higher in the same markets than those of England.

But where stand our Democratic friends in regard to this matter? There was a time in the days of the old Democracy when they did not hesitate to declare squarely for absolute free trade. In 1876, and again in 1880, they said they wanted a tariff for revenue only. In 1876 there were other issues involved in the campaign. But in 1880 that was made the leading issue. It was thoroughly discussed, and our friends did not hesitate to tell us that they had not abandoned the faith of their fathers; that they were for free trade, and that was what their resolutions meant. The verdict of the people was that they did not want any more free trade. Since then our Democratic friends have been trying to better their situation in this regard. They have resorted to various expedients. They have now come to this: let me read from their platform: "We favor a tariff for revenue, limited to the necessities of the government, economically administered, and so adjusted in its application as to prevent unequal burdens, encourage productive industries at home, and afford just compensation to labor, but not to create or foster monopolies."

If we had no outside information in the light of which we can interpret it, I don't think it would be possible for any intelligence to comprehend such a jargon of words and declarations. But every man who knows the history of the Democratic party in regard to this question, every man who knows their position in 1880, every man who knows their utter disregard for consistency, every man who knows how hypocritically they are divided among themselves, every man who knows how substantially they party subordinates everything to the one great idea of restoration to power, will understand this resolution when he reads it. For to every such man it means not an honest declaration of principle, but an attempt to dodge and mystify and evade an issue. Its construction is by sections that are to be respectively violated to the front

for free trade or protection as the locality may require. It is like the Indiana school teacher who was willing to teach that the earth was round or flat as the directors might prefer. And this necessity means either that they cannot agree that they have not done as they say, or that they have not done as they say, and either is a sufficient reason why their application for power should be denied them, as it will be.

The speaker then referred to and replied to the recent speech of Judge Hoody here, in which he spoke of the difference between the two parties in their treatment of wrongs. Judge Hoody said there "had been four great persecutions in this country since the war that would illustrate that difference." They were the impeachment trial of Andrew Johnson, the persecutions of the whisky ring, the Tweed ring, and the star routes." The speaker, after disposing of the first three cases, said of the latter in part:

If these facts are not sufficient to satisfy Judge Hoody that the Republican party is not at fault for a failure to convict the star routes, let me call his attention to some facts about the first trial, when the jury disagreed. If I am not mistaken, the jury at that trial stood nine for conviction and three for acquittal. And who are the men who were for acquittal? It will be sufficient to speak of one of them. The foreman of that was Mr. William Dickson. He is a Democrat, and a Democrat of intelligence and standing in his party. He was for Tilden and reform in 1876. I have been informed that he was then president of the Tilden and Hendricks club in Washington city, and I have heard it said that he enjoyed the promise of Mr. Tilden that, as a reward for his services he was to be marshal of the District of Columbia when Mr. Tilden got to be president. He would doubtless be for the old ticket and his marshaling in 1884. 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