The Chatham Record

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H. A. LONDON, Editor.

VOLUME XVIII.

With this issue the RECORD begins its eighteenth volume and enters upon the eighteenth year of its existence. While seventeen years may not seem a long time for a human being to live, yet it is an unusually long time for a newspaper to exist in North Carolina. Indeed so far as we can now remember, the RECORD is the only newspaper in this State now edited and published by the same person, who first established it so long ago as seventeen years. And while North Carolina has been such a "graveyard" for newspapers, the county of Chatham has been peculiarly fatal to newspapers. Since the RECORD was started several other newspapers—in order "to fill a long-felt want"—have been established in this county, and every one, after a brief career, ceased to exist. One after another they would start up, bloom for awhile, and then fade away, and the future can only be judged by the past.

The truth of the matter is the average county in this State can support only one newspaper and the experience of [illegible] have thought differently [illegible]. The publication of a paper requires more attention than most [illegible] necessary, and [illegible] ment is required [illegible] expenses and [illegible] different" [illegible] dice will soon convince [illegible] error, just as [illegible] been convinced.

The [illegible] for the future, [illegible] in the past, to deal [illegible] er for the promotion of [illegible] terests of all the people [illegible] gard to their religious [illegible] especially for the [illegible] ty of Chatham, [illegible] was born and has lived [illegible] half a [illegible] as long as the good [illegible] Grateful for the past [illegible] fore receive [illegible] serve it [illegible] est ambitions [illegible] welcome visitor to its [illegible] every family in [illegible].

If the populists of South Carolina are really sincere in their declarations for free silver they surely will not again "fuse" or co operate with the republicans. As is well known it was the republican party—a republican Congress and President—that passed the famous act of 1873 which struck the "demonetized" silver. And it is also a well known fact that the republican party has ever since that time been opposed to free silver and in favor of the gold standard. How then can our populist friends who insist that the financial question is the supreme and overshadowing issue, fuse or co operate with the republicans?

The reason, or excuse, for "Fusion" last year no longer exists. Last year the populists who had been democrats) excused their fusion with their old political enemies the republicans on the ground that by this fusion they would change the election law "so as to have fair elections", and would also change the system of county government "so as to restore to the people the right to govern themselves". Now, that they claim to have made these two important changes, what further excuse can free silver populists give for fusing with the republicans, who "demonetized" silver? If they are sincere they are certainly not consistent.

THE Atlanta Exposition, which will soon be opened, promises to be a complete success and a grand advertisement for the South. One notable feature of the exposition will be the exhibition of progress made by the colored people of our country, illustrating their most practical and striking manner the wondrous change in their condition that has been made in a single generation. The exposition authorities have offered the colored people every facility for a creditable exhibit and have accorded them liberal consideration. On the opening day among the other exercises will be an address delivered by a colored man, who is the president of an Alabama college for colored youths. This one incident of itself speaks volumes and is a forcible illustration of the changed condition of the colored race.

RALEIGH is to be congratulated upon having so excellent an afternoon daily as the *Press-Dispatch* which made its first appearance on Monday with Mr. Charles D. Aycock as editor and manager. We extend its bold wishes.

THE broadside fired by Walter Henry against the democratic party, and published in this week's *Caucasian*, reminds us of the harmless explosion of Beast Butler's powder ship in his silly attempt to blow up Fort Fisher!

Poor fellow, o'er his political grave may very appropriately be said the sad words of the Burial Service—"He brought nothing into the democratic party and it is certain he can carry nothing out".

Wages in Mexico.

While the laborer and wage-earner in the United States can now buy more with his wages than ever before, yet it is not so with the wage-earners in Mexico—the land of "free silver" and a country that is held up as example for the United States to imitate. Yes, it is undoubtedly true that the laboring man in our "gold bug" country is in a much better condition financially than the laboring man in "free silver" Mexico. In illustration of this we copy the following extracts from a letter written to the Statesville *Landmark* by a North Carolinian who has been residing in Mexico for the past sixteen years:

"Mexico is a free silver country. Within traveling upon the United States railroad I have seen the [illegible] of the country [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] the words now [illegible] the [illegible] song "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys Are Marching".

[illegible] that the [illegible] Mexico are not nearly so well dressed as the men of an ordinary New York crowd. Of course one would expect the styles to be good, but then there is to be observed a certain lack of quality in the clothes, an air of being fragile about the shoes, and as for the hats, anything goes in Mexico.

"The lower classes in Mexico do not wear shoes. They seem contented enough in their sandals but if one of them should have his mind to order for himself a pair of shoes it would take about five years for him to get the required amount. Thanks to say it he get paid at the end [illegible]

"A young Mexican clerk, who is, for instance, on a salary of $20 per month, but who, nevertheless thinks considerable of himself, a young clerks are apt to do—if this young clerk wishes to purchase a suit of clothes commensurate with his opinions, he must have to spend something more than a month's pay [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]