

CENTRAL EXPRESS



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Vol. III

SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1888.

No. 18

WASHINGTON'S FUNERAL.

Ceremonies at the Obsequies of the Nation's First President.

From the *Interstate* (N. Y. Gazette, Jan. 21, 1884).
George Towns, Dec. 20th 1800.

On Wednesday last the mortal part of Washington the Great, the Father of his Country and the friend of man, was consigned to the tomb with solemn honors and funeral pomp.

A multitude of persons assembled for miles around at Mount Vernon, the choice abode and last residence of the illustrious chief. There were the groves, the spacious avenues, the beautiful and sublimosences, the noble mansion—but, alas! the august inhabitant was now no more. His mortal part was there, indeed, but how affecting, how awful the spectacle of such worth and greatness, thus to mortal eyes, fallen. Yes! fallen.

In the long, and lofty portico, where off the hero walks in all his glory, now lay the shrouded corpse. The countenance, now composed and serene, seemed to express the dignity of the spirit which lately dwelt in that life less form. Then those who paid the last sad honors to the benefactor of his country took an impressive, a farewell view.

On the ornamant at the head of the coffin was inscribed "Surge ad Judicium," about the middle of the coffin, "Gloria Deo," and on the silver plate:
GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Departed this life on the 14th December, 1799, Aet. 68.

Between 3 and 4 o'clock the sound of artillery from a vessel in the river firing minute guns awoke afresh our solemn sorrow—the corpse was moved—a band of music with mournful melody melting the soul into all the tenderness of woe.

The procession moved in the following order:
Cavalry and Infantry guard, with arms reversed.

Music.
Clergy and organ.

The General's horse, with his saddle, holsters and pistols.
Col. Simmons. Col. Gilpin.
Col. Ramsey, comdr. Col. Marstell. Col. Payne. Col. Little.

When the procession had arrived at the bottom of the elevated lawn on the bank of the Potomac, where the family vault is placed, the cavalry halted, the infantry marched toward the mound and formed their lines; the clergy, the masonic brethren and the citizens descended to the vault, and the funeral services of the church were performed. The firing was repeated from the vessel in the river, and the sounds echoed around.

Three general discharges by the infantry, the cavalry and eleven pieces of artillery, which lined the banks of the Potomac back of the vault, paid the last tribute to the Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the United States and to the departed hero.

The sun was now setting. Alas! the son of glory was set forever. But no, the name of Washington, the American General and President, shall triumph over death. The unclouded brightness of his glory will illuminate the future ages.

Shakespeare's Advice to Girls.

Dear Kate, take a fellow of plain and unpurged constancy, for he, perforce, must do the right, because he hath not the gift to woo in other places; for these fellows of infinite tongue, that can rhyme themselves into ladies' favor, they do always reason themselves out again. What a speaker is but a prater; a rhyme is but a lullaby. A good leg will fall, a straight back will stoop, a black beard will turn white; a curled pate will grow bald; a full eye will wax hollow; but a good heart, Kate! is the sun and moon, or rather the sun and not the moon; for it shines bright, and never changes, but keeps its course true.

A Startling but True Description of How we are Governed.

There are two lessons taught by the late contention, that the people will be slow to learn until coming events force them to a knowledge.

The first is, that our government has passed from the political fabric built up by the fathers to a financial concern in which private interests dominate public affairs.

The second is, that a public man, let his honesty and influence be what they may, can manage the moneyed power of our land, and remain in public life.

We are so accustomed to being fed on phrases that we lose in their use the object for which they were framed. Our fathers sought the shores of America to escape oppression at home. The sum total of the despotism was found in the fact that while they who produced all enjoyed nothing, they who produced nothing enjoyed all. In framing certain legal enactments, in framing a constitution that was supposed to be good against such inequality and injustice, the fathers thought to eliminate the privileged classes by wiping out the laws of primogeniture and entail. They took no account for they could not know of the corporations that has all the powers and privileges of the born aristocracy and renders all the guarantees of the constitution of no avail.

Under the power of the corporation we have a hundred and fifty thousand miles of operating railway that has passed to the control and into the virtual ownership of less than sixty families. To this combination has gone an attribute of sovereignty found in the power to tax the people. As Senators Sherman, Conkling and Windom said, in their famous report to the Senate, this railroad power can tax all the products of the country in a way that Congress dare not attempt. This iron network of rails enters every man's business and pleasure, and in the taxation without representation that brought on the Revolution and gave birth to our government. The people lose through fraud all that they gained through violence; and sad to say, generally with their own consent.

We have telegraph so necessary to our business, which science gave as the poor man's post, for it consists of a wire a pole, a battery, and a boy, that is openly owned and operated as a luxury by one man.

The currency, the life-blood of trade, is farmed out to something over two thousand corporations, that, acting as one contractor, expand it to suit their own greed.

We are cursed with a system called a tax, but which is in fact, an extortion, that, under the plea of favoring certain moneyed interest, not only forces the consumer to support the burthens of a government kept upon a war footing nearly a quarter of a century after the war closed, but enables less than a million out of sixty millions to accumulate means until our rich men are marveled to mankind. The great Republic, through this process, has entered the avenues of private enterprise, and with its crushing weight reduces labor to starvation wages.

All these combined farm trusts, as they are called, limiting production, shut out competition, and accumulate for the favored few while the masses suffer.

All then, united, make our government; for government is that power from which there is no appeal, upon which we depend for a recognition of our rights. This power elects our Congress, selects our Presidents, and intimidates our courts.

To meet it we have a government of parties. It is a cast iron, immovable, insensitive concern, farther removed from popular control than any government on earth. The party once in power can perpetuate that power under the best circumstances; but when backed by the monopolized wealth of the continent it cannot be displaced. History tells us that it called for bayonets and bloodshed to displace the Democratic party in '61, and its four history will repeat itself when a long suffering and outraged people come to recognize the source of their wrongs and the cause of their sufferings.

COMPETITION OF RACES.

The Negro is Being Supplanted in the East by Whites.

According to their spokesman at Chickering Hall, the colored people are suffering practically from the discrimination against their race which now is made in New York.

He says that, under all circumstances, they do their best to put on the appearance of "prosperity," but that, in fact, they are steadily falling behind in the competition with the white race. "Fashion is going away with the colored coachman, the colored barber has disappeared from New York, the Englishman wears the waiter's apron in the hotel dining-rooms, the Irishman has seized the whitewash brush, and the almond-eyed Mongolian peeps over the washbasin where once the darkey's face was seen."

This is undoubtedly true. In the days when Dickens and Thackeray visited the United States they were struck by the novelty of encountering everywhere negro servants. In all hotel and restaurants the waiters were colored men, and the few coachmen employed by private families were of that race.

Now the negro waiter is the exception, and negro coachmen are no longer common. The colored washer survives almost wholly in the imagination of negro minstrelsy, and the colored barber is coming rapidly an historic functionary in New York. Their places have been taken by Irishmen, Swiss, Germans, and Italians, while the Chinamen have secured what is a substantial monopoly of the laundry business, few as they are in numbers actually and comparatively to the negroes.

But the change cannot have been brought about by capricious fashion, as the colored preacher at Chickering Hall supposes. It must mean that the negro has been beaten in competition with the white man; that he does not do so good work.

Under slavery he was protected from competition with others not his race, but under freedom he must take his chances with the rest; and the rest have become very many in the country since the days when he held a substantial monopoly of the employments spoken of. The colored people must devote themselves with redoubled efforts to their own improvement if they would keep up in the contest.

In the old slave days some of the most admirable servants possible were colored, and possibly for a time those who maintained their prestige in the North were relics direct or indirect of that bygone time. Now that those old traditions have worn out, the negro of to-day must start afresh and equip himself with the learning and qualities which are required of others if he wants to succeed. Skill and trustworthiness are the two indispensable qualifications for occupation of all sorts, and those must be attained and cultivated in the first degree if he would stand the competition that is constantly being made keener and brought to a higher standard of required excellence.

To say that Hill, or the tariff or the vetoes, or money, or the Irish, or the fishery treaty, or the Chinese treaty, or the Sackville affair defeated Grover Cleveland is to evade and avoid the truth. He is not a simon-purp, Jeffersonian Democrat and did not give the country a Democratic administration. This is what defeated him. To say he was defeated because he was nominated for the second term is unreasonable. He was defeated because he did not turn the Republicans out of office and put Democrats into office. He was defeated because he was a Cleveland man and not a party man. He was defeated because he bent all his efforts towards building up a Cleverland party instead of a Democratic party. He was defeated because he was at heart neither a Democrat nor a Republican but a cross between two—a mugwump. (How W. H. Kilbuck in Scotland Neck Democrat.)

A Remarkable Jury.

The last case tried in the Superior Court here last week was one for a divorce. Judge Shepherd told the plaintiff's attorney that, as the regular had been discharged, he would not run the county to the expense of having another jury summoned, but consented to try the case if the attorney would get a jury which would serve without charge. The jury was obtained, and it consisted of ten lawyers, one magistrate and a bar-keeper. The man got his divorce.

Danger Signals.

How severe the strain on the Republic when Ethiopians without the faintest notion of the ballot, take away political power from the majority of the white citizens! The Anglo-Saxon, after centuries of civilization, finds himself under the thrall of barbarians of recent remove from Ethiopian Africa. The masters of the world become the political slaves of its hereditary serfs. Think of the government of England disturbed by the freed black of Hayti! That is the precise situation in the United States.

A million of men, the best and bravest, butchered each other that dull and besotted alien race might hold the balance of power among an English speaking people.

Consider also that the Chinese, who are the greatest tribe on the earth—a nation producing wonders in architecture, art, finance, political economy—are scouted from our shores, while the negro, whose native land is just across the Mediterranean from Athens and Rome, and along the same river with the wise Egyptians, yet never rising out of sloven savagery in all the centuries, remaining a brute and bondmen throughout the ages is the ebon Czar of America, the sooty and grotesque idol of advanced statesmen. It makes men shudder for the sanity of our civilization.

We are ready to close our gates even to the European with his genius and history, but decree it a sacrifice to hint that a creature out of a rude hut in a Southern swamp, with mind, manners and motives hardly above a gorilla, is not fit to direct and dominate the "first nation in the fore files of time."

It is a psychical eccentricity. The human mind, like the bayuan tree, after seeing the sun and shooting toward the zenith, stoops again and kisses the dirt.

There are the reflections that must force themselves upon men who loathe "practical politics," but with the sea-chart of history before them mark the currents that have wrecked empires. Patriots ought to use the past as a lens to look into the future. The overthrow of a party has only one significance, as the directing of the eye to the quickening motion and whirl in the waters that alarm. The mael-storm is on the tack.

The Georgia Legislature has taken up the internal revenue question and a lively debate has resulted. A resolution requesting the Congressmen from Georgia to do all in their power to secure the repeal of the law was reported adversely from the committee to which it was referred. This brought on a debate which promises to continue for several days. Mr. Allred, of Pickens, the author of the resolution in his speech said that nine tenths of the people of his section are in favor of the repeal of the "infamous law." He thought the law unconstitutional because the Constitution of the United States said that no man should be deprived of his life, liberty or property without due process of law. "I want to see the time come when the ninety thousand men who are prowling over the country arresting honest and respectable people and shooting them down will be made to go to work like other people. I tell you, gentlemen, it is a bad state of affairs when men are not allowed to dispose of their own property as they see fit."

Not a Bit of It.

The last issue of the "North State" says: "A Republican clock is said to belong to Mr. C. B. Gresson, of Guilford county. It ceased to strike about four years ago, and remained dumb until the 6th day of last November, when the family was startled to hear the old clock begin to strike again. Mr. G. assures that no work had been done on the clock to make it strike, and he thinks it must be a Republican clock, and expresses the hope that the clock and country will run smoothly during Harrison's administration."

PRAYING FOR MRS. CLEVELAND.

Editor Oldham's Little Boy Prays for the President's Wife.

It seems that not only in Washington but throughout the country the children have a warm spot in their young hearts for Mrs. Cleveland. The last evidence of this tender regard comes from—Charleston S. C., where a little sunny-haired youngster of Edward A. Oldham the Southern journalist and writer offers nightly at his mother's knee a "tiny prayer" for the wife of the President. The incident is described by Mrs. Oldham in a letter not long since received at the White House, and which reads as follows:

Mrs. Grover Cleveland—Dear Madam: * * * Our first and only baby, Edward, a bright handsome little Presbyterian, is very much in love with a large picture of you that hangs on our chamber wall, just over the mantel. * * * Not long ago he was saying his little prayers, about which duty he seems quite serious and devout, and when he had finished with Dodd bess papa and mamma, he looked up at me with a bright smile, and said, "Dodd bess Miss Tevy, too!" This was wholly his own thought, and since then it has formed an important clause in his devotions. * * *

MARGARET ANDREWS OLDHAM.

To this letter Mrs. Cleveland responded as follows:--

MY DEAR MRS. OLDHAM: Your kind letter has given me much pleasure, and I want to thank you and tell you how keenly I appreciate the compliment of your baby boy.

The knowledge of his earnest little prayer has touched me deeply, and the remembrance that my name goes daily on baby lips to our Heavenly Father in prayer will help me in many an hour of perplexity and discouragement.

That this dear child may grow up to be in his manhood, as he is in his childhood, your joy and comfort, is the best wish I could express for one who has had so kindly a thought for me.

Sincerely,
FRANCES F. CLEVELAND.

Food for Thought.

A reader of the *Star* submits the following: "If Adam, the husband of Eve, was living now he would lack about twelve years of being seven thousand years old. If he had started life with \$100,000, and loaned it at 6 per cent. interest from the day of his birth to the present time, his accumulated wealth would not equal that of a good many men of the present day, who have made their shelds from "Trusts" watering stocks, making corners in wheat, buying up Southern railroads and other methods of which this member of "one of the first families" was entirely ignorant. Are not some of us making money a little too fast? Jay Gould would call it slow progress to make only forty-two million dollars in seven thousand years."

The Grip of the Goulds.

It needed only the story that the Goulds are deeply interested in the West Point Terminal combination to make the feeling of insecurity, and a determination to act, both general and intense.

The attention of the whole people is now directed to the fact that there is a prospect that the whole railway system of the South, as of the Southwest, will be under the control of the Goulds, the most notorious and most shameless railway wreckers of this or any other country.

The American people will find a way to meet them and overcome them; Georgia and South Carolina are at work already, and will have the co-operation of the other States. Why is North Carolina silent? What is Virginia doing?

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Morton Visits Harrison to see About the Cabinet—Blaine's own Party Against His Being in Harrison's Cabinet—The Senate and other New Bills.

Senator Beck was at the Capitol last Saturday for the first time since he was taken sick last summer. Although he is very weak he does not look ill, owing perhaps to his peculiar resistive constitution and Scotch energy. He leaves for Aiken, South Carolina, this week, greatly to the regret of the Democratic side of the Senate and to the delight of the Republicans. Senator Beck is an army within himself on the tariff question.

Senator Riddleberger has been at his old trick of turning the Senate Chamber into a circus ring. Cause, too much whiskey.

Democrats here are greatly enjoying the bitter fight now raging between the Miller and Platt factions in New York and the Sherman and Foraker crowds in Ohio. Conservative Republicans here expressed the belief that neither New York nor Ohio will be represented in Harrison's Cabinet on account of these wrangles. Morton, who it is supposed went to Indianapolis in the interest of Platt for Secretary of the Treasury has, it is said, telegraphed to a New York member of Congress that Harrison had positively refused to have Platt in the Cabinet.

Capt. Cowdon's plan of making Laque Borgue the outlet for the flood waters of the Mississippi river has been adversely reported upon by the Senate committee on the improvement of that river.

It was reported that the United States had demanded the appointment of a successor to Lord Sackville, and notified the British Government that Mr. Phelps (our minister) would be recalled unless a British minister was speedily appointed. Upon inquiry at the State Department it was learned that the rumor was without foundation, and that the Department was perfectly indifferent about the matter, whether a minister was or was not sent here.

Blaine still continues to be a thorn in the side of many Republicans. A rumor that he had been offered the Secretaryship of State by Harrison and that he had accepted it created consternation among those Republican Congressmen who do not like him, and there are quite a large number of them, one certainly, and many people say two, in the delegation from his own State. These men know that if Blaine goes into the Cabinet they will get no favors from the administration. No enemy is too small for Blaine to wreak his vengeance upon, hence they have been busy since the election in bringing all the anti-Blaine influence of the entire country to bear on Harrison to prevent Blaine's getting into the Cabinet. If the rumor were true their work has not all been for nothing. Hundreds of messages were sent flying over the wires and the anti-Blaineites were soon made happy by discovering that Harrison had not tendered a position to Blaine. But the thought that he may do so hovers over the anti-Blaine men like a cloud. All this is fun for the Democrats, and it's about the only kind of fun they have had since the election.

A Geological History of the World that Develop Strange Facts.

Geological history brings before us, says Archibald Geikie, many facts well calculated to impress our minds with the great antiquity of our planet and the marvelous chain of changes by which the present order of things has been brought about. We learn from it that the mountains and the valleys have become suddenly into existence, such as we now see them, but have been formed gradually, by a long series of processes similar to those which are now slowly doing the same work.

We discovered that every part of the land under our feet can yield up its story if we only know how to question it. And, strangest of all, we find that the races of planets and animals which now tenant the land and sea, are not the first of original races, but they were preceded by others still more remote. We see that there has been upon the earth a history of living things as well as dead matter. At the beginning of that wonderful history we detect traces merely of lowly forms, like the foraminifer of the Atlantic ooze. At the end we are brought face to face with man—thinking, worthless, restless man, battling steadily with the powers of nature and overcoming them one by one, by learning how to obey the laws which direct them.

The Democratic Senators are now fighting the Republican tariff bill tooth and nail, but as the Republicans vote solidly on every amendment offers, they have no hope of doing anything better than showing the country the injustice and absurdity of the measure prepared by the Republicans. At the present rate of progress the bill will not pass the Senate before February.

The Democratic House has had a bill favorably reported to it, placing that eminent Republican, Gen. Jno.