

THE COUNTY UNION.

DUNN, Harnett County, N. C.

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J. P. FITZMAN, Proprietor,
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DUNN, N. C., AUGUST 15 1896.

It is stated that Judge Russell will not come down but will open the Republican campaign at Hendersonville Saturday. The Populists tried to arrange a ticket at their State convention last week that would draw Republicans to them. To do this they nominated O. H. Doakery, a life-long Republican who will vote for McKinley and the gold standard, for Lieutenant Governor. The Republican party has accepted part of the Populist nominees and placed them on their ticket with Russell and will run a straight ticket.

SENATOR BUTLER proved himself to be the Boss of the Populist convention. He commanded and it was done. He reigned with a high hand and was supreme dictator. They all did his biddings as menials obey their masters. Harry Skinner, the only man in the Populist party who has been bold enough to come out publicly and say that "the Populist party must not be a party to putting North Carolina under negro rule," would not obey at his bidding and interposed objections when Butler wanted to put McKinley Republican on the ticket; but Butler adjourned the convention and sent out his henchmen and ran rough shod over poor Harry, who, of all that great band of patriots (?) assembled, stood alone for principle and dared to raise a hand against the political boss.

What is all the principle which the Populists have claimed to have? It looked like it was Butlerism against principle at the Populist convention and Butlerism won. Butler's scheme to capture the Republican party and beat the Democrats may fail. There will be three tickets in the field if the Populists don't take Guthrie down and endorse the Republican ticket. What will they do? If they go on principle they will have to reverse their State ticket and take Doakery off; but the principle which governs the majority of Populist leaders is anything to beat the Democrats. This is all the principle the Republican party has had for years. They have made that their party slogan but never succeeded until two years ago when they fused with the Populists on the same principle. That principle is not working harmoniously now. The Pops wanted too much and consequently when election day comes round they will get nothing. The Democrats will get in again.

"Although I have always been a stalwart Republican, and am still, my admiration for Bryan is not exceeded by that of any Democrat," said Mr. John T. Clarke, one of the leading business men of Omaha, to a Post reporter at the Shoreham. "I do not say that my liking for the man will carry me to the length of supporting the candidate, but that is just what hundreds of Republicans are going to do in Nebraska. I don't think Bryan will have the least difficulty in carrying the State. With the united efforts of the Democrats and Populists, not to speak of the large Republican vote that will go to him, he will have a comfortable majority. State pride also will cause him to get thousands of votes. I predict that his speech in New York will strengthen him with the whole country. I am satisfied that he will defend the Chicago platform in such a way as to put an entirely different phase on those sections which have been denounced as revolutionary and anarchistic. Bryan himself is as far removed from an anarchist as any man living. If elected President, as I believe he will be, he will administer the government with prudence and wisdom. Those of his critics who have made the absurd charge of anarchy are ignorant of the man. He will always stand for law and order and the preservation of our republican institutions. I don't expect to change my political allegiance, but I say this much as a matter of justice to the Democratic candidate: It is a credit to his State and the nation, and his entire record, private and public, is one that eminently fits him for the high office which his countrymen seem disposed to accord him." Washington Post.

FREE COINAGE AND INSURANCE.

The gold standard papers are circulating a reply from Secretary Carlisle to a life insurance policy holder who wrote to him asking the truth in regard to a circular sent out by the insurance company stating that in the event of free coinage all the policies would be paid in silver. Mr. Carlisle says that all insurance policies are paid with checks and with free coinage, these checks would be paid by the banks in silver or its equivalent, instead of gold as at present. He says silver dollars would be coined on private account and delivered to individuals as private property and the government would be under no obligation to guarantee its value.

Does not the government do the same with gold at the present? If we had gold bullion we could take it to the mint and receive a gold dollar for every 23.2 grains of it and the government has nothing more to do with it; or we could receive certificates for it redeemable in gold. The stamp of the government does not make gold any more valuable; but it does silver now. With free coinage of gold and silver at 16 to 1, 16 ounces of silver would be as valuable as one ounce of gold. One ounce of gold is now worth nearly as much as thirty-two ounces of silver. Why? Because gold is coined free and is money, the redemption money of the United States, and silver is only a commodity, being denied free coinage.

Mr. Carlisle and the gold standard people tell us that the silver dollar in circulation are as good as gold because the government stamp is on them and the credit of the government says so. Of course the silver dollar will buy as much as a gold dollar. Neither silver dollars nor gold coins are redeemable. Paper money issued on gold and silver is the only money that is redeemable and when redeemed and the gold or silver paid out for it the gold and silver then goes into the hands of the people and is money because the stamp of the government makes it so.

Is our silver dollar an honest dollar? Let us see. A coin certificate redeemable in gold, if mutilated, can be redeemed in gold and the holder does not lose anything by the mutilation. A gold coin, mutilated, is worth its bullion value at the rate of one dollar for 23.2 grains of gold, the holder loses only the loss in the weight of the coin. But how about the silver dollar which is denied free coinage? Mutilate or deface it and do you have a dollar less the amount of weight taken away? No. It becomes bullion and is nothing more than a commodity and at the present price would only be worth but little more than a half dollar piece of silver, when it contains twice the amount of silver that the coin contains which you get for it. Who loses the fifty cents? The holder of the mutilated or defaced coin, or the government? Take a hammer and mash one and take it to the treasury and see what it is worth and who loses it.

But let us go back to the insurance companies. We suppose there are men living now who were paying insurance before the demonization of silver in 1873, and are carrying their policies yet. Has your premiums grown any less? Are not they the same now they were in 1873? Did the insurance policies specify that the death losses should be paid in gold and the premiums on them also to be paid in gold or in the lawful money of the United States?

A farmer, for instance, insured his life in 1870 for \$10,000, his premium was \$250 per year. He could pay it then with 4 bales of cotton or 200 bushels of wheat. That same farmer is living to day and to pay his premium, which is still \$250, it takes 10 bales of cotton or 1000 bushels of wheat. Yet the insurance companies say that if you vote for the free coinage of silver when you die we will pay your heirs \$10,000 in silver. Of course the insurance companies and moneyed corporations want to keep the wealth producers where they have got them. The price you pay them is the same as it was in 1873 but they can buy from you just four times as much of your produce. Will the farmers and wealth producers of this great country submit to such treatment longer.

Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, a man whom we do not much admire, voiced our sentiments in a speech at Cooper Union in New York City when he said: "America for Americans; to bell with the British gold standard."

THE UNION will keep you posted during the campaign. "Subscribe for it and keep up."

WAGES AND SILVER.

THE WORKINGMAN IS NOT HURT BY FREE COINAGE.

The following article, recently written by Mr. Clinton Furbish, of the National Bureau of American Republics, is one of the ablest, most philosophical and practical expositions of the silver question we have yet read:

Since the early days of the Republic there has been little change in the attitude of beneficiaries of special legislation. Those who accept the teachings of Hamilton as the only true foundation for a political faith firmly believe in the duty of government to legislate for the rich that the rich may take care of the poor. This is the basic principle of Hamiltonism and of modern protection. And wherever special privilege is attacked its beneficiaries become at once the vociferous protectors of the poor workingman and of the widows and orphans whose savings are said to be threatened by communism. Just now the old cries are repeated and prospects and forestallers of wealth are making the welkin ring with shouts in behalf of the laboring classes. It is declared that if the people of the country secure, in answer to the pressing demand, free coinage of silver, the workingmen and the depositors in our savings banks will be the greatest sufferers. The situation becomes amusing by iteration. The laborer is asked to believe that his employer is lying awake nights to prevent the passage of laws which will diminish his wages. And it is a serious situation for the poor employers. Still staggering under the shock of a denial of their right to increase taxation that they might the better pay high wages, another evil impends and another class is drawn into the fight for the maintenance of vested rights. The special privilege of issuing the paper money of 75,000,000 people is attacked, and the banks join with other employers of labor to protest against the danger threatening those so unable to protect themselves. To emphasize the argument it is customary for the press devoted to defense of the status quo to hold up the terrible condition of the workingmen in Mexico and other Latin-American countries.

There are, doubtless, those who will be influenced by such appeals. But it is safe to assert they will not be found among intelligent laborers, who have been forced to a study of economic conditions and laws. These have found that the laws governing production and distribution are as changeless as that of gravitation. Toilers in mines and work-shops have come to understand that wealth results from the application of labor to natural opportunities.

They have also learned that in proportion as the access of labor to the natural opportunities is denied by forestallers and monopolists, in just that proportion is labor robbed of its rights and denied its just wage. And for this reason the citation of Mexico as a terrible example of the evil of free coinage of silver is peculiarly unfortunate for those who would argue therefrom that the Mexican laborer is being robbed because he is not forced to use the most expensive tools where cheaper ones would answer just as well. For the purpose of arriving at a clear understanding of the condition of the workingmen in Mexico we may safely take the results of the observation of English officials as being entirely unbiased by a prevalent political discussion. The British foreign office has recently published a report of the coffee industry of Mexico, from which the following is taken:

"The wages paid vary in different districts, but the average rate for the whole country was officially estimated in 1892 at 37 cents, Mexican currency (or 94d), per diem. So that date prices have certainly risen, and the daily wage is now generally placed at about 50 cents (1s 1d). Both employers and employed frequently prefer piece-work to a daily wage, particularly for such work as clearing land before planting coffee.

"The Mexican laborer requires careful handling if the most is to be made of him. A rich soil and a tropical climate supply nearly all his requirements with little effort on his part, and will not easily submit to harsh or unfair treatment from his employer."

If reliance be placed upon the first of these paragraphs it would be possible to extract therefrom arguments entirely favorable to the claim that the use of silver as money in Mexico had caused a rise in the rate of wages, because such rise had been coincident with such use. But the only conclusion fairly to be taken from that state-

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ment is that the use of silver as money has not been enough of an evil to prevent the advance of wages in Mexico. And when we turn to the second paragraph quoted we find a hint as to a possible solution of the Mexican wage question. Let it be carefully noted that the Mexican laborer does not have to organize a trades union nor a confederation of labor. He seems to have his employer at his mercy and can give up his job without fear of results. And why? Simply because "rich soil and a tropical climate supply nearly all his requirements with little effort on his part." Let us measure his "wants" in bananas, this being a commodity we can readily understand without the use of Latin terms for money. Let us suppose the Mexican laborer wants twenty-five bananas a day. If he can pick them from a tree by half an hour's work and if the cultivation of his banana plantation does not require much further effort it is quite clear that he will not work for any employer for less than twenty bananas a day.

The Mexican laborer may not know as much about political economy as some of the eminent financiers in Wall street, but he does know when he has bananas enough, and he can easily satisfy himself whether or not he had better work for an employer a whole day for what he can get by half an hour's labor. It would seem, therefore, that wages in Mexico are determined in a measure as they are everywhere else, by factors entirely outside the financial system. It can easily be seen that the Mexican workingman might be driven to a very different condition. A judicious system of fencing and properly executed "laws" might make it impossible for him to reach the banana trees as he does now, and he might be forced to work longer hours for the protected employer, whose capital would then seem to be all that stood between the workingmen and starvation. If the fences were sufficiently numerous, high and well defended by statutes the power of capital would be more readily seen by the laborers seeking employment. Then they would be prepared to thank the kind capitalist, whose money offered them chance to get bananas.

There is little danger that the American workingman will ever be reduced to a condition like that of his Mexican brother. For the present, at least, he will enjoy the luxury of labor unions and harsh employers. As a people we have become proficient both in the building of fences and in the enactment of laws to make them effective against the anarchistic and communistic element. But because of this the American workingman should be the more careful as to the possible effect of his political action upon his friends in the younger republics. They are now urged by gentlemen who have learned all about the laws of finance in bank parlors and as statesmen in offices where such knowledge is assumed, to vote against the use of silver as money in this country, lest they be reduced to the level of the poor workingman in Mexico, who have no trade union council in which to pass their evenings. But the American workingman is capable of comprehending simple propositions, even though he has never trod the soft carpets of a bank parlor nor even seen the inside of an office wherein an appointed statesman rises to temporary greatness. He knows in a general way that a scarcity

of money is not to be remedied by a destruction of one-half the volume. He knows, too, that value resides in use, and that, therefore, those who pretend a desire to maintain a parity of value between two metals, while destroying one-half the uses of one of them, are not to be accepted as teachers of sane people. He knows, too, that wealth is the product of labor applied to natural opportunities, and that, therefore, upon labor must eventually fall all the burdens of government and all the evils of improper legislation and administration.

If it has happened that an interest-bearing debt has been increased, no matter whether properly or improperly, labor must bear its burden. Noting the efforts of a Senate committee to investigate the sale of government bonds the American laboring man has received new proof of what he has been taught by agitators for financial reform, that a very few owners of concentrated wealth are able to control the entire gold supply of the country. This has been and is still denied by defenders of the status quo. But newspapers are cheap in this country, and a single statement made by J. Pierpont Morgan before the Vest committee reveals more truth than the banker is accustomed to indulge in without pay. Mr. Morgan was asked why the Treasury had believed it proper to make an arrangement with his firm for the sale of the bonds. Mr. Morgan replied: "Because we were the only ones who could get the gold." An intelligent workingman finds important suggestion in this revelation. He should be careful lest he mislead his brothers in the silver-using countries where employers have to be polite to the employed. He is asked to vote for the establishment of a system under which gold alone shall be the "basis" for the money of 75,000,000 enterprising people. Looking at the confession of Mr. Morgan he will be excusable if his vote shows his acceptance of the proposition, that, if a single banker's hand can cover the basis of the money of 75,000,000 people, that people should either increase the basis or decrease the capacity of the banker's hand.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER MORTGAGE.

By virtue of the power and authority given by a certain Land Mortgage, executed by O. J. Spears and wife Mary A. Spears to S. A. Salmon and by said S. A. Salmon transferred and assigned to Gilbert Bros. & Co., which is recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Harnett County, in Book "F. No. 2," pages 385 et seq., the following property will be exposed to sale by public auction, viz: Certain pieces or tracts of land lying and being in Harnett County, in Grove and Upper Little River Townships and described and defined as follows to wit: 1st tract being the southern half of a one hundred acre survey and grant, lying on Juniper Branch in Grove Township, adjoining the lands of Jacob McKay, Wm. Shaw, W. B. McKay, C. E. Turner and the Sandy Dixon tract of twenty acres, containing fifty-four acres more or less and known as the Sawyer place or Smith place; 2nd tract being a fifty acre survey or grant, lying on Walker's Creek and Upper Little River in Upper Little River Township adjoining the lands of Mrs. D. C. McLean, Miss Flora Campbell and others, and known as the George McLenn place or settlement. The first tract was conveyed to O. J. Spears in 1882 by J. W. Smith and to him by C. E. Turner. The second tract was conveyed to O. J. Spears by H. T. Spears in 1882 and to him by C. E. Turner. Place of sale at the Court House door in Lillington. Time of sale at 1 p. m., on Monday September 7th, 1896. Terms of sale cash.

GILBERT BROS. & Co., Assignees,
ROBINSON & RIDGOD, Attorneys.
11-22-t.

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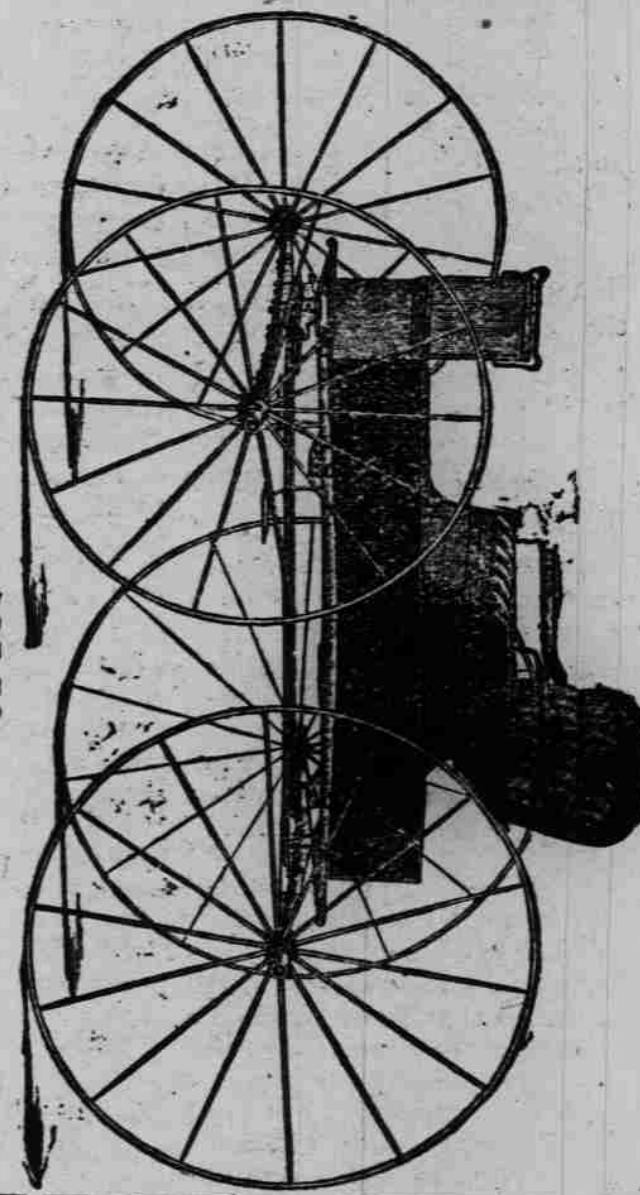
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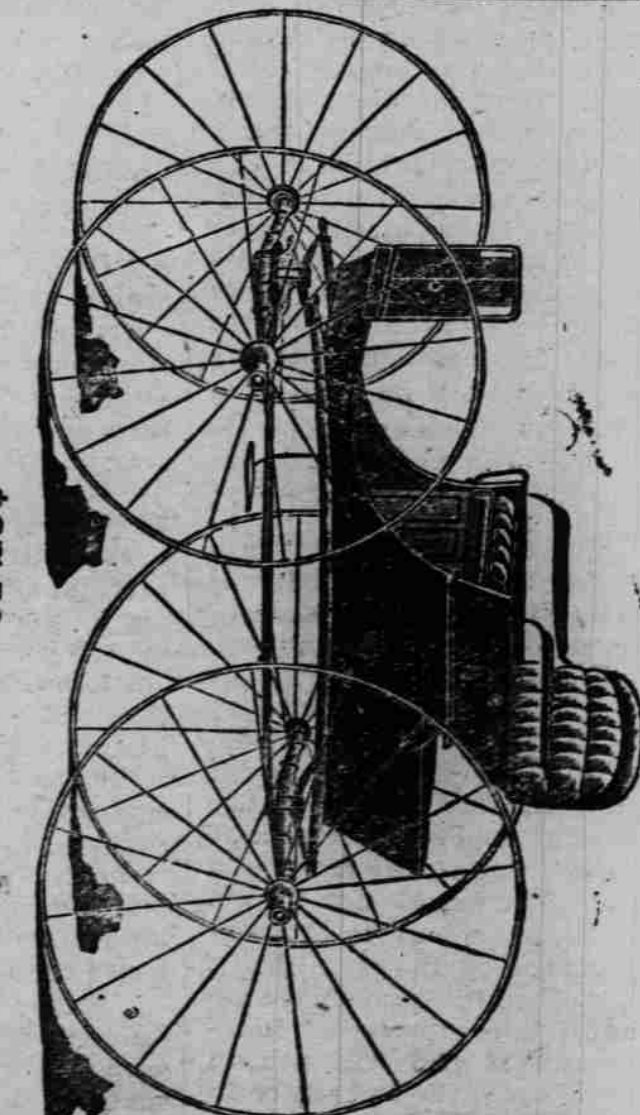
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