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NEW SERIES--VOL. XXVI--NO. 3,387

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"THE PATIENT ASH" WHY HE IS SO.

The Philadelphia Record contains the following:
The Ass that Carries All.
Everything that a railway does for purposes of construction, repair or maintenance is made more costly by reason of tariff exactions.
Everything that the railway employs needs to keep him alive--food, clothing, shelter, medicines--in the dearer by tariff charges. The cost of living eats up money faster than he can earn it.
For this reason the railway employes are demanding greater wages.
And because of the greater cost of rail, engine, ties, cars and other equipment the railway managers declare that if they raise wages they must make an equivalent raise of freight rates.
And the patient ass, the self-ruling public, whose direct representatives make the tariff schedules and thereby compel dear carrying and dear living, complacently nods the bill!
And this and more, is done in the name of "protection"--heaven help us all!

New the above, like so many other articles of similar import penned by able editors, or speeches spoken by eloquent orators, is as true as gospel truth--with one exception: the public is not "self-ruling." That is the reason the ass is "patient." He is impatient enough, in the early days after the war, to retiate under the burden imposed by the triumph of the doctrine of force. He elected Tilden, but was cleverly maneuvered out of the fruits of his victory. Then, with gathered and gathering strength, he elected Cleveland and a Democratic Senate and House, all pledged to lift the tariff burden from him as soon as Congress could be convened. But Cleveland "went back" on him.
Again he was on the point of securing a union of all who oppose special privilege, in 1898-1900. But his trusted agents went back on him again, and made an unnatural union with the McKinley "Democrats."
Since then, and as a consequence of the events described, the chance for recovery of power by "the public" has slipped away--because money has been concentrated by them a thousand fold, and the number of the "self-ruling" enormously reduced by the grip which concentrated money has fixed upon laborers in every field of endeavor.

We think we are entirely right when we say that the Record, whose voice is so virtuous, would die before it would admit that Mr. Cleveland was wrong in sacrificing tariff reduction rather than the gold standard; and that the same view applies to those who made Democratic victory impossible in 1898-1900.

The ass is patient because he finds that the expression of impatience is always foiled by treachery--treachery just at the crucial point, somewhere, in our complex system.

When our representative men declare that the compromise with Mr. Hayes in 1877, the action of Mr. Cleveland in 1893, and the fusion with the McKinley "Democrats" in 1898-1900 were wrong, then, perhaps, the ass will prick up his ears again.

HENRY EVANS.

We find in the excellent Wilmington Star, quoted from the "Autobiography of Bishop Capers," the appended account of a famous Fayetteville negro preacher of the past. It was in his honor that the large and fine brick edifice, the "Evans Chapel," was built. Perhaps the venerable Mr. Whaley and others of the elder Methodists in Fayetteville can add to the very interesting account which Bishop Capers has left.
Following is the article, as in the Star:
Henry Evans, a Negro Genius--Remarkable Man of Race, whose Preaching Wrought Such Change Among Slaves That White Men Heavily Gladly (Autobiography of Bishop Capers).
The most remarkable man in Fayetteville when I went there, and who died during my stay, was a negro, by the name of Henry Evans. I say the most remarkable in view of his class; and I call him negro with unfeigned respect. He was a negro. That is, he was of that race, without any admixture of another. The name simply designates the race, and it is vulgar to regard it with approbrium. I have known and loved and honored not a few negroes in my life, who were probably as pure of heart as Evans, or anybody else. Such were my old friends Castle Selby and John Boquet, of Charleston; Will Campbell and Harry Myrick, of Wilmington; York Cohen, of Savannah, and others I might name. These I might call remarkable for their goodness. But I use the word in a broader sense for Henry Evans, who was confessedly the father of the Methodist church in white and black, in Fayetteville, and the best preacher of his time in that quarter; and he was so remarkable as to have become the greatest curiosity of the town; inasmuch that distinguished visitors hardly felt that they might pass a Sunday in Fayetteville without hearing him preach. Evans was from Virginia, a shoe maker by trade, and, I think, was born free. He became a Christian and a Methodist quite young, and was licensed to preach in Virginia. While yet a young man, he determined to remove to Charleston, S. C., thinking that he might succeed there at his trade. But having reached Fayetteville on his way to Charleston, and something detaining him for a few days, his spirit was stirred at perceiving that the people of his race in that town were wholly given to profanity and lawlessness, never hearing preaching of any denomination, and living emphatically without hope and without God in the world. This determined him to stop in Fayetteville; and he began to preach to the negroes, with great effect. The town quickly responded, and nothing in his power could prevail with them to permit him to preach. He then withdrew to the sand-hills,

NAMES OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES.

Greenboro Patriot.]
The Patriot believes its readers will be interested in the following concerning the origin of the names of the counties of the State:
Indians--Eleven counties bear Indian names, to-wit: Almonaco, Albemarle, Catawba, Cherokee, Chowan, Currituck, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Yadkin and Watauga. The meaning of some of these words is very beautiful, but as we are not certain of

THE HOUSE OF GOVERNORS.

Norfolk Virginian.]
The Convention of Governors which is to assemble in Washington this week may doubtless accomplish some results of a beneficial nature by a free interchange of opinion concerning the contrariety of the laws on kindred subjects in the several States. Great credit is due to the States which have from this conflict of statutes provisions and it ought to be possible for the Governors to agree on recommendations which would bring about a practical degree of uniformity in the enactments of the several States.
The regulation of food products and the like matters where local conditions are not essentially contrary. Efforts in the direction of the adulteration of articles of food were undertaken by the States in the advance of similar steps by the Federal government, but no two codes are alike and most of them fall short of accord, while some actually conflict with the laws laid down by Congress. One State prohibits what another permits, or allows that which the other forbids. The law, and so there is disturbance everywhere in attempts at enforcement, while the business public is put at a disadvantage by uncertainty. It has been pointed out that the "dealer or manufacturer who resides in a State where he is not domiciled, and who possesses an unfair advantage over a competitor who is compelled to conform his processes to a less indulgent rule, and the man who wants to do the right thing may be embarrassed to know precisely which is required of him. This is a regrettable state of affairs, and it constitutes a serious obstruction to commercial progress, as the manufacturer who distributes his product all over the country finds himself confronted with a diversity of regulation which it is simply impracticable for him to comply, as one State may prohibit what another State enjoins to be done.
The Philadelphia Inquirer holds that there is but one remedy for this manifold evil and that it is to be sought in the amendment into the code of every State of the Federal Statute covering the subject. But this assumes that in all cases where the laws are in conflict those promulgated from Washington are perfect and equally applicable to the various localities to be dealt with. This is a very impracticable thing to have a deputation from Congress sit in council with the Governors to jointly investigate the whole field and determine what changes are desirable in both the National and State prescriptions. In some States it might be necessary to give laws a scope and direction not in some others, and here might be instances where the national requirements did not comprehend the remedy for special local conditions. It must be confessed that the Federal Government is overburdened with duties and responsibilities.

CUMBERLAND ITEMS.

Correspondence of the Observer.]
Miss Luella Monroe of Bladen has been visiting several days at Mr. W. H. Butler's.
Miss Dora Bullard of Hope Mills was visiting Mrs. John L. Smith last week and attended Sunday School Jan. 9th.
Mrs. Hollingsworth was visiting friends here last Sunday.
Mr. Alex. Prevatt attended Union Springs Baptist Sunday School last Sunday.
Mr. Al. Barber moved to Mr. Will Culbreth's new residence and farm about two miles north of here, and Mr. Sam Jones moved into the house at the bluff vacated by Mr. Barber.
Mr. McJones has moved to Hope Mills.
Mr. Clem Powell moved to Hope Mills No. 4 recently. His fingers were mashed in the mill here several weeks ago, and we regret to say he has not been able to work since.
It is quite amusing to the younger set to see some of the old widowers "out sporting" occasionally.
Water in the wells and pumps is still very scarce here, but several good rains have fallen recently.
Miss Mary West returned Saturday from visiting relatives at Holmorsan's.
The new officers of Union Springs Baptist Sunday School were elected last Sunday and are as follows: Superintendent and assistant, Mr. Willis Deane and Mr. W. H. Butler; Secretary and treasurer, Mr. Louis Batten; Organist, Miss Mary West. Mr. Butler has been superintending the schools but recommended Mr. Deane as his successor.
Rev. Paul T. Britt preached a good sermon Sunday night from the subject, "Unconscious Influence." John hesitated to enter the tomb of the risen Saviour till Peter entered, and perhaps might never have entered, had he not been influenced by the bold, impulsive Peter. He explained conscious influence as when a lawyer sways a judge and jury or when influence is intentional. He then explained how people unconsciously do good or harm by their influence. He urged all to have a good influence this new year--to read the Bible through this year, to leave off bad habits, and make it the happiest, best and most useful year.
The new song book, Windows of Heaven, No. 6, were used for the first time in this service.
Mr. W. J. Robinson was in Fayetteville Saturday.
The Graded School Teachers attended the County Teachers Association in the Court House Saturday, and enjoyed it. Miss Allen of the Godwin School read a fine paper on School Discipline. Mrs. L. McDonald of Hope Mills Graded Schools, explained her methods of teaching reading in the primary grade, and we hope it will prove helpful to young teachers, especially, and to all. She has been highly successful and her work is highly endorsed.
Mrs. John Strickland of Dunn, was buried here Jan. 11. Rev. J. D. Pegram conducted the funeral at the Methodist church. This excellent family formerly lived here, at the Ab. Harrington place. Mrs. Strickland was a daughter of Mr. A. Brewer, deceased, of this community. Mrs. Strickland selected the text for her funeral and the funeral songs.
Her family who attended the funeral were: her husband, Miss Ethel and sons Willie, Roland, John, Percy and Preston. Mr. Strickland was a former school committeeman and good friend of the school, and the school here marched in a body to the church to attend the funeral. L. Nel and Preston staid at W. J. Robinson's Tuesday night. This excellent family has numerous friends and relatives here.
Mr. Albert Wade, the efficient secretary of the cotton mills, is taking a business course in LaFayette Business College, and goes to Fayetteville daily.
Mrs. Albert Wade has been on a visit of about two weeks to her mother at Siler City, and is expected home today, and will receive a hearty welcome from numerous friends.
Mr. John Davis returned from Raleigh recently, is living at the bluff and working at Hope Mills.
Mr. E. H. Woodall is a strong advocate of stock law, so is Mr. W. J. Robinson, who says it would benefit him about \$150. Some others oppose it. Others say "I would prefer it, but will take no part in the election, as I do not like to oppose my neighbor's

HEADING OFF BLINDNESS.

State Board Seeking to Prevent Infection at Birth.
"A special committee of the New York Association for the Blind which was appointed to investigate the causes of preventable blindness and to cooperate with physicians in seeking measures of prevention, has reported that the State Board of Health has taken steps to insure against the widespread cause of blindness through infection at birth.
The committee has found that about one-half of all blindness is due to preventable causes, and that about one-third of the cases of blindness in children is caused by ophthalmia neonatorum, a preventable infectious disease occurring at birth. A drop of a 1 per cent solution of silver nitrate dropped into the eyes of a child at birth is a sufficient preventive of its infection. The use of this anti-ophthalmic has been recommended by the American Association of Ophthalmologists, the committee of the New York Association for the Blind has urged with the State Commissioner of Health in enforcing the general use of this precaution. The State Commissioner of Health will endeavor to provide this solution through local health officers to any physician and midwife applying for it.
Birth certificates issued by the State Department now bear the query: "What precautions for ophthalmia neonatorum did you use?" If none, state the reason therefor." It has been enacted that these notifications of birth be returned in thirty-six hours instead of ten days, as heretofore. It is believed that a physician or midwife who failed to use such a preventive the reminder on the birth certificate will in most instances prove effective."
The above is a clipping taken from a recent issue of the New York Sun. It tells its own story. It shows that the authorities of at least one State are alive to the appalling condition which confronts the commonwealth in North Carolina, and are being put forth to "head off" one of the most distressing calamities which can befall a human being. And to realize that such a load call to every citizen in the nation.
There are enrolled the present session in the North Carolina State school for the Blind and Deaf 268 blind children (besides 100 deaf children). At least one-fourth of these need never have been blind, and would not have been if proper preventive remedies had been employed within twenty-four hours after the birth of the child. Gentle reader, do you realize that there are from sixty-five to ninety children in this school doomed to a life of darkness and a handicap in the race for bread-winning all their days--some of them to lead the lives of helpless dependents, if not abject paupers? And there are still at least 125 more blind children in the State who have not been enrolled in our school at all. This will make the figures the more appalling--one hundred and thirty blind children in North Carolina whose sight might have been preserved with a little care exercised, and almost without expense!
Is it not high time that the legal and medical authorities of our State were taking steps to prevent this condition of affairs? In the meantime will not the parents of all infants so to it that immediately after birth the eyes shall be thoroughly washed and then have one drop of the solution of no greater strength than one per cent. of silver nitrate put in each eye not later than twenty-four hours after that birth? This is a precaution and preventive which, if properly applied, is harmless and may prevent your child from becoming blind.
And let every physician and midwife in North Carolina supply himself or herself with this preparation and attend to its proper administration in every case. Care should be taken that the solution shall not be stronger than one per cent.
There is yet one other phase of this situation. It costs at least \$200 annually to properly treat a blind child and not less than \$20 to clothe him. For ninety blind children this aggregates \$19,000 annually and for 130 children \$23,600 annually. What a saving to the State this would be! And in the course of ten years we could by our curriculum this would amount to a saving to the State of \$236,000. Is this worth considering?

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