THE CAUCASIAN.

Entered according to Postal Laws at Clinton, N. C., as second class mail matter.

CLINTON, N. C., MAY 22, 1890.

The crop prospects are now promising, may they continue.

We should all examine any petition we sign very carefully, often we are too hasty in signing our names to what we have not investigated.

The Methodist Conference at St. Louis has elected for Bishops Rev. Dr. A. G. Haygood, of Alabama, and Rev. Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald, of Tennessee.

The Teachers Assembly at Morehead will be largely attended, the program is "a feast of reason." We are in receipt of a copy.

Butterworth's speech has caused quite a sensation all over the country, it was a surprise to both parties, the Republicans can be prepared for greater surprises than this.

We acknowledge an invitation to attend the closing exercises of the Wilson Collegiate Institute, Wilson, N. C. The annual address will be delivered by Hon. F. M. Simmons, Tuesday evening June 3 d 1890

Ex-Speaker John G. Carlisle has been elected to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Beck. So Kentucky's ablest son continues to represent her in the Senate.

"I can name upon my ten fingers," said Republican Congressman Ben Butterworth, in his speech on the McKinley bill, "men whose combined profits in the last decade have exceeded those of all the agriculturalists of any State in this Union."

Edmunds and Ingalls are said to be sponsors for Vice President Morton. when he is in doubt as to a ruling he looks for a nod from either. Morton may know how to run a bank or saloon but in his present position, he is a failure.

The North Carolina Farmer, a monthly agricultural magazine, which has been published by J. H. Ennis since 1876, has been changed to a weekly, and is called the Southern Farmer. It contains much interesting and valuable matter pertaining to the farm and household.

The Radicals were anxious to have the negro emancipated and enfranchised, because they thought there was a big political plum in it for them, but finding the plum sour they are now trying to have him disfranchised by being ommitted from the eleventh census, thus depriving the South of a part of her present representation in Congress. The New York Star claims to have discovered a plot by Quay to this effect.

Hon. Thos. G. Skinner says he thinks some measure will pass Congress this session for the relief of the farmer.

He thinks that the farmer Republicans of the West, combined with the farmer Democrat of the South, have influence enough to compel the politicians in Congress to legislate in their interests. Petitions have poured in from every district in North Carolina looking to this object, and have been presented by every member of our delegation.

A CONVERTED REPUBLICAN MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

Last week Ben Butterworth, a Republican, delivered the speech of the season in the House. It was on the tariff question, and he tore loose from party traces and condemned the tariff as unjust and ruinous to the farmer. He said that he would rather resign his seat than depart from his belief on that question.

The Republicans frowned and scowled, and a few of the bolder and more spirited men tried to puzzle him with questions which would put him in a false position on the record. But Mr. Butterworth hit them back one by one with such force that they were silenced.

Let the Alliance continue its crusade against the tariff and national banking system. It is already reaping rewards for its labors.

Under "Forum of Public Opinion" will be found a long article headed "An Error," from "K," who takes the clipping about Railroad Commissions etc., in our last issue taken from the Advance, as his text. But it seems to us that "K" himself is in error in that he misinterprets the Advance's meaning. All that "K" says and the quotations he makes from the Constitution to show that a commission could not levy a tax on corporations would be admitted, we of course suppose, by the Advance without argument, and we take it that the clipping from the Advance conveys no such meaning. When it says that the Aycock Investigating Committee forced two railroads to pay taxes, we interpreted it to mean that they agreed to pay taxes under pressure of public opinion and the evident determination of the public to keep up the investigations till the people should know something of their business and management, and that the concession on the part of the railroads simply shows that they had rather pay tax than be further investigated. This is not the first committee appointed to investigate their affairs and they knew that it would not be the last one unless they made satisfactory concessions. "K" says that the railroads agreed to pay tax because it was right that they should do so, since they expected the State to protect their property. This simple rule of equity is very true and would have applied for all time and we are very sorry that they have just now discovered it, and this failure they could now remedy by paying back conscience money also. But a commission would have a different and very legitimate object, and to designate that, we will ask "K" two questions:

Have the railroads not the power to discriminate in favor of or against any place or party at their own sweet personal wills?

Is it safe for a State to put a power, unrestricted, that can be used to terrible detriment, in the hands of private parties, even if this power had never been abused?

This shows the province of a commission, it is to be a check on the weakness of man holding such power, simply a vigil to see that simple justice is done, and if the State cannot do this, then it has created a creature greater than itself, and if greater than the State then to a certain extent the State is in its power.

The Washington correspondent of the State Chronicle says:

The Post of this morning has an editorial notice of the fact that Hon. Wharton J. Green will be a candidate for Congress in the third N. C. district. Col. Green, Mrs. Green, and their daughter, Mrs. Pembroke Jones, have a host of friends here who would be delighted to have him re-elected. He has powerful political and social influence here which would be largely increased by a long Congressional term. The State never sent a more faithful and efficient representative here.

Representatives Roger Mills and Oates have written strong letters to their constituents condemning the H. R. bill 7162 and Senate bill 2806, in reference to building sub-treasury's for storing grain, cotton &c.

MOORE FALLS INTO LINE.

(Fayetteville Observer.)

The Carthage Blade, published in Moore county, indorses all that has been said of our worthy county-man, Col. Wharton J. Green, for the nomination for Congress in this district, and in fitting terms adds:

"No doubt Cumberland will be delighted to honor her illustrious son, for by his upright, honorable character, faithful performance of public trusts, deep interest in the welfare of his constituents while previously serving this district in Congress, not only reflected honor upon the third district but upon the entire State. We have no doubt that Col. Green is decidedly the ablest man in the field, and we know that he would make an excellent Representative, judging the future by the past. Who does this county favor for Congress? Our columns are open for a discussion of the matter"

The many friends of Col. Green are enthusiastic over the bright outlook for his success at the approaching convention.

There is danger in impure blood. There is safety in taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier. 100 doses one dollar.

A Forum of Public Opinion.

[Continued from first Page.]

point that we find the following in Article V, section 7 of the Constitution. It reads:

"Every Act of the General Assembly levying a tax shall state the special object to which it is to be applied, and it shall be applied to no other purpose."

This section is quoted to show how careful the Constitution was, not to allow even special taxes to be levied by any other power save the General Assembly. Even when the people vote to tax themselves as they sometimes do to build railroads, &c., then the General Assembly must first pass the bill to allow them to do so.

Mr. Editor, the Advance has fallen into an error which may mislead the people by making them believe that a Railroad Commission could tax the Railroads or even have anything to do with taxing them. So careful is the Constitution on the taxing power that it says: The Revenue bill—(that is the bill to tax)—must originate in the House of Commons. The Senate cannot even originate a Revenue bill.

The only exception to the rule that the Legislature alone can tax is in the case where the Constitution allows the County Commissioners to levy a tax for certain county expenses, and this is only because the counties are a part of the State Government. In one sense of the word each county is like a little State, and requires a certain amount of money to run its county government, but even in the case of County Commissioner they are restricted by the Constitution.

The article taken from The Advance says "the investigating committee" forced two railroads to pay taxes. Let me call your attention to the latter part of the act of the Legislature appointing that committee. It says:

"The committee shall report the testimony taken by them and shall report such legislation or orther proceedings as in their opinion may be requisite to compel said companies to pay their lawful taxes; and shall have power, and is hereby instructed to sit after the adjournment of this session of the General Assembly and make report by bill or otherwise to the next General Assembly."

Thus you see the only power conferred upon the committee is to "report by bill or otherwise to the next General Assembly." Why? Because no other power could tax but the General Assembly. I believe that every corporation in the State ought to pay taxes; but it is idle to talk about a Railroad Commission having anything to do with the matter. No power on earth save the Legislature can control this matter of taxation. And there are some railroads in the State which even the Legislature cannot tax because their charters exempt them from taxation. Among this number is the Wilmington and Weldon. Although they are exempt, yet out of their own free will they come forward and say they are willing to pay taxes to the State It is wrong to say that they "were forced to do so," when it is an error so to state.

The Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the State cannot tax the Wilmington and Weldon road. Any one who cares to read this decision can find it in 13th Wallace's United States Supreme Court Reports, page 568.

But while they are perfectly protected by this decision, yet of their own free will and accord they come forward and say they are willing to be taxed. If the question is asked why they do this I can only answer in their own language, when they say "If any uprising were to take place and their property were threatened, they would call upon the State for protection, as in many sections in this day of strikes, &c., much valuable property is often laid waste. If then they claim the State's protection, it is but right they should share the burden along with all other people who desire protection." When people desire to be generous it is wrong to impute other motives to them. There is one strange fact in connection with this question of railroad taxation to many people, and it is this, that those who oppose a Railroad Commission have been foremost in saying that all railroads ought to pay taxes, and have even voted for bills in the Legislature looking to the taxation of all corporations not only Railroads but Telegraph and Express Companies. The reason for this is because they believe all should share the burdens of State alike.

THE MONETIZATION OF LAND.

BY F. B. COOPER.

No. 4.

That which we call money has in all ages and nations been based upon one of three principles or ideas or more accurately upon a combination of two or more of them. These are: 1st Real value. 2nd. Representative value, and 3rd. Fiat value; and these principles either singly or in combination underlie every system of exchanges or currency. Trade based upon real value alone is pure barter and exist to a very limited extent in civilized countries and no currency has ever been or can ever be based upon this principle alone. The nearest approach to it is a metlalic currency. When a man exchanges his cotton for gold he does not proceed upon the principle that so many ounces of gold are equal in real value to so many pounds of cotton, but observing what value has been stamped upon the gold by authority of law he takes it at that value without once thinking of ascertaining the weight. Representative value is the principle upon which paper currency is supposed to be based. A ten dollar bill or note is of very little intrinsic value but because it is supposed to represent ten dollas of real value somewhere as in the coffers of a bank or the government treasury, it passes current and performs all the functions of money.

Fiat money as it is called is that which does not possess intrinsic value and neither represents nor professes to represent real value. It is simply and purely a promise to pay. The green back currency of this county was purely fiat money and the government bonds of to day are the same. It is very clear that a currency based upon fiat value inasmuch as it costs practically nothing to produce it, can be supplied by the government to its citizens at an exceedingly low rate of interest, and it is equally clear that, as such a currency will perform all the functions of money as efficiently as the very expensive gold and silver, it is the duty of government to provide it in sufficient abundance for the needs of the people. Indeed the government has provided just such a currency as this for the use of the very rich. Bonds each of large value are issued and with these such men as Gould and Vanderbilt can buy and sell railroads &c but an ordinary man can never own one. Nay so far are the very rich from paying any interest upon their peculiar currency that they are permitted to charge the government interest.

Let us suppose the government to issue to us through a national bank, a ten dollar bill which is nothing more than a note by which the government or the bank promises to pay the holder ten dollars. This note passes from the bank into the hands of a private citizen, who gives his note with abundant security in exchange for it. We will say that he keeps it for two years and then presents it at the bank for payment. He receives just ten dollars and nothing at all is said about interest. But when he comes to pay his ten dollar note to the bank, he is required to pay, not only the ten dollars as principle, but eight per cent interest for ten years or in all $18.00 Who has got the $8? The Bank. Then the rich grow richer at the expense of the poor.

We hear much said of the rapidity with which the United States is paying off its national debt. This government has paid since the war by means of cruel taxation imposed almost exclusively upon the industrial classes a sum which baffles comprehension and almost defies computation and yet, in real truth, the national debt is as large now as it was the day the war ended. It will take more bales of cotton, more bushels of wheat, more pounds of pork and more of anything which the farmer produces to discharge the national debt to day than would have been required to do so in 1865. The criminal contraction of the currency and excessive interest is the ground-work of most of the evils under which the industrial classes are laboring and the national banking system is responsible for the whole thing. With a currency based upon the monetization of land or free banking made safe, or with a currency issued direct from the government in quantities sufficint to supply the needs of the people, there is no earthly reason why any one by giving sufficient security could not obtain all the money which he might need for not more than three per cent interest.

Sunday School Convention.

It is the earnest desire of the State Sunday School Executive Committee to have all the Sunday School workers in Sampson County organized into a County Sunday School Convention. I have been urgently requested by H. N. Snow, Secretary of that committee to effect an organization of the county. In order to do this I hereby request all superintendents of Sabbath Schools in the county of what ever denomination to send me their names and post offices immediately, that I may be able to correspond with them in regard to time and place of meeting and other important matters, please do not neglect this call superintendents.

C. P. JEROME,
Clinton, N. C.

Alliance Department.

[Continued from First Page.]

charge could have gone forth, except it is a revival of the old charge of the News and Observer based upon the passage of a resolution by a Pitt county suballiance "that they wanted better public schools or none," simply meaning that they intended to improve the system if in their power. Which charges were replied to at the by Mr. E. A. Moye, of Greenville, N. C., and declined publication by in the N. and O. I shall endeavor to get a copy of the entire correspondence and forward to you at an early day with a hope that you will set us a right with the education upon whom we greatly rely."

From the State Secretary of the Alliance, Mr. E. C. Beddingfield, a similar letter was received by Mr. Britton. In the course of a denial of the charge, the letter reads this: "no doubt many of the enemies of the order are glad to circulate the report, hoping to create an impression that the reform movement begun by the farmers and laborers of this country is the effect of ignorance and selfishness. The truth is that a large majority of the members of the alliance realize the fact that the only hope of the liberties of the people being restored and preserved lies in the education of the masses. I trust you will use your influence to stop this infamous rumor."

Finally Mr. Branson thus sets himself right in the last issue of the "School Journal." "The full text of my articles will show that I stated the farmers position to be reform or abolishment of the public schools, a fragmentary quotation gives Mr. Harrell (who in a letter to the School Journal had called Mr. Branson to account for his statement.—Ed.) Opportunity to characterize me as "wholly false" in my statement in both my recent articles. I distinctly stated that the Southern farmer was the best friend of the doctrines of popular education we had; and that we must look to this class of our citizens for the public reforms which are so lamentably needed in the South.

Here are the resolutions referred to in my recent articles, as found in the Progressive Farmer of Jan. 21st 1890.

Resolved; "That we, the Farmers' Alliance of Pitt county, N. C., recognizing the inefficiency of the present public school system; denounce it as oppressive, unjust and iniquitous.

Resolved: "That we demand that our representetives in the next general assembly use their utmost endeavors to abolish or effect a reform in the present public school system.

Resolved: "That we ask the county alliances throughout the State to unite with us in correcting such pernicious and unstatesmanlike legislation, etc."

We fully endorses the statement that the alliance believes in the education of the masses and in concluding this article make the following extract from the declaration of pricples of the order.

"Profoundly impressed that we, the farmers' alliance, united by the strong and faithful ties of finanical and home interests, should set forth our declaration of intentions, we therefore resolve: 1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes, in the science of economical government, in a strictly non partisan spirit."

Mr. Livingstone, the national Lecturer of the Farmers' Alliance append before the ways and means committee of Congress last week in behalf of the farmers asking for remedial legislation. He said there need be no misapprehention concerning the objects of the Alliance. It was not seeking to displace the ruling political parties. The sub-treasury bill had nothing to do with the tariff. The farmers asked that the sub-treasury bill be passed. Fifty-eight homes of farmers had been sold in Connecticut in one day this week. Relief was demanded, and the farmers knew how to get it. * * * *

If Congress refused to endorse the sub-treasury law, he said it should remove the restrictions hedging in the national banking system. The sub treasury plan gave the farmer a chance to escape the speculator by allowing him to deposit his crops in the sub-treasury at any time, and spared him selling at stated seasons. If the sub-treasury bill were passed, there would not be a bucket shop left in the United States. There need be no fear that the bill would cause the farmers to form a trust.

A writer in the "Southern Alliance Farmer," says that for the first time in twenty years the farmers are looking up—heads hoisted and tails over the dash board, which means they are determined upon not only a reform in the financial condition of National and State government, which is draining the life blood of agriculture, but the suppression of the wicked combinations and trusts afflicting the people.