

# THE DURHAM COUNTY REPUBLICAN.

CAMPAIGN EDITION.

DURHAM, N. C., SEPT. 9th, 1884.

PRICE 25CTS.

## What Makes the Rate of Wages.

Edward Atkinson of Boston, last week read before The British Science Association, assembled in Montreal a learned paper upon the above topic. He demonstrated that the proportion of wage earners to employers was 15 to 1, and after touching lightly upon the dogma of excessive population, contended that labor and capital combine to produce the annual product of industry, and that in the last analysis character determines the rate of wages. He assumed that in the United States the maximum rate of profit on capital does not exceed 10 per cent, and that the overwhelming mass of annual profit is shared by those depending on work for subsistence. He argued that the relative share of wage-earners must be determined by the competition of the laborer with laborer. Their share was the increasing part of an increasing product. In the long run the wage-earners must get 90 per cent of the annual product. High wages were equivalent to low cost of production; low wages implied high cost of production. These points Mr. Atkinson illustrated most forcibly. One man's labor in Winnipeg or Dakota gave him an annual surplus of 1,000 barrels of flour to send to market. Delivered in New York the flour represented four men's labor for one year; baked into bread it represented seven men's annual labor; and it would feed 1,000 men for one year. This and kindred facts led him sometimes to think that Mr. Vanderbilt was the chief communist of the day, since he had saved a dollar for his fellow men for every cent he made, through the consolidation of transportation. Mr. Atkinson gave the results of the manufacture of cotton sheeting in the United States during fifty years, showing that for that fabric wages had increased 64 per cent; that the cost to consumers had diminished 22 per cent. The profits in manufacturing were only one-half what they were fifty years ago, and, while they were steadily diminishing, the wages of workmen were advancing.

When it is pretty clearly demonstrated that 90 per cent of the annual prod-

uct of this country represents the wage of laborers, it will be readily seen why labor favors a protective tariff.

## SCALES AND YORK.

Scales and York will still continue to discuss jointly the political situation and since democratic Journals supporting Scales have quiet plainly advised him that the language used by him toward York was both improper and unwarranted it is presumed that we shall hear less of disturbed meetings, and have more harmony and political decency. It is evident that there is some breaking away from Bourbonism in the West that is not pleasing to Scales and his friends. We do not now remember a time in the history of our State when there was so much ill feeling and bad blood as has characterized the Mountain canvass. York has been belittled to no avail, as it is now recognized that he is at least a match in joint debate for his competitor. When they give Durham a visit we hope to have an opportunity of judging the merits of these candidates for ourselves.

## POLITICAL INDIGESTION.

A correspondent of a city contemporary has evidently attended a "free barbecue" and while suffering from serious indigestion has advertised himself as a Bourbon in whom there is no guile. We did not imagine that so much spleen and ill feeling could exist in any heart, much less in the heart of one so deeply imbued with the Spirit of his Divine Master. That charity that covereth a multitude of sin seems to have no indwelling in him. The editors of the REPUBLICAN unfortunately have no great amount of religion to speak of; certainly none to advertise, but they are at least tolerant of the opinions of others. For Bourbon intolerance proscription, prejudice and pretty uncharitableness the communication is certainly remarkable. "Carpetbagger," "Scallawag," "vile scum," "slime of society," "pot house political filth" &c., &c., are his pet expressions. We beg to advise him in all kindness that we never feel quite easy unless we have a blanket of these highly religio-moral epithets to cover us at night and that his contribution is appreciated.

## POLITICAL SMALL TALK.

Cleveland has missed both the protection deer and the free-trade calf.—[Syracuse Standard.]

The democratic party is no hog, but it likes to hear from its candidates occasionally.—[Louisville Times.]

The lack of Democratic harmony is explained by the fact that the party has lost the keynote of the campaign.

The Lancaster Examiner cautions bands who may be employed to serenade Cleveland that all such tunes as "Nancy Lee" and "The Girl I Left Behind Me" are not appropriate.

The democratic candidate is a man with a 16½ collar, a No. 7 hat, a No. 11 boot, a bachelor married upon the European plan, with his domestic relations served a la carte.—[Emory A. Storrs.]

The rumor that Billy English will contribute \$1.50 to the Democratic campaign funds is generally discredited in the best informed financial circles.—[Illinois State Journal.]

Gov. Cleveland has never visited Washington. We advise him to run down there next March and see Blaine inaugurated.

The Democrats are boasting that Governor Cleveland's neck is thicker than ever, but they don't say anything about the condition of his head.

The Boston Herald rejoices to think that "the silent vote will be largely cast for Cleveland and Reform." If a man is so far gone as really to identify Cleveland with reform he would naturally keep still about it.

"Twenty Years of Congress," is a brilliant, weighty, durable production. No man who has not read this history can affirm that he truly and thoroughly knows Mr. Blaine, and none that goes for knowledge of the author to these pages will underrate his intellect, his candor, or his magnanimity.—[M. W. Hazeltine in The Sun.]

It would be an interesting thing to learn where Senator Hawley buries the men whom he talks to death.—[Newark News.]

Democrats ought to know where their own candidates are buried: General Hawley has "talked to death" several of them, and Mr. Cleveland can make arrangements now, if he wishes.

Mr. Cleveland read in some school book that the President is an executive offices, and he put it in his letter of acceptance. The Democratic papers are so struck with profundity of the thought that they are beside themselves with joy. "Hear him talk," they say. He's no slouch.

The Democratic papers are complaining bitterly that Republicans are trying to belittle Mr. Cleveland's letter of acceptance. The fact is the Republicans couldn't make it any littler than it is already.