

State Library

# THE GREENVILLE INDEX

Andrew Joyner, Editor & Proprietor.

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VOLUME 1

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## POLITICAL COMMENT

There is no likelihood that an income tax will be imposed by the Fifty-third Congress. Opposition to the oppressive and inquisitorial measure is growing constantly—Brooklyn Eagle.

Richmond Dispatch.—The Senate cannot act too soon. What is to be done should be done forthwith. No lung in the bill will be so injurious to the country as unnecessary delay in passing it.

Chicago Times: If the Senate will let the Wilson bill alone and pass it with the least possible delay the country will enjoy renewed prosperity and the nation will for a time cease to look upon the upper house of the national legislature as an obstacle in the path of all wise legislation.

It is estimated that only 87,000 people will be liable to the income tax proposed, while there are 65,000,000 who will not be touched by it. If they all vote for their pockets—as people generally do—we think we can safely predict that an income tax will not destroy the Democratic party.—Columbia (S. C.) State (Dem.).

When Senator Quay, of Pennsylvania, was asked his opinion of the outcome of the impending tariff debate in the Senate, he replied that he had not the slightest idea—"but,"—said he "of one thing I am very sure, if we (the Republicans) had the majorities the Democrats have we would go right on and pass the bills agreed on in committee or caucus." Senator Quay, in this, is perfectly truthful, and until the Democratic leaders thoroughly learn the wisdom embodied in that remark they will never be able to accomplish any great measures.—Charlottesville (Va) Chronicle (Dem.).

It is a remarkable coincidence that Mr. Brawley, of South Carolina the only South Carolinian who voted against silver as a money metal, and Mr. Herbert, of Alabama, the only Alabamian, who also voted against silver, should have been lifted high on the tide of official favor. Mr. Brawley, as we have seen, has been made a federal judge, and Mr. Herbert, as everybody knows is a member of the cabinet.

It is a remarkable coincidence indeed, that these men, opposing the most vital interests of their people, should have been lifted into such offices.—Constitution.

### Food for Reflection.

The people of the United States spent more than six hundred millions of dollars last year for whiskey; or, to state the whole truth, spent sixteen hundred millions of dollars for their common drinks, cigars, etc., etc.

And yet, Congress is trying to decide whether to put sugar on the free list or not, or whether to pay a few millions of bounty to sugar producers, or to admit sugar free to duty into the United States.

These facts afford food for reflection.—Atlanta Constitution.

The Philadelphia Board of Health has refused to declare consumption to be a contagious disease.

## FARM DEPARTMENT.

### THE PEANUT INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

Interesting Article by Associate Justice Walter Clark of North Carolina.

Edward Atkinson, the well known economist, has recently written an admirable article pointing out the uses of the peanut, especially as a producer of oil. He it was who years ago pointed out the value of cotton-seed for its oil and its manurial and seed qualities, as cotton-seed meal, and the value of the hulls. Prior to this, on many farms cotton-seed was disposed of as waste. Now Mr. Atkinson predicts the future usefulness of the peanut as an oil producer and in other ways.

But before we go into this production extensively attention should be called to the syndicate which controls the sale of the nut, making its members millionaires and the producers paupers. The number of peanut-buyers is small. These have formed a trust or syndicate. By this combination it is decreed that "farmers' stock" is not salable, and all peanuts before being marketable must go through a mill. They are pleased to dignify with the name of peanut "factory." By another of their rules no factory will take the nuts on to it, but they must be sold to the owner of the factory. This delivers the farmer alive into their hands.

### PRICE AND COST

The peanuts are sold on the market at a price fixed by the syndicate, which is at present about 2 cents per pound. They are run through the "factory" at a total cost of 1-5 of a cent per pound, and are then sold to the retail merchant by wholesale at 4 to 7 cents per pound, according to locality. The profits being pooled are presumably divided. No wonder the farmers find no profit in making peanuts, and that the factory owners are becoming millionaires. Farmers generally raise small crops of peanuts and each not feeling largely interested, as a class they are ignorant of the gross imposition practiced upon them in this, as in some other matters. Imposed upon by the word "factory" they are led to think that there is some costly and mysterious process in preparing the peanuts for market. There is nothing of the kind. The peanuts are poured into a revolving cylinder which polishes them and blows out the dirt and dirt. As they come out they fall upon a broad, endless belt, which carries them along to be bagged. Negroes stand on each side of this moving belt and with paddles deftly sort the peanuts. They are then bagged and sold for more than double the price paid the farmer. The process of sorting them cost not more than 1-5 of a cent.

### THE MACHINERY

It was also thought that the process was not only mysterious and required skill—which we see is not so—but that the machinery was expensive. But it is said by those who know that the machinery of one of these so-called "factories" will not cost more than \$500 or \$700, and that the whole plant, including machinery, building, engine—everything—should not cost over \$2,000 to \$2,500. It was also urged that there was a patent on the machinery. A party who was bold enough to defy this claim and establish his own factory dem-

onstrated by a suit in court that there was no patent, and thereupon it is said the syndicate took him in, and he is now one of our oppressors, and fast becoming a millionaire.

As a last resort, to discourage putting up factories it is given out that large capital is required to establish a brand and put it on the market. On the contrary, the writer has recently had correspondence with numerous dealers from San Francisco to Boston, and from New Orleans to Montreal, and readily had offers varying from four and one-half to seven cents for nuts, without any question as to brand. The only requirement was that they should be sound and "factory" stock. The syndicate have educated the public to require the latter, as it places the trade in their hands.

### RUN FOR TOLL.

If the farmers generally knew the above facts, they could readily emancipate themselves from selling at 2 cents per pound peanuts which, with the addition of one fifth of a cent "factory" work, are sold at 4 to 7 cents, by each neighborhood putting up a factory, or by some one putting it up to run for toll. But these facts have been persistently suppressed. Where at very rare intervals a factory out of the seaport town, has been put up, it has id that it always mysteriously stops. Those who know say that this is done by the syndicate paying the owner of the new factory a sum equal to the estimated profit of the tolls which would be likely to come in if the factory was run. Fortunately, there is no internal-revenue tax on factory peanuts as on manufactured tobacco, by which the syndicate can keep a monopoly.

This is one of the many ways in which the farming class is plucked. Will not farmers who are interested in peanut raising look into this matter, and each neighborhood provide itself with a factory for next season at which peanuts may be prepared for market for toll? "Who would be free, themselves must strike the blow."

There are 186 medical women in Great Britain.

California has paid out \$187,000 in bounties for coyote scalps and has scalp claims against it to the amount of \$118,000 still unpaid.

Contributions to all benevolent purposes by Protestant Christians in the United States amounts to about \$85,000,000 annually. One-seventeenth of this is for foreign missions.

The treasuries of all religious societies are suffering from the financial depression.

The Post Office Department statement shows that during the last fiscal year 2,407,810,175 pieces were sent in domestic mails, 525,917,899 postal cards and 980,305,984 newspapers were mailed by publishers and news agents.

The Supreme Court of Iowa has decided that the owner of a dog is responsible in damages for injuries caused by the barking of the dog. A dog barked suddenly and viciously at a horse ridden on the public highway. The rider of the horse was in consequence thrown and injured, and suing for damages recovered from the owner of the dog. The judgment the Supreme Court of Iowa affirms.

Greenville, N. C.,

Feb'y. 28 1894.

Dear Joyner:

We are too busy opening New Goods and selling every kind of Merchandise to prepare an advertisement. Save half a column for us to tell your readers about our popular prices.

By the way Fertilizers are going like hot cake.

Very Truly,

Boswell Speight & Co

## J. B. CHERRY & CO

Carry the largest assortment of Goods to be found in our Town or County.

They keep about everything you want and invite you to call on them when you want your moneys worth.

A penny saved is a penny made and we claim to save you many pennies if you will give us your patronage.

WE ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR FURNITURE IN THIS COUNTRY. CALL ON US WHEN YOU ARE IN NEED OF ANYTHING IN THE FURNITURE LINE.