

Hickory Press

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THE BUSINESS OF 1898 AND THE OUTLOOK.

While the general course of trade during the year now drawing to a close has been fairly satisfactory, it has not met expectations, and in some lines of industry it has been disappointing.

One of the encouraging features is the slow, steady, and cautious process of building up after the panic of 1893. While the snail-like pace of the revival was not expected, some comfort may be drawn from the fact that prices on the whole show an upward tendency, and that the bank clearings point to a gain in the volume of trade of about one-third, compared with that of the period of greater depression.

Following the partial prostration of trade incident to 1894, the result of the financial crash of the year before, the spring of 1895 witnessed something of a moderate boom in iron and steel. This was treated by the commercial weather prophets as a good sign, the course of those metals being regarded as a trade barometer.

But the advance was short lived, and the autumn found the great metal industries as flat as ever. No gain was made in 1896, not merely because of the distractions of a Presidential canvass, but owing, rather, to the menace to the currency system by the silver plank in the Chicago platform. Both foreign and domestic investments in American enterprises were checked and distribution languished.

With the defeat of the silver standard candidate for the Presidency great things were expected from 1897 in the way of business revival. But confidence is a plant of slow growth, and capital, always timid, was far from eager for investment. On the whole, however, the year showed a wholesome improvement of the commercial temper and led to confident expectations as to the outcome in 1898. The earlier months of the current year did, indeed, give evidence of a revival in activity, notably in the West and Northwest, where the grain crops had been bountiful and prices in some instances unduly stimulated. Then came the war with Spain and with it another halt.

Before the close of the war, however, iron and steel, particularly steel, had felt the effect of increased demand and prices began to respond to it, as well as to the increased agricultural prosperity. The prolonged period of enforced economy in railway operation and in industries had its natural effect, and a growing need for more cars, tools, machinery and structural material started the fires in hundreds of mills and factories. American ironmasters discovered that cheap ore and improved processes had at last enabled them to compete in the world's markets, and this newly created trade, together with increasing foreign purchases of numberless industrial products showed that America had at last entered the world's industrial as well as its agricultural contest.

Commercially, however, the year's record leaves several gaps. The cotton planter has to contend with the lowest prices for fifty years in the face of congested stocks of cotton in New England, where manufacturers are again compelled to shut their mills in order to permit consump-

tion to catch up with production. An oversupply of foreign wools, which had been rushed in to anticipate the effect of the Dingley act, is still disturbing American wool growers by depressing prices of the domestic staple, and another squabble over the wool schedules of the tariff is threatened. Bides and leather have thus far failed to disclose an incentive for the higher prices which dealers are anxiously awaiting and, most significant of all, perhaps, advices for a number of the larger western and northwestern cities are that few if any new commercial enterprises are announced for the opening of 1899. In some instances several large jobbing houses will retire from business on the ground that while their volume of sales has been large prices have been shaded to an extent which has not left an adequate margin of profit.

This survey, however, would seem to leave ample room for confidence in the immediate future of business. Agriculturally and industrially we have prospered in spite of the distractions of war. There is less to be said that is encouraging concerning domestic trade, but with the hands of the Administration upheld in its efforts to gather the fruits of the war with Spain and with sound money legislators at the State capitols and in Washington, there are no reasons for doubting that 1899 will be more prosperous commercially than any year since 1892, or, perhaps, than any year in our history.—New York Sun.

Dr. Bull's COUGH SYRUP

Will cure a Cough or Cold at once. It positively relieves all throat troubles. Small doses. Price 25 cents at druggists.

Statesville to Have a Roman Catholic Church.

The Lazenby Bros., contractors and builders, have been awarded the contract to build a Roman Catholic chapel in Statesville. The building will be about 22x42 and will be erected on the corner of Sharpe and Trade streets, adjoining the residence of Col. W. A. Eliason. The cost will be between \$1,200 and \$1,500. Mr. G. E. French, acting as agent for the parties having the buildings erected, awarded the contract. There are not many Roman Catholics families in Statesville, so the church will begin with a small membership. It is expected that Rev. Father Joseph, priest in charge of the Catholic church at Salisbury, will also have charge of the church here.—Mascot.

New Bank for Gastonia.

There is a movement to organize a new bank in Gastonia. It is to be a state bank with capital not exceeding \$50,000. The name of the banking firm will perhaps be John H. Craig, Sons, & Company. The subscription books are now open and in charge of Mr. John H. Craig who is backing the new enterprise.—Gazette.



RAMON'S PILLS
AND TONIC PELLETS

Cure all forms of disease caused by a sluggish liver and biliousness. The Pink Pill Cleanses The Tonic and Invigorates



A man in the darkness of hopeless disease is of all men most miserable. When doctors and medicines innumerable have been tried and found wanting, and loving friends vainly urge upon him the food he cannot eat and which brings him no nourishment or strength, what is to be done? Men and women who have sunk so far into weakness and disease that the whole body seems to be permeated and poisoned by it have found health, strength and vigor through the transforming, electrifying power of that wonderful "Golden Medical Discovery" which Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., proffered, thirty years ago, to sick and suffering humanity.

During all the years since then this marvelous "Discovery" has been building up weak and debilitated constitutions by its extraordinary influence upon the human, nutritive system. It gives the digestive organism keen power and capacity to appropriate every life-giving element from the food taken into the stomach and transforms it into rich, highly vitalized blood and healthy flesh, bone, sinew and nerve fiber.

Consumption in all its earlier stages is arrested and counteracted by the tissue-building, flesh-making, life-promoting power of this grand medicine and there is no darkness of bodily ailment so dense but it will shed upon the sufferer the light of renewed hope.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets cure constipation.

Home Manufacture.

For several years past we have seen the movement of cotton mills to the cotton fields going strongly ahead, but its most pronounced development is to be seen in an enterprise which has just been established at Edgefield S. C., says the Atlanta Journal.

The cotton is picked and ginned, the seed is pressed, and the oil, cattle food and phosphate are put into a marketable form, the lint is spun into yarn, which in turn is woven into cloth—all in a single plant. Here there is no bailing, no shipping of the raw cotton to England, Germany, New England or to any place.

Mr. D. A. Tompkins, the well known cotton manufacturer of Charlotte, predicted some time ago that the day would come when the cotton bale would be eliminated and that the raw cotton would be converted into cloth on the farm. The new plant at Edgefield indicates that this prophecy is not as wild as some persons thought it was when it was made.

The Boston Manufacturer says: "If the immediate future con-

Scrofula to Consumption.

Any one predisposed to Scrofula can never be healthy and vigorous. This taint in the blood naturally drifts into Consumption. Being such a deep-seated blood disease, Swift's Specific is the only known cure for Scrofula, because it is the only remedy which can reach the disease.

Scrofula appeared on the head of my little grandchild when only 18 months old. Shortly after breaking out it spread rapidly all over her body. The scabs on the sores would peel off on the slightest touch, and the odor that would arise made the atmosphere of the room sickening and unbearable. The disease next attacked the eyes, and we feared she would lose her sight. Eminent physicians from the surrounding country were consulted, but could do nothing to relieve the little innocent, and gave it as their opinion that the case was hopeless and impossible to save the child's eyesight. It was then that we decided to try Swift's Specific. This medicine at once made a speedy and complete cure, she is now a young lady, and has never had a sign of the disease to return.

Scrofula is an obstinate blood disease, and is beyond the reach of the average blood medicine. Swift's Specific

S.S.S. For Blood

is the only remedy equal to such deep-seated diseases; it goes down to the very foundation and forces out every taint. It is purely vegetable, and is the only blood remedy guaranteed to contain no mercury, lead or other mineral substance whatsoever. Books mailed free by Swift's Specific Company, Atlanta, Georgia.

tains any such industrial development as have come to us in the past few years it will be hard to say what we may not achieve to. The southern manufacturers of cotton goods have already made very notable advances in the export trade, and their future is closely bound up with the question of our commercial progress in other lands."

As the Manufacturer says, the day has passed when the south was satisfied to raise cotton for Old England and New England. The south is now manufacturing a large part of its staple crop and will convert more and more of it into cloth every year. There is also a movement in the South toward the manufacture of finer grades of cotton goods which will work great and profitable results.

A Toast to Old Glory.

At a campaign supper to some captains of the navies of England, Russia, Turkey, France and America a toast by each one in honor of his country was called for and the following are the toasts given:

The Russian said: "Here is to the bars and stars that have never been torn down."

The Turk said: "Here is to the moon of Turkey, whose wings have never been clipped."

The Frenchman said: "Here is to the cock of France, whose feathers were never pulled."

The American said: "Here is to the stars and stripes of America, which have never known defeat."

The Englishman concluded as follows: "Here is to the rampant, roaring lion of Great Britain, that has torn down the stars of Russia; who clipped the wings of the moons of Turkey; who pulled the feathers from the cock of France, and ran like a—l from the stars and stripes of the United States of America."—Exchange.

A Pumpkin Vine You Read About.

Mr. S. C. Fulp, of Daisy, this county, was in to see us Saturday. He stated that a volunteer pumpkin vine came up in his garden this season, which covered 60 square feet and produced 31 pumpkins. The largest weighed 30 pounds and the smallest 13 pounds, the entire 31 totaling 648 pounds. Next—Winston Republican.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents. Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c. B. L. All druggists.

What is Your Birth-Month.

If a girl is born in January, she will be a prudent housewife, given to melancholy, but good-tempered.

If in February, a humane and affectionate will and tender mother.

If in March, a frivolous chatterbox, somewhat given to quarreling.

If in April, inconsistent, not intelligent, but likely to be good looking.

If in May, handsome and likely to be happy.

If in June, impetuous, will mar-

A Fleshy Consumptive

Did you ever see one? Did you ever hear of one? Most certainly not. Consumption is a disease that invariably causes loss of flesh.

If you are light in weight, even if your cough is only a slight one, you should certainly take

Scott's Emulsion

of cod liver oil with hypophosphites. No remedy is such a perfect preventive to consumption. Just the moment your throat begins to weaken and you find you are losing flesh, you should begin to take it. And no other remedy has cured so many cases of consumption. Unless you are far-advanced with this disease, Scott's Emulsion will hold every inducement to you for a perfect cure.

All Druggists, etc. and B. L. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, N. Y.

ry early and be frivolous.

If in July, passably handsome, but with a sulky temper.

If in August, amiable and practical, and likely to marry rich.

If in September, discreet, affable and much liked.

If in October, pretty and coquettish, and likely to be unhappy.

If in November, liberal, kind, of a mild disposition.

If in December, well-proportioned, fond of novelty and extravagant.

Bucklen's Arthica Salve

The best salve in the world for Cuts Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Shuford Drug Co.

Mark Twain as a Stump Speaker.

Once in a while Mark has taken a hand in politics. On one occasion, being invited to speak in the interest of his fellow-townsmen, General Joseph Hawley, who was a candidate for re-election to the United States Senate, he said, in the course of a droll address: "General Hawley deserves your support, although he has about as much influence in purifying the Senate as a bunch of flowers would have in sweetening a glue factory. But he's all right; he never would turn any poor beggar away from his door empty-handed. He always gives them something—almost without exception a letter of introduction to me, urging me to help them."—Ladies Home Journal.

OPIUM

and Whiskey Habit. Catnip at home without pills. Book of particulars sent FREE. B. A. WOOLLEY, M.D. Atlanta, Ga. Office 104 N. Pryor St.

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Lowe's Patent Shingle and Heading Machine

This machine with vertile saw is especially adapted to the manufacture of Shingles and Heading by unskilled labor, and is the perfection of hand machines. It will cut more Shingles per day, from all kinds of blocks, than any other machine on the market, as it does block but once until sawed up.

It will saw round or square blocks, from 16 to 23 inches long, 16 inches wide, and wider if block is turned to sawed side after a few cuts have been taken off.

This machine has been in use in this section for twenty years and is preferred to any other. The capacity of Lowe's Machine in yellow pine is from 12,000 to 30,000 shingles per day, owing to power used and skill of operator. Power required, 15 horse power; speed of Shingle saw, 1,500 revolutions per minute.

Full directions accompany each machine for filing saw and keeping machine in order. A guarantee also accompanies each machine. I also manufacture Shingle Jointers and Shingle Packers, for jointing and packing shingles, and which do the work sufficiently for the capacity of the Shingle Machine.

For prices and further information address

Geo. M. Whitener, Henry, N. C.