

The Southport Leader.

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STEVENS & FARRELL

Editors and Proprietors.

SOUTHPORT, BRUNSWICK CO., N. C.

SOUTHPORT, N. C., JULY 23, 1891.

THE MENTOR TO THE MESSENGER.

The Wilmington Messenger's answer to the LEADER's criticism on its article published in the Messenger of July 7th, dodges the point at issue, namely, the observance of Independence Day, North and South. The LEADER considers the Messenger's answer in a great measure irrelevant to the question at issue. The "methods" and "practices" employed by the North or South in the late war, can hardly be said to have any bearing in a discussion on the War of Independence.

The Messenger further says: "Even now no Northern historian is able to deal with exact impartiality in writing of the War of Independence, although more than a hundred years have passed since peace came, and with it separation," and gives as a reason for this partiality of the Northern historian, supposedly in favor of his own section, "because we are too near the late war."

According to the Messenger, therefore, the Northern orator cannot deliver an Independence Day oration before an educated Southern audience without offending his hearers, by using terms indiscreetly, and condemning the South for its position in the late war, and no Northern historian "is able to deal with exact impartiality in writing of the War of Independence, because we are too near the late war."

The warrant for the latter statement cannot be supported. The writings of those Northern historians, whose books have been authorities, the world over, for so many years, cannot be affected by any such statement. That they have been accepted as authoritative on the events chronicled, by colleges and schools, and the leading scholars of the day, must place them above any criticism, pro or con, which can injure their standing.

In referring to the Northern orator as being unable to deliver an oration on Independence Day without being "offensive," the LEADER quotes again, "The Messenger meant no offense. It merely stated what it supposed every frank, intelligent Northern man would agree to. If the thing the LEADER says can be done, why is it never done?"

The LEADER can most emphatically reply that it has been done, and naturally once accomplished, can be again. And it is only necessary to go back to July 4, 1890, and the place, Southport, N. C., to find a complete substantiation of the LEADER's position. On that day, a Northern man, orator, scholar and gentleman, delivered a masterly and eloquent oration to an assembly of nearly a thousand people, who heartily approved of the ENTIRE oration. The oration was broad in character, patriotic in its appeals, and extremely generous in its sentiments, an oration characteristic of the general feeling which prevails in the hearts of all true Americans, in respect to their National Independence, no matter

what section they may hail from, North, South, East or West.

The Messenger is frank to confess, "We have met no Northern men who in their conversation were offensive to us. We have met many who were kind and considerate of speech." If these same Northern gentlemen can be found so agreeable in private, why presume that they must give offense, if invited to address a Southern audience?

The standard of measure which is governed by a sectional sentiment, is unjust. The New South wants and asks for Northerners to come and help develop it. The Northerners coming South mean business. They have come to stay, to develop and enjoy the fruits of their industry. Respect is due their opinions, as well as others, and only injury is done by invectives against the North.

LACK OF LOCAL PRIDE.

The absence in any town, city or county, of what may be termed "local pride," denotes a low state in the religious and business life of such a community. The town or city which does not have at least once a year, some agitation in its religious circles, to stir up the "sleepers," reclaim "backsliders" and bring sinners to their senses, is a very dead place. And the place which has no citizen or citizens, to constantly plan and execute new schemes, either for the amusement or benefit of the rest of the community, should be abandoned to its fate, it cannot have any prosperity.

The citizen of a city, who has the bump of "local pride," fairly developed, cannot be lost anywhere. He is prominent at all meetings. A way from home, he is a terror in slow towns, always boasting of what his place is doing, and will do. He never figures on impossibilities, everything can be accomplished in some way, and it is, for the faith which can move mountains, is a prime factor in his life. The "local pride" of a community overcomes all obstacles, which may appear to arrest its progressiveness. Nothing prevents its successful march. Its enemies even are converted, and become firm believers of the place, whose men and women, governed by strong individualism, faith in themselves, and local pride, stand ever ready to fight or work for their city.

The failure of a city or county to take part in any progressive movement, shows a lack of local pride, and the apparent penny-saving policy, which may be offered in extenuation for the course pursued, does not deceive any one, but indicates the absence of a conscious pride and ambition, which has not the welfare of anything at heart.

The best evidence of a healthy local pride, is the willingness shown by the citizens of a place to make personal sacrifices for the general good. Liberality either in contributions or services, and not with the proviso of future recompense attached, as a saving clause in case of loss, but a free giving with the only thought that the general public may be benefited by the offering. This is what has made the great countries, states and cities of the world, the sacrifices of their citizens.

The city or county which does not exhibit its resources to the public can not expect to prosper. The plea of poverty, unless some effort has been made, will not avail when an accounting is demanded.

The sin of omission stands charged against such a city or county. The local pride may be wanting, yet what excuse shall the people of a place offer for not at least putting at interest the "one talent," which was given them? A righteous local pride can raise the poorest county or city to the highest position. The lack of an honest local pride will degrade the people of a city or county in the eyes of all.

TAKE A STEP FARTHER.

"The national entrepot of the great inland basin of which St. Louis is the lowest point is on the Atlantic coast from Brunswick to Baltimore, and sooner or later the foreign trade of that great region will find its outlet along those lines. It is difficult however to successfully contend with the established trade lines, and so New York has held that traffic remarkably well. Nevertheless in recent years Philadelphia first made inroads upon it and then Baltimore. Now a determined effort is to be made to establish a new outlet at West Point, and steamers are to ply between there and foreign ports regularly. We trust the attempt will be successful, and

thus the natural drift southward will continue until Wilmington or Southport will reap some of its benefits. The movement is noteworthy and is important for the West no less than for the South."—News-Observer.

It is not alone that Wilmington or Southport, or both will reap the benefits in such a movement, but the entire State of North Carolina. What is wanted to place North Carolina among the leading commercial and industrial States is a great seaport of its own. Build it up. Southport is the Future Great City of the State, and the LEADER is glad to note that the News-Observer partially acknowledges its possibilities, although it may be fully conscious of what Southport is to be in the future.

PRESS COMMENTS.

The LEADER is in receipt this week of the Premium List, Rules and Regulations of the second Annual Fair of the Lumber River Industrial and Live Stock Association to be held at Red Springs, N. C., August 12, 13, 14, and 15, 1891. Premiums to the amount of nearly \$1,000 are offered in this neat list and may be competed for by the citizens of both North and South Carolina.

The LEADER is in receipt of a very handsome illustrated album of the City of Greensboro, N. C. This work has been arranged under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of that city and calls attention in the most attractive way to its various manufactures, improvements and buildings. This album of Greensboro, is characteristic of the enterprise of its citizens, who thoroughly believe in their city's future, and show their faith by their actions in presenting its possibilities to the world in an attractive and inviting manner.

The letter addressed to the people of the South, found in another column of this issue, should be read by every one, and especially by North Carolinians. The benefits arising from such an Exposition as will be held at Raleigh next October and November, are not fully appreciated by our people. The counties making the exhibits will later on both see and feel what they have gained by the expenditure of time and money, in gathering their exhibits. The counties which through indifference fail to advertise themselves at the Exposition, will always regret it. The Southern Industrial Exposition will attract visitors from all parts of the country, and will introduce the great advantages of the South to many thousands who will undoubtedly invest their money in Southern enterprises.

CONFEDERATE PENSIONS.

One of the officers of the ex-Confederate Association of this city in conversation with the writer said:

"Every now and then you will see something in Northern newspapers to the effect that the old Confederate soldiers are going to make some move the object which will be to get pensions from the United States. I doubt if any sensible Confederate ever thought seriously of such a thing. It may not be known to some of your Northern readers that in some of the Southern States arrangements have been made whereby the survivors of the late war on the Southern side are being cared for in the way of pensions. The State of Virginia was the first to take the lead in this matter. It established a Confederate home in Richmond, and the State pays \$5,000 a year in pensions to the old Confederates of that State. Georgia has a system by which its disabled veterans get from \$8 to \$25 a month; Alabama pays her Confederates \$25,000 a year; Arkansas has a home at Little Rock supported by State aid; Florida pays \$35,000 a year to disabled Confederates who have resided in the State fifteen years; Mississippi has no Confederate home, but there is a State provision by which the old Confederates are taken care of in a very nice way; Maryland has a Confederate home and \$10,000 a year in pensions; Louisiana has a home and the same amount in pensions; North Carolina has a home and the State appropriates \$41,000 for its maintenance besides granting pensions; South Carolina pays \$50,000 in pensions to its Confederates. I read some thing in The Tribune the other day about Andrew Johnson having reconstructed the State of Tennessee. From a Republican standpoint it hasn't stuck. The Confederate Association in that

State, has a home established at the Hermitage, the home of Andrew Jackson. The State has donated 475 acres of land to the association and \$25,000 for a building, \$5,000 a year for its maintenance, and \$69,000 for pensions. Texas has a home which costs \$3,500 and is talking about increasing the amount and paying pensions. Missouri is building a home, Kentucky alone of all the Southern States has made no provision for its ex-Confederates.—Chicago Tribune.

OUR WILMINGTON LETTER.

To write a letter of Wilmington just now, I must of necessity associate her resorts within it, as part of the city, for with the constant line of people coming and going to the seaside, Wilmington would need to extend her boundaries, in order to retain her population, for no one will stay in the city during these days, if it is possible to get away.

Yes, I have been with the "boys" at both resorts. I enjoyed some elegant little games of Baccarat at the Beach the other day. This game is the "go" just now, with some of the "boys," and I found it decidedly interesting, especially so as I came off "winner." The game is a change from poker, which we used to play, and being new, of course is enjoyable, anyway it helps to pass away the time, for the Beach has been fairly deserted during the week, owing to rainy weather and the Encampment.

The city has tried to look gay with streamers, flags and bunting in honor of the "soldier boys," but the rain spoiled things to a great extent. No fault of our merchants, however, for the general impulse and desire on all sides is to show our appreciation of the military encampment, and make a gay appearance in honor of our distinguished visitors, from Raleigh and Virginia. Montague, of the Orton hotel, had the front of his building brilliant with red, white and blue, flags and bunting, and nearly every store had some decorations, either on windows or building fronts, or flags on roof.

The Second Regiment Band, the boys in their new uniforms, on their way to the train for Wrightsville, made a very handsome appearance. Matt Taylor makes a graceful drum major, and the order of the musicians on the march, is of a military character. The Second Regiment cannot but be proud of its band. I forgot to mention that the band went into camp twenty-five in number.

The weather for the last week has been of the worst kind, raining every few hours. The crowds going to Wrightsville, the Hammocks and Ocean View continue large. I have heard complaints about the meals Will Hunter gives, but must say for myself I never ate a better one than I did the other evening at his hotel.

The enterprise shown by the Sea Coast Railroad management, in giving rapid transportation to and from their Resorts is appreciated, and the travel over the road shows it. The theater entertainment at the Hammocks also shows a desire on the part of the management, to provide plenty of amusement for visitors. The people going to the Hammocks can have a choice of many kinds of recreation, with charge reasonable, and it seems the wish on the part of the management to make every one have a good time, so they will come again.

A gay party, among whom were Mayor Ricard, Col. Tom Strange, T. M. Emerson and Sol. Weill, left the other day on a special car for Western North Carolina, to look at some land, with the idea of purchase. They go in the region of Rutherford. Blue clothes and brass buttons are the correct thing now, and the common civilian has no show with the girls. ABBEY.

Don't be discouraged about that eczema till you have given Ayer's Sarsaparilla a persistent trial. Six bottles of this medicine cured the complaint for George S. Thomas, of Ada, Ohio, when all other remedies failed to afford any relief.

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