

# The Southport Leader.

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## STEVENS & FARRELL

Editors and Proprietors  
SOUTHPORT, Brunswick Co., N. C.

SOUTHPORT, N. C., NOVEMBER 19, 1891.

### WHAT IT MEANS.

The application of the Brunswick, Western and Southern Railroad Company to the citizens of Brunswick County, for a subscription of one hundred thousand dollars in County bonds, in its favor, is only one side of the question, and if simply accepted as the only point to be considered and voted upon by the citizens of the County, is a most erroneous conception of the question to be decided next month.

Voting subscriptions to railroads or enterprises of any kind by the citizens of any County, township or city, is not a matter to be gone into hastily or without due consideration of present benefits and the future effects of such subscriptions.

The LEADER, as the watch-tower of Brunswick County's interests, would be first to give the alarm if danger threatened, and the last to leave the scene of action, and not then unless all danger to the people's interest was past. The simple application of the Brunswick, Western and Southern Railroad Company for the Brunswick County subscription, and the vote 'for' or 'against' this subscription by the voters of the County, is the main proposition, but no one should vote either way without thoroughly understanding what the granting of this subscription to the Railroad Company means for Brunswick County and its redemption from its present isolation.

As a business transaction, the citizens of the County have everything in their favor by encouraging the building of this railroad. It gives the farmer a chance to market his produce within a few hours, saving his animals the long hauls now necessary and thus giving him the benefit of their labor on the farm, instead of wasting it on the hauling to market. By the building of this railroad, the farmer will have two markets for his produce, for the development of a first-class demand at Southport for all country produce, must follow the construction of the railroad to this place. With two markets to sell in, instead of one, the farmer can not only secure competition for what he has to sell, but also has two markets striving to sell him what he wants to buy. To the laborer, the building of the Brunswick, Western and Southern Railroad means employment, and at good living rates, with work for hundreds of men for years to come.

From the County's standpoint the issuing of \$100,000, forty year, six per cent bonds, in favor of the Brunswick, Western and Southern Railroad Company, is a first-class business transaction. Brunswick County votes these bonds. Does it mean these bonds are to be issued upon the day or a few days after the vote is decided to grant them to the Railroad Company, and the County is then to begin to pay interest upon them? By no means. Brunswick County will not have to issue a single bond, pay one cent of interest or bear a dollar of expense, until the railroad is in operation between Southport and Wilmington, and trains running on schedule time between these places, with the road built five miles west of Southport, then, and only then will Brunswick County have to act, and then it will be the issue of the Railroad Company of fifty thousand dollars worth of its bonds, with the second issue of fifty thousand, when the South Carolina line is reached, before the County has to do a thing except to pledge itself to grant these bonds. Then it has secured a line of railroad in full operation, a railroad company paying taxes into its treasury, its people have been given work, thousands of dollars have been paid to its citizens, and the whole community aroused to the sense of its importance.

But this is not all. With the County's granting the Railroad Company its

bonds, the Railroad Company turns into the County treasury one hundred thousand dollars of its stock, which will belong to the County, and can be used as may be desired by the County.

And also, as specially provided for in the charter of the railroad, all taxes collected from the Railroad Company must be set aside as a distinct fund to provide for the liquidation and payment of the interest accruing on the bonds issued by the County in favor of the railroad. The voting of these bonds by the citizens of Brunswick County, means the upbuilding and advancement of every interest of the County, and at the same time the County assumes an indebtedness which is practically guaranteed to be paid by other means outside of its own resources.

### THINKING FARMERS.

What is more desirable than to bring the agricultural class out of the benumbed condition into which it has sunk, where it takes everything for granted, as if it suits their condition and condemns it if it contradicts their belief? And to get them aroused from this comatose state is the great object of the Farmers' Alliance. If a man can be made to think for himself, individually, the beginning of the aim sought for is made. For, having begun to think, he will not stop there, but will use his mental faculties to search for more. He will, if he keeps on, find out what ails him, and at the same time go in quest of a remedy. If one is offered he will closely analyze it before he will accept it as the panacea for his ailments. At the present time we need thinking men, men that are able to distinguish between real and imaginary evils, and if a remedy is proffered, to discern whether it would remove that evil or not.—*Ohio Farmer.*

Nothing could be truer than this, and the application, like the great commandment, is "exceeding broad." It applies not merely to the work on the farm, but off the farm and in every department of the farmer's life. A good, practical thought with reference to the best method of conducting the simplest farm work is often, as we have all found a hundred times, worth many days' work. It is the independent thought that counts, and not the thought that is poured into us like water into a bucket. The man who has once learned to think for himself, will keep on at it, and, though he may think wrong at times, will correct his mistakes for himself, and will be the stronger for having made them. He may fall into wrong theories about his work or about matters that lie outside of strictly farm work, but he will not stop thinking on that account. When a man is once thoroughly aroused to thinking, his mind really quickened, he keeps on thinking. In this respect he is no different from his boy.

Teachers often say that their work is more than half done when they get a boy once thoroughly waked up. So it is with men. When the prophet prayed that the Lord would open "the eyes of this young man that he might see," he answered, "I see men as trees walking." Then he told him to look again and then he saw deliverance. That is just the way with all of us.

Politicians are often in great trouble lest the farmers may do something wrong and turn the world upside down. "These men that have turned the world upside down have come hither also." Let them come. Nothing that the farmers can possibly do is as bad as allowing somebody else to do their thinking for them. It is the men that do not think that are the dangerous element in any community, for the reason that they vote and are voted by men who do not care a copper for them or their interests.

The first thoughts on any subject are, of necessity, crude. The first plans laid for the removal of any evil are almost always inefficient. The remedy is, not less thinking, but more and better. This will come by use. It is dangerous for a boy to have a gun or an axe, but we let them have them all the same. We may tell them some things about their proper use, but after all, they must learn themselves, and do learn in the only way possible, by using them. So it is with thinking. The remedy for wrong thinking is more and better thinking. How little one man can do for any other man! How little can any one class do for any other!

The man who makes me think for myself on any subject is the best friend I have, or ever will have. Socrates was the greatest merely human teacher that the world ever had, and all he did was to ask questions that made the hearers think. All great teachers are incarnate interrogation points. It never troubles us when we hear that farmers are thinking, even if we think their views are all wrong.

The high court of heaven never appointed any other class to be their guardians or to do their thinking for them. Think on and keep on thinking.—*Honestead.*

### A MEANS OF GRACE.

Recent experiments in London hospitals proved that music had what might be called therapeutic properties;

but, unfortunately what was music to some of the patients was to others merely a conglomeration of unpleasant or else unintelligible sounds. The experimenters learned that the most acceptable music in the boys' ward could be produced by means of a stick and a tin pan. In other wards simple Gospel hymns had a quieting effect, while in others nothing but strains from Beethoven and Mendelssohn could soothe delicate nerves. So the music cure was voted to be only a partial success at best.

But it has yet to be shown that music, at least instrumental music, is not under-rated as a means of grace, especially in churches whose pride is that their congregations are cultured. Organ music is valued chiefly as a relief from the monotony of waiting till all but the late comers are seated, and as a distraction from the passing of the contribution box. But the personal experience of most music-lovers, backed by the authority of music-writers and writers about music, is that there is more spiritual exaltation at times in songs without words than in songs with words. To be sure, there is no creed in the organist interpretation of the great masters of music, but there is something better—the spirit of all creeds. So why not let the organist deliver his sermon, even at the cost to the pulpit of a "fifthly, my brethren"?

When we become a little more responsive to the ethical influence of music there can be no very good reason why a service of song may not be varied now and then with a service of instrumental music. Of course, tradition would hold up its hands in alarm at such an innovation just at present, but it is hard to see why an organ solo for its own sake should be any less appropriate to church service than an offertory to which few give any particular attention, why an orchestra in instrumental music should be any more pernicious than an orchestra accompanying a church choir.

If these suggestions are too radical we can get back on safe ground again by urging that church-goers and others be given a better opportunity to note the elevating tendency of the best class of music by means of such organ recitals as Mr. Gerritt Smith gives free to the public on Monday afternoon at the South Church in New York. It would be no great inconvenience to any organist to give at least a public rehearsal of his music for the following Sunday. Very likely the audience would be small, but a greater appreciation of the organist's efforts would be the inevitable result, especially if the pastor should take some pains to call attention to this bit of missionary work and to point out the fact that there is something more in the best music than mere pleasure for the ear.

The time will come when worship and devotion shall be inspired by everything that can stir noble emotions, when it shall be more clearly understood by the churches that art and beauty, instead of being mere servants of the senses, can be made the most powerful allies of religion.—*Buffalo Express.*

### NORTH CAROLINA EDITORS.

—The indiscriminate credit system in newspaper subscriptions will bankrupt any newspaper.—*Concord Times.*

—We are fully satisfied that the State must not only go into this matter of constructing leading thoroughfares, but to do it well it must have trained experts in road building to superintend the work.—*Wilmington Messenger.*

—Indeed, all experience serves to prove that the worth and strength of a nation depends far less upon the form of its institutions than upon the character of its men, for the nation is only the aggregate of individual conditions, and civilization itself is but a question of personal improvement.—*Columbus News.*

—It has reached that period in the history of this country when we are strictly confronted with the fact that "self-preservation is the first law of nature" and the farmers in organizing to secure a reform in the management of affairs have done so in order to protect their rights and maintain independence.—*Farmer's Advocate.*

—No one will assert that San Jones is as bad as the devil, but some will assert that he is as smart. Jones is as smart as the devil, but the devil is a much older being, has had many more opportunities, has a permanent habitation, well furnished, saw Eden and how man started, &c. But Jones is a "winner" in his own language.—*Charlotte Chronicle.*

—The repeal of the national bank laws besides being ineffectual to stop any bank now in operation, could not possibly take away from their stockholders the money they have invested in them. Drive that money out of national banks, it will go into combination elsewhere. No law can prevent the aggregation of wealth in the hands of individuals.—*Mecklenburg Times.*

### POLITICALLY CONSIDERED.

One of the most melancholy features of the election is that Mr. Matt Quay considers himself personally vindicated by the result in Pennsylvania.—*Chicago Tribune.*

The primary object of the Australian method is to secure the absolute secrecy of the ballots. The result gained by such secrecy is the greater independence of the voter and his freedom from intimidation of any sort.—*Washington Post.*

Mr. Flower may have spent a hog's-head of money, but he never could have made the honest old farmers in these and many other counties turn their backs on the Republican candidate. It was political treachery on the old farmers' part which laid Fasset's low.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The returns from Iowa show that the fool-killer has not been earning his wages in that State. He should get his work in on that large class of Republicans who elect Democrats by voting for Prohibitionists. Earth is not half good enough for such men and Heaven is waiting for them.—*St. Louis Globe Democrat.*

Outside of the pivotal contest in Ohio and the local one in Pennsylvania the elections weigh rather heavily in the Democratic scale. But the significance of the results on national politics is rendered practically a cipher from the fact that they were due either to local issues or to the personality of the candidates.—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

Every consideration of State interest and of party policy urgently demands of the Republican legislature of Iowa the repeal of the prohibition law and the enactment of high license with local option. Nothing but the folly of an unreasoning fanaticism will persist in maintaining a law which an experience of ten years has shown cannot be enforced.—*Omaha Bee.*

The action of the Democracy of that State [Ohio] in indorsing the silver coinage delusion showed such a degree of economic inaptitude that, in spite of the position of the two parties on the tariff question and the personal merits of the Democratic candidates, there was no alternative offered to those not closely bound by party ties but to vote for the Republican candidate. All that can be said of this election is that it was a free silver coinage defeat.—*Boston Herald.*

ONE OF THE ABLEST.  
The Southport LEADER, one of the ablest, most carefully edited and most interesting of our exchanges, has enlarged to seven columns. We congratulate the LEADER upon this improvement and wish it the continued prosperity it so richly deserves.—*Kings Mountain News.*

THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.  
The President on Friday issued the following:

A PROCLAMATION.  
It is a very glad incident of the marvelous prosperity which has crowned the year now drawing to a close that its helpful and reassuring touch has been felt by all our people. It has been as wide as our country, and so special that every home has felt its comforting influence. It is too great to be the work of man's power and too particular to be the device of his mind. To God, the Beneficent, and the All Wise, who makes the labors of men to be fruitful, redeems their losses by his Grace, and the measure of whose giving is as much beyond the thoughts of man as it is beyond his deserts, the praise and gratitude of the people of this favored nation are justly due.

Now, therefore, I, Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States of America, do hereby appoint Thursday, the 26th day of November present, to be a day of joyful thanksgiving to God for the bounties of His Providence, for the peace in which we are permitted to enjoy them, and for the preservation of those institutions of civil and religious liberty which He gave our fathers the wisdom to devise and establish, and us the courage to preserve. Among the appropriate observances of the day are rest from toil, worship in the public congregation, the renewal of family ties about our American firesides, and thoughtful helpfulness toward those who suffer lack of the body or of the spirit.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, this 13th day of November, in the year of our Lord 1891, and of the independence of the United States the 116th.

[SEAL] BENJ. HARRISON.  
By the President: JAMES G. BLAINE, Secretary of State.

How to save money is a problem that interests everybody. One way to do it is to invigorate the system with Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Being a highly concentrated blood medicine, it is the most powerful and economical. It is sold for a dollar a bottle, but worth five.

### "A YARD OF ROSES."

One of the popular paintings at the New York Academy of Design was a yard-long panel of Roses. A crowd was always before it. One art critic exclaimed, "Such a bit of nature should belong to all the people, it is too beautiful for one man to hide away."

The Youth's Companion, of Boston, seized the idea, and spent twenty thousand dollars to reproduce the painting. The result has been a triumph of artistic delicacy and color. The Companion makes an Autumn gift of this copy of the painting to each of its five hundred thousand subscribers. Any others who may subscribe now for the first time, and request it, will receive "The Yard of Roses," without extra charge while the edition lasts.

Besides the gift of this beautiful picture all new subscribers will receive The Companion free from the time the subscription is received till January First, including the Thanksgiving and Christmas Double Number and for a full year from that date. The price of The Companion is \$1.75 a year. Every family should take this brightest and best of illustrated literary papers in addition to its local paper.

### WILMINGTON ADVERTISEMENTS.

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W. W. W.

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thrown open  
And everybody is invited to come  
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Magnificent Trades' Parade  
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BICYCLE RACES,  
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The City Will Be Illuminated  
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REMEMBER THE DAYS.  
Dec. 1st to Dec. 5th.  
LET EVERYBODY COME

NOTICE OF CHANGE—As I have concluded to change my place of business to some other city, I therefore offer great inducements to my former customers, and to as many as may hereafter want bargains. I have a complete stock of first-class goods, such as gents' and children's ready-made clothing, furnishing goods, hats, caps, trunks, valises, &c., which I am offering at a great reduction.

Be sure to call and see us before purchasing elsewhere.  
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Our buyer has just returned from the Northern markets, where he has purchased a large stock of goods for ready spot cash.

We do cordially invite one and all, rich or poor to come and inspect our different lines of goods in Millinery, Shoes, Notions, Dry Goods, Men, Boys' and Youths' Clothing, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Underwear, Laces, Embroidery, Jewelry ALL bought in large quantities.

A nice new line of Lace Curtains, Window Shades, Trunks, Valises, Toys, Gloves, Hosiery, Neckwear, all kinds of Carpet, floor and table Oil Cloths.

Ribbon in all shades, widths, quality and style.

Come and see us and be convinced that our goods are strictly first-class and prices to suit the times.

Merchants are respectfully invited to call on us and get our prices in jobbing lots. All orders from the country are promptly attended to.

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