

# THE PINE KNOT.

LIGHTED FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF TAR HEELS, BOTH NATIVE AND ADOPTED.

VOL. I.

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## THE PINE KNOT.

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## READ THIS!

As before announced we begin this week the publication of a series of articles descriptive of the resources of Moore County. Its agriculture, its mineral and forest wealth, its leading men and its leading industries will all be portrayed. No pains will be spared to give full and accurate information on all points and very large editions will be issued. Now is the time to subscribe! Now is the time to advertise! Now is the time to show whether you have any interest or pride in your county!

The *Republican*, of Springfield, Mass., speaks thus of the proposed removal of a large watch works manufacturing establishment, employing about 500 men to Ohio because coal and living are cheaper there:

"Sic transit gloria mundi,—and of the high tariff! Isn't it about time for New England to ask whether the tariff which cuts us off from free coal, free lumber, free ores and other raw materials pays?"

## TO BILL NYE.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM AN ADMIRER.

Dear Bill:—The PINE KNOT is sorry beyond measure to read in an exchange the following:

"A private letter from Bill Nye to a Chicago friend," says *The News* of that city, "contains the unwelcome information that the popular humorist's health, so far from being improved, seems to become poorer and poorer. In fact, Mr. Nye writes that he has been compelled to abandon literary work altogether, and he fears that, if a change for the better doesn't set in pretty soon he will have to take to his bed and surrender himself wholly to the doctor's care. He is still at Asheville, N. C., and he intends to remain there for the winter. It is apparent that he is very much discouraged about himself."

We hope, dear Bill, you were only joking when you wrote that letter, but if you were in dead earnest, and are really and seriously falling away, leave "the land of the sky" for a while and come to us among the Pines. We are all getting strong and healthy, dear Bill, for here no "troubles assail nor dangers affright," the air is serene and the sky ever bright, (except when it rains.) This is a dry town overhead and under foot. Arbutus has been blooming a week, and you shall have a button hole filled with it every morning. Come and try it, dear Bill, and when you are well (which soon will be) you can tell "the World and the rest of mankind" that here all physical sufferings are eased and health secured. Dear Bill, come.

PINE KNOT.

## "WHICH WE WISH TO REMARK."

In last week's issue our high tariff Republican friend L. A. Dodge, of Boston, took some exceptions to our position on the tariff question, civil service reform, female suffrage, &c. &c. He thinks we ought to abandon these ideas or else take them back to Boston, where we got them. No sir. We don't propose to do either. We mean to put them right where we think they will do the most good.

Our free trade position springs from our firm belief in the doctrine of the greatest good for the greatest number. When it is proved to our satisfaction that there are more wool growers than there are wool wearers then we will admit the justice of a tax which makes every man pay more for his coat than he would under a system of free trade. So with the argument against taking the 106 per cent tax off of foreign rice. What right have the paltry few rice planters in this country to compel the millions of rice eaters to pay an enormous tax for their benefit? How lovely is protection that makes us pay 8 and 10 cents per pound for rice when it ought to be furnished for 3 or 4 cents!

Mr. Dodge's argument so far as it applies to wines doesn't apply to the question. Being an article of luxury the duty on wines is comparatively low anyway. With that deep and tender regard for the people which characterizes our high tariff legislators, they have said, "We think 29 per cent. is enough for you to pay on wines; (which you can't buy anyway) but 89 per cent. is about the right figure on the common cloth that every mother's son of you must wear in order to be decent."

As Mr. Dodge says, we wouldn't have an iota of the tax on whiskey and tobacco taken off. We wish it were heavier than it is. But we fail to see what our Internal Revenue system has to do with either high tariff or free trade.

As to civil service reform we shall continue of our present opinion, namely, that the South hasn't had enough of it as long as we continue to receive several copies of different issues of our daily exchanges on the same day, as long as complaints come in so frequently of the PINE KNOT failing to reach those to whom it is sent, as long as the mails generally continue to go and come in their present hit-or-miss style.

We are sorry you don't believe in female suffrage. Some day you'll be

rubbing your eyes and wondering to yourself that you couldn't see so plain a thing before. How about Kansas? Perhaps you haven't much respect for the Kansas idea. But once on a time there was an idea worked out on Kansas soil that is now pretty generally diffused throughout the length and breadth of the land. Perhaps history may repeat itself. Who knows?

## MOORE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

A GENERAL SKETCH.

A little east of the centre of North Carolina and considerably nearer to its southern boundary than to this line which divides it from Virginia lies the triangular county of Moore. It is bounded by the counties of Randolph, Chatham, Harnett, Cumberland, Richmond and Montgomery. Deep River traverses its northern portion and receives from it numerous tributary streams. From northeast to Southwest, its longest dimension, the Raleigh & Augusta Air-Line Railroad, part of the great Seaboard Air-Line System, crosses it, giving easy access Northward to Raleigh, the State capital, and Southward to Wilmington, Charlotte and other points.

It has an area of about 360,000 acres, one half of which is covered with a heavy growth of long leaf pine. The soil is of three varieties, clay, gray loam, and sand. All the productions which are adapted to the climate can be grown here to perfection and in great abundance. This section is the natural home of the grape and of the silk mulberry. The whole county is supplied with never failing streams of pure water which are capable of furnishing a large amount of power for manufacturing purposes. Beside, the long leaf pine, which is one of the chief sources of revenue to the people of this county, there is plenty of oak, hickory, poplar, dogwood, and walnut.

The minerals of the county are in great variety and abundance. Gold is profitably mined in the northwestern portion. Beds of coal and iron lie undisturbed, waiting for enterprise to develop them. The mill stones made from "Moore County Grit" have a national reputation and are by many considered fully equal to the French Buhr Stone. Near Fairhaven in the northern portion is an immense deposit of soap stone which has been but little worked. Among the other minerals found in more or less abundance in this county may be mentioned talc, malachite, red jasper, agate and fossil wood.

Mineral waters of specific virtue are found in many parts of the county and the climate is probably unsurpassed anywhere in the United States.

In our next issue will be some interesting and useful matter relative to individual enterprises in Moore County.