

# THE PINE KNOT.

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

VOL. I.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1887.

NO. 31.

THE

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29t55

A wild cry is raised by some of the southern newspapers, that the prosperity of the South is no real prosperity, that southern landowners are selling off their acres and northern capitalists are making all the money, that the farmer is getting less and less prosperous all the time. We do not thus read the signs of the times. Southern landowners are not selling any land that they are not better off without. Plenty of southern men are getting rich in the South and if in the general prosperity the farmer has no share it is our belief that there is something the matter with the farmer.

HISSOUL RECOILS FROM BLUE INK.

The editor of the Brunswick (Me.) *Telegraph* has a hydra-headed grievance against us. He has received a copy of the PINE KNOT, containing some information about the South and stamped with an innocent fist in blue ink. He sets forth his woes as follows:

"First. We know enough in Maine to know that a 'pine knot' is a tough customer."

You are right, brother *Telegraph*, the PINE KNOT is hard and tough. Don't batter the keen edge of your wit on it.

"Second. Blue ink always has a grievous effect upon our feelings."

We are sorry. Would have used green or red if we had known with what a super-sensitive spirit we were dealing. We are not sure that we can correctly diagnose your case, but think the condition you are now in is due to too great mental strain. We would recommend complete rest from attempts to be witty, wise or critical.

"Third. The pine *stump* of the difficulty lies in the discrepant accounts which we get from Florida correspondents; they can't be split to get at the truth of the matter."

This third item is reprinted exactly as it appears in the *Telegraph*, spelling, italics, rhetoric and all. It furnishes an explanation of the mental pathology of the writer and clearly suggests the remedy. As Bowdoin College is close by, we recommend immediate consultation with its professor of Rhetoric and English Literature and a course of treatment under his direction extending over a period of not less than four years.

We would like to know what the fact that reliable information can not be obtained from Florida correspondents has to do with our statements regarding North Carolina. Must we in all seriousness inform our *Telegraphic* friend that Florida is not in North Carolina, and that North Carolina is not in Florida?

Now what does he mean by saying "they can't be split to get at the truth of the matter"? Of course "they" can not refer to *stump*, for that is singular. Evidently it must refer to the correspondents. But what a sanguinary spirit this editor must have! No doubt some of these correspondents are bad, but we don't think they ought to be split.

We are grateful for the information relative to the climate of Maine which the same article conveys, but, as we have spent several years of our insignificant existence in the Pine Tree state, we think we may modestly claim some first-hand knowledge of that section.

The next time the editor of the *Telegraph* attempts to be sarcastic at the expense of the PINE KNOT or of the South we hope it will not also be at the expense of grammar and rhetoric.

READING ROOM FOR RAILROAD EMPLOYEES.

The Raleigh & Gaston R. R. Co. are fitting up a hall and reading rooms for their employees, near the round house. The house is a two-story frame building, with one story wings on either side, and is enclosed by a neat picket fence, giving quite a spacious lawn ornamented with shade trees in front of the house. A neatly designed verandah extending nearly across the whole front of the building gives an additional cheerful and pleasant appearance. The main hall is of considerable size and is to be furnished with chairs, settees, tables and books—standard works and papers. This will be a very pleasant and profitable resort in the evenings for the employees, of whom there are about 120 in the shops besides the road men. Capt. Wm. Smith, superintendent of the road, says he thinks the men greatly appreciate this act of the company.—*News and Observer*.

TOO LIBERAL.

We have received a flattering offer from Jno. T. Patrick, State Commissioner of Immigration, to give us a whole town lot somewhere in the State of North Carolina in payment for ten inches of our valuable space for a period of one year. Furthermore we are privileged to come and squat on the aforesaid lot and bring with us our broken constitution and by laws, and stay there until we have everlastingly cemented the pieces together with pine tar. We very much regret that, owing to the beastly good state of our health, the horrible state of the roads and the impartial manner in which the railroad officials are enforcing one particular section of the inter-state commerce law, we must, very reluctantly, decline to accept Mr. Patrick's flattering offer. However, not to be outdone in generosity, we make the offer to carry the ad. free and throw in a town lot in one of the suburbs of Denver if Mr. Patrick will transfer his vital energies to this glorious climate and go in pards with us in the real estate business.—*Denver Eye*.