

H. Scarborough

Flowers
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The Troy Times.

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HORRIBLE.

MURDER OF A COUNTY TREASURER.

IN HIS OFFICE IN TEXAS--HIS BODY FOUND DECAPITATED.

CHICAGO, Feb. 13.--A Daily News special from St. Louis says: "The treasurer's office at Carthage, Panola county, Texas, was robbed on Friday night and county treasurer D. C. Hill killed. The crime was not discovered until late Saturday evening, when search was made for the missing official. The door of his office was broken open and his body, with the head cut off, was found lying on the floor. The safe was robbed of \$6,000. The sheriff and a posse from Panola county have arrived at Longview, on what they believe to be the trail of the murderer. The county is being scoured."

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

For The Times.

Rockingham, N. C., Jan. 27, '88. The political outlook for this year of grace is cheering. Small booms are being evolved, influences set to work, that first flow down the hills of thought as tiny rills that turn aside from the nearest adverse pebble, but by the 4th of Nov. they will be mighty rivers, brooking no obstacles, cutting through mountains of opposition, and wearing a channel in the solid rocks of prejudice. The Republican party is gaining in popularity every day. The day of bulldozing, the shotgun policy, and empty promises is gone. Men are learning to think for themselves, act as they best see, and knowing their rights they will dare to maintain them. For twenty odd years the Democratic party, that glaring old fraud and blatant gasbag--has been making every promise in all good faith, and swearing by the keystone of their policy, to right the wrongs of the nation, to reform the evils of the government, and make prosperity and happiness cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. For twenty years this party, has struggled for the reins of government. To the laborer they promised better wages, to all a reduction of the taxes. To the manufacturer they promised higher prices for goods and a greater demand. They promised better markets to the producer and cheaper products to the consumer. They only asked for a lit-

tle faith, a little credit, a few ballots and a slight degree of toleration, to right every wrong, to choke out every evil, to make this land to blossom as the garden of the Gods. Nearly four years ago they assumed the toga virilis and set sail in the ship of state. They have had nearly four years of probation, and the spirit of the just man is still far from perfect. Their platform has rotted down, their promises have died on the empty air, and the specious lies on which they fed a confiding people, have turned as Dead sea fruit to ashes on their lips. Perhaps it has been a bad period for reforms. Their Gods may be asleep. They did not want the spoils of office, they did not hanker after the purple and fine linen, but four years of trial has convinced a reasoning public that if they were not very corrupt at the start, the temptations of public life were too much for weak morals and empty stomachs. We indict them in three cases:--1st. Their policy has been a gigantic lie from beginning to end; 2nd. They have misused the confidence intrusted in them by the people, inasmuch as they have promised what they would not, and did not mean to perform; 3rd. They have used the Federal power to favor monopolies at the expense of the whole people. It is only charitable to say the old party has lied. The history of the past three years, a careful study of the changes made, and a retrospective glance at the promises made before the last election, will prove what we say to be true. Now there is only one road, one party, one religion open to the laboring man--to do the best for himself and his interest, and let every other claim go. If freetrade is best, then be a freetrader; if to your interest, be a protectionist. Be all things to all men, but be very gentle, deal very tenderly with the plan, the policy, the political party that recognizes your own individuality, and freezes there.

Favor a tariff for revenue and whisky, for snake bites only, if it puts a dollar in your pocket. Find out who is going to feed you best and clothe you the cheapest, then fight for him, lie for him, swear by him and die for him if necessary. The republican party holds out today the right hand of fellowship, to every nation, color tongue and "previous condition

of mankind, and heads its platform with "Free labor, good pay, protection to all, and the greatest good to the greatest number." That it was THE party for nearly twenty years proves its promises to have been good, and its record to have been clear of stain. That it today puts on a bolder show and braver front, is a hint that in the coming race it may show speed, and lower the democratic record of '84.

Fides.

THE HOMESTEAD.

Editors Troy Times:

I notice that Mack, a correspondent of the Vidette, attempts to reply to the "Farmer," a correspondent of the Troy Times, of Dec. 2nd. Mack has failed to answer the main issues stated in regard to the Homestead, and if he had not made personal by stating from the tone of the Farmer's article he "could but infer that Farmer's wife was one of those who held her husband's property in her own name."

I would not have had anything much to reply to, but for the information of Mack, I will state that the Farmer, of the Times, and his wife were only large enough to recollect the executing officers riding from place to place executing people's crops in the field before they could gather them. As Mack only knows of one who took shelter behind his wife, I have the same right to suppose he, himself, is the man. Now for the information of Mack, and the readers of the Troy Times I will copy an article of the Progressive Farmer, written by "Orange," as follows:

Whatever relates to the best interest of agriculture will find a welcome in the columns of The Progressive Farmer, although it should be contrary to the views and fixed convictions of its able and honored editor. I beg to submit to your readers, whose names I trust are legion, views of the homestead law, although different from those adopted by the Farmers Association at Greensboro. Free discussion eliminates error and establishes the truth. In practical economy, as in all other sciences, he that will follow philosophy must be free.

If the resolution referred to had stopped with "Recognizing that one of the greatest grievances and drawbacks to the farmers of North Carolina is what is known as the mortgage and crop lien system," it would have agreed

entirely with the principle "That the practice of delivering mortgaged crops to merchants as soon as they are gathered, to be sent by them to distant markets, to be sold to pay for goods or fertilizers, is ruinous to the farmer and ought to be abolished." But when the resolution goes on to say "which is the offspring of the present homestead law," it incorporates an error which ought to be eliminated.

The mortgage and crop lien system is not the child and offspring of the present system; on the contrary, it is the double-headed hydra which drew its coils around the homestead law in its infancy and crushed out its young life before it grew to dispense its blessings among the people. Let us suppose that the legislature had made it a misdemeanor to give, accept, or register a mortgage or a crop lien on a homestead. The first effect of such a law would have been to develop honesty among the people. Under such law a man would have as much credit as his character would give him and no more.

It is said that fish in subterranean waters, cut off from light, have no eyes. So in the moral world, if there is no demand for honesty, there will not be much of it. A second effect would be that the farmers would have saved for themselves that large per cent which the merchants have made by taking crop liens and mortgages, and instead of the depressed mortgaged agriculture which we now see, we would have all around us an independent, un-mortgaged, self-reliant class of farmers.

The homestead is the hop, of North Carolina. The church, the school and the home are the three great moral educators of the people, and the home is not the least important of the three. I would class the homestead with the school house and the church. I would not only exempt it from debt, but I would put it out of the power of the owner to mortgage it, or by judgment or otherwise change it with debt. The homestead is to the farmer like the tools of his trade. It is the means by which he supports and educates his children. It should be forever established as the nursery for the best crop that will ever be raised in North Carolina--the children. It should be the citizen's castle in which the winds and the rain may enter, but a collecting officer cannot.

I endorse every word that "Orange" says on the Homestead law. Whenever you see a man that wants to go back into the old ruts of anti-bellum days, he will certainly be left behind, for all progressive men want to keep up with the times.

Farmer.