

BILL ARP ON PENSIONS.

Present War Talk Brings the Subject to Mind.

THE GIVES SOME STATISTICS

Showing the Amount Paid by Georgia and the South to Her Old Soldiers and Their Widows Since the War.

Sad memories come over us about this time. The tocsin of impending war carries us back thirty-seven years, when Georgia and the South everywhere were in a state of feverish excitement...

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April is a historic month. In April the first guns of the war were fired and the Union flag surrendered. In April President Lincoln called for 75,000 men to suppress the rebellion.

The war brings news now—news of impending war—but we are not excited like we were then. We remember when there was no telegraph wire to home and the daily signal came with the early train from Kingston.

How the Navy Has Grown. The New York Tribune says: The growth of the navy in the three last weeks, which constitutes the period of its abnormal activity in actual war preparations, may be appreciated when it is stated that fifty-three vessels have been added to the list of naval units in commission for service.

For Army Hospital at Key West. The war department has made an allotment of \$25,000 for the complete equipment of an army hospital at Key West, Fla.

Capt. Sigbee is Given a Ship. Capt. Charles D. Sigbee, who commanded the battleship Maine at the time of the explosion, will command the St. Paul.

to receive it, but changed her mind and gives it all to widows who are needy. The grand juror of the counties know who should be the beneficiaries of the pension fund and if they have to add 25 per cent to it they would be careful to see that it was not misapplied.

County Returns of School Taxes. It is found by the auditor that the county returns of school taxes show that the amount assessed for taxation under the head of the railroad, etc., does not equal that fixed by the railroad commission by some \$6,000.

Lambert Acquitted. A special to the Charlotte Observer from Asheville says, at Hendersonville on the 18th, the jury in the case of Osborne Lambert, charged with killing Engineer L. M. Burgardner, returned a verdict of acquittal.

Killed Himself by Taking Morphine. G. W. Staley, in Randolph county, killed himself by taking morphine. He took a bottle from a store while the clerk was out. Meeting the clerk at the door, he said: "Charge me with 50 cents," at the same time refusing to tell what he had taken and threatening violence if searched.

West Point Competitive Examination. The competitive examination for the West Point cadetship will be held in Raleigh on May 18, for the Fourth district. Examinations for admittance to the Naval Academy at Annapolis will be held in Goldsboro on April 22.

Sick of Their Bargains. The roller process flour milling business is being overdone in Ash county. Seven mills are now in process of erection, and some of the proprietors are sick of their bargains.

Escaped Burglar Arrested. J. M. Overstreet, a white man, was arrested at Winston in response to a telegram from the sheriff of Bedford county, Va. He confessed he broke jail there while serving sentence for burglary.

Orders a Large Supply of Beer. A curious effect of the prospect for war was developed at the meeting of the State board of control on the 15th. As a result the board sitting in extra session ordered seven carloads of beer that had no idea of ordering. It was bought in order to avoid the prospective war tax of from \$1 to \$2 a barrel.

NORTH CAROLINA SQUIBS.

An Answer Declared "Scandalous and Impertinent."

ESCAPED BUGLAR ARRESTED.

Monument Commemorative of the Signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence is Nearing Completion.

A beautiful shaft of granite stands on the site of the old Queen's museum, on South Tryon street, commemorative of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, May 20, 1775.

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PROSPERITY RECORD.

CONTRAST THE FACTS WITH THE RANK CLAIMS.

In Cold Type the News Columns of the Picoaster Press Expose the Ugly Realities—People Who Haven't Received Their Dish of Prosperity.

The 5,000 operatives at the Atlantic and Pacific cotton mills, at Lawrence, Mass., have decided to accept the 10 per cent reduction in wages, which went into effect on the 1st ult.

The annual report of the board of state charities of Pennsylvania reviews the work accomplished by the board within the last year. W. B. Streeter tells of the child-saving work that is now being carried on under the direction of the board.

Free Coinage of Silver. The phrase "free coinage" of silver has no reference to the charges at the mint on bullion deposited for coinage, says the Silver Knight-Watchman.

Seven years is an early age at which to experience the irony of fate. But little Willie Rodney, aged 7, knows what a grimly satirical person destiny is. Willie is a boy orator. During the campaign which resulted in McKinley's election he astonished and delighted all San Rafael, Cal., with his speeches about Republican prosperity.

About forty employees of the bleaching department of the American Printing company, at Fall River, recently struck because of an excessive reduction in wages, which they claim has been made.

The police stations of both Pittsburg and Allegheny, Pa., are liberally patronized these nights, but Allegheny central station accommodates more lodgers, perhaps, than does the safety palace. Last night, says a Pittsburg paper, up to 9 o'clock twenty-seven men had applied for and received lodging at the north side station.

Fifteen hundred suits of clothes were contributed by the mail carriers of Chicago to the destitute miners at Lead, Ill.

The labor trouble in New England has grown more acute but it is not assuming a phase favorable to the men. The present status is, in fact, distinctly gloomy for the men and women who wear away their lives in the mills. The prospect is that there will be no great rebellion on the part of the wage-earners, for our working people have grown so accustomed to ill treatment that they have, in many cases, lost hope of doing anything to better their condition.

Government Ownership of Railways. By an overwhelming majority the people of the Helvetic Republic have sustained the measure passed in council last October for the purchase of the railway system by the state. It is frequently remarked that ownership of railways by the government is a monarchical idea and does not comport with government by the people.

MONEY A CREATION OF LAW.

The Falshoods of the Gold Trust's Free Literature.

The gold trust is flooding the country with false literature. There is not a fetish worshiper of gold, from Sherman down to little Eckels, who does not assume that bullion is money and argue that the most costly bullion is the only material fit for coinage.

The great masses of the people understand this question very much better. They recognize the fact that the value of a thing is what somebody will give for it; in other words, it is what it will fetch. They understand very well that the price or value of a thing is fixed and determined when two parties exchange a commodity for money or one commodity for another; and that value is the comparative worth of the two articles as estimated by the buyer and seller in making a contract.

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The popular use of the phrase "free coinage of silver" means the unlimited coinage on terms of exact equality with the conditions applied to the coinage of gold—nothing more and nothing less. A person now having gold may take it to the mint and have it coined after it is prepared for coinage without charge. He will be charged for melting and refining, and the government may also make something on the alloy, but we call it "free coinage" of gold. All we ask for silver is the same kind of "free coinage," which is unlimited coinage of the two metals at that ratio of 16 to 1 without discrimination against either.

Municipal Ownership. The employees of the Brooklyn Bridge corporation have short hours, fair wages, and free uniforms. This is municipal ownership. The employees of the Manhattan elevated have long hours, scanty wages, and have to pay high prices for their uniforms. This is private ownership.

Do You Make the Law. This is your country, eh? How much of it do you own? Do you have any voice in making the laws? The majority of you great American voting kings have no more legal right in this country than you have in China or Russia. You have to pay rent to live here and you can live in those countries on the same ignominious terms.

Blessings That Shall Be. We are not mocked. It was not in derision. God made our spirits free. The Prophet's lightest dream is but the dim prevision. Of blessings that shall be. —John G. Saxe.

DEBT THERMOMETER.

AS EXPLAINED TO JOHNNY BY HIS TEACHER.

If You Change the Scale on the Thermometer It Goes All Wrong—To Create a Debt on the Bimetallic Scale and Then Force Payment on the Gold Scale is Dishonest.

Teacher—Stand up, Johnny, and tell the class what is a thermometer. Johnny—A thermometer is an instrument for showing how hot it is. Teacher—How is a thermometer usually made, and how does it operate? Johnny—There is a glass tube with mercury in it, and a bulb at the bottom opening into the tube. The bulb is full of mercury. The tube is only partly full of mercury, and there is no air in the tube or bulb, both being closed. The tube is placed close to a scale or index, marked with figures, the big figures at the top. When the weather is hot mercury swells, and the mercury in the bulb and tube expands. As the tube is closed the mercury has no other place to go, and as it swells it must rise in the tube.

Teacher—I will do so, Johnny, for I wish the class to understand the necessity of using every instrument carefully, and to show you how an instrument may deceive you if it is out of order, or has been tampered with. The standard thermometer is made very carefully, about as Johnny has described. The tube must be of exactly the same internal diameter throughout its length. The tube is carefully sealed when the mercury is put in and the air has been exhausted. The bulb is plunged in boiling water, and as boiling water is always 212 degrees Fahrenheit, the mercury rises in the tube to the place it will always reach at the boiling point of water, and the place is marked on the tube. The bulb is then plunged into a mixture of salt and ice, which was once supposed to be the coldest thing in the world, and the mercury shrinks and goes down in the tube, so that its top is at zero, and it will always go to this place when the bulb is in this mixture or in a place equally cold. Thus the two extremities are marked, to which the mercury will rise and fall.

Having found the distance between the freezing and boiling points of water, this distance is divided into 212 equal parts according to the Fahrenheit scale or 100 parts according to the centigrade scale, and these distances or degrees are marked on a card or plate, which is carefully attached to the glass tube, so that the zero point on the tube and on the scale shall be exactly opposite.

You can readily understand that if the scale moves up or down, so that the zero on the scale is not at the proper zero on the tube, the thermometer will not tell the true temperature. So if you change the scale, by applying a centigrade scale instead of a Fahrenheit scale, while the zero may be the same, the degree of temperature indicated by the top of the mercury will be quite different on the two scales, or if the top figure corresponds the zero will be wrong.

If the scale were printed on rubber or other elastic material, which can be stretched, by stretching the scale, or index the mercury in the tube can be made to appear to indicate almost anything on the scale.

Now, I wish the class to apply the same reasoning to another matter. This country at one time incurred a great debt, called the national debt. The height of this debt was marked on a scale, indicating dollars, not degrees. These dollars were on what is called the bimetallic scale, and were each worth at that time less than one bushel of wheat, or less than five pounds of cotton. The highest point reached on the scale of debt was about \$2,700,000,000. After the people of the United States had been working very hard to bring down this debt, it is proposed to substitute a different scale or index, called a monometallic or gold-standard scale. Some say this change of standard has actually been made.

What! A hundred barrels of wine in the cellar of the master, and for the exhausted slave only water from the river? What! A hundred mantles in the presses, and only rags for the groaning slave? Who is it that planted the vine, gathered and pressed the grape? The slave. Who, then, has a right to drink the wine? The slave. Who is it that sheared the sheep, spun the wool, wove the mantles? The slave. Who, then, should wear the mantle? The slave. Up, ye poor and oppressed! Rise!—Eugene Sue.

POINTS FROM THE PRESS.

All men are born free and equal, but most of them don't believe it.—San Francisco Star.

The price of iron and steel has advanced and the wages of the workers have been reduced. This is in strict accord with the supply and demand? Or is it the cost of production regulating the price?—Appeal to Reason.

Bryan demanded a direct legislation plank in the Chicago platform.—Minneapolis Representative.

We would advise the country to watch events closely during these exciting times incident to the Maine disaster. If there is not a bond deal connected with it, we shall be greatly surprised.—Silver Knight-Watchman.

The workmen of Cleveland know Mark Hanna of old. He may protest that he is not a labor union crusher, and protest again and again; but they know that the bones of all the slaughtered unions of Cleveland are piled up before his front door. A tardy denial now can have no effect, against their own memories and the newspaper reports of the time when he made his anti-union crusade. Even today Mark Hanna cannot muster a corporal's guard of union workmen in all the establishments he owns in Cleveland. His organ, too, the Cleveland Leader, is known everywhere among printers as a "rat office."—Cleveland Recorder.

Then you do not think Mr. Reed is as bad as he appears? Of course not. He is simply part of a machinery to break up and destroy our representative system, and he is so involved in the cog-wheels of gold rascality that he has to move with the machinery or be ground to atoms.—Silver Knight-Watchman.

In these days when public officials are so subservient to aggregated wealth, as represented in the great corporations, it is positively refreshing to become aware of such a man as Commissioner of Insurance McNall of the state of Kansas. This competent and brave public servant has just begun a new campaign against the corruption of the great life insurance companies, and the indications are that before these octopi are through with him they will know how to do their duty to the people. The latest action of Mr. McNall, taken last week, was to require from the corporations of this state a statement of the sums which may have been expended by them for political purposes. Mr. McNall has learned that at least two of the corporations have made plans to purchase legislation in the state of Kansas, and he proposes to find out all about the business.—Twenty-first Century.

Why Not? If the eminent financiers whom Secretary Lyman J. Gage has invited to suggest a currency plan that will make their business prosperous cannot agree upon some plan it would be remarkable. So it is altogether likely that in a short time we will have a plan that will make at least one business prosperous. Now why would it not be a good idea to ask parties engaged in other lines of business what laws they would like to have enacted that would make their business prosperous? For instance, men who have been engaged in the business of raising horses have not been very prosperous for several years. Then again other "business men" who have been engaged in the business of stealing horses have not had as good laws for the protection of their business as some other lines of business. In fact, some of the laws passed have actually discriminated against their interests. Men engaged in the raising of poultry could without doubt suggest laws that would make their business more profitable. Gentlemen engaged in the business of stealing chickens could make suggestions in regard to laws that would have a tendency to increase their profits. Men engaged in the business of wrecking trains could have their business as well protected by law as the business of wrecking railroads has been. In short, all of the different lines of business could be made prosperous by laws for their benefit. Provided, the laws were so framed that what was beneficial to one industry did not conflict with the prosperity of other industries.—E. L. Smith.

What! A hundred barrels of wine in the cellar of the master, and for the exhausted slave only water from the river? What! A hundred mantles in the presses, and only rags for the groaning slave? Who is it that planted the vine, gathered and pressed the grape? The slave. Who, then, has a right to drink the wine? The slave. Who is it that sheared the sheep, spun the wool, wove the mantles? The slave. Who, then, should wear the mantle? The slave. Up, ye poor and oppressed! Rise!—Eugene Sue.