

The Morning Post.

RALEIGH, N. C. PUBLISHED DAILY BY THE NORTH CAROLINA PUBLISHING CO

ROBERT M. FURMAN Editor

Subscription price table: One Year \$4.00, Six Months 2.00, Three Months 1.00, One Month .40, One Week .10

Office in the Pullen Building, Fayetteville Street.

The Post will publish brief letters on subjects of general interest. The writer's name must accompany the letters.

Anonymous communications will not be noticed. Retorted manuscript will not be returned.

Brief letters of local news from any section of the State will be thankfully received.

Merely personal controversies will not be tolerated. Address all business letters and communications for publication to 'THE MORNING POST.'

The telegraphic news service of THE MORNING POST is absolutely full and complete and is unequalled by any morning newspaper south of New York.

Subscribers to the POST are requested to note the date on the label of their paper, and send in their renewal before the expiration.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1900.

WEATHER TODAY.

Fair; cold.

DEATH OF A NOBLE WOMAN.

Not only will this community, but thousands of surviving soldiers of the Lost Cause, hear with sorrow of the death of Mrs. Jane Claudia Johnson, wife of Gen. Bradley T. Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson was born in Raleigh, being the daughter of the late Judge Thomas M. Saunders, and sister of our Congressman Col. William J. Saunders.

Just before the civil war she married Mr. Bradley T. Johnson, of Maryland, who afterward distinguished himself in the Army of the South, attaining to the rank of Brigadier General.

The Post, in memory of the glorious past, unites with the brave soldier, husband, and other relatives, in sincere sorrow at this final departure of one who was so unselfish and constant and faithful in the discharge of every duty.

ENGLAND'S GLORY DEPARTING.

In reply to the inquiry of a contemporary, "When will England reach the zenith of her greatness?" the Springfield Republican responds in the following suggestive and significant manner:

"The question is asked by the Waterbury American, when will England reach the zenith of her greatness? There are some reasons for thinking that she has already reached it, and they have no reference to her success or failure in the Boer war.

"First, the English have ceased to be an agricultural people and they must depend, even in war, upon food imported from over the sea.

"Second, as a manufacturing nation they have already begun to decay, as witness their final loss of the pre-eminence in iron and steel production. It is morally certain that England will be left far behind in the industrial struggle of the 20th century by the United States simply because the United States possesses the greater natural resources, while in natural capacity the Americans are fully the equals of the English.

"Third, if England loses ground in agriculture and manufacturing and

trade it will be inherently impossible for her to maintain first rank as a political power, because in her recurring wars her accumulated wealth will be gradually swallowed up.

"That she must engage in such wars seems clear because of the intense jealousy of her rivals, which was never more apparent than now, and because her limitless imperialism brings her in endless antagonism to those rivals in various parts of the earth.

"Both the United States and Russia are younger and stronger nations than Great Britain, since they have within them, in compact, unimpoverished form, vast natural resources for agriculture and manufacturing, and it is quite in accord with the law of evolution that they should outlast England in everything that makes for power, simply because they are less highly developed and, therefore, less spent.

"If Anglo-Saxondom maintains the leadership of the world throughout the 20th century it is probable that the chief burden of the undertaking will devolve upon the United States, which is today already the more virile branch of the English-speaking race."

There was much in the address read before the colored people of this city on Monday, published in The Post yesterday, which merits consideration. Without going into this, however, we will call the attention of this people to the fatal error upon which the whole structure of the address was built, so far as it applies, or is intended to apply, to the pending constitutional amendment.

In the outset we will say that we would gladly see the repeal of the fifteenth amendment to the Federal constitution, but not the thirteenth nor the fourteenth. The two latter are in full accord with genuine Democratic government, and even essential to a proper protection of all in their just rights.

No such has ever been attempted since the days of Shem, Ham and Japhet, and these were finally separated by the Great Ruler and sent, each to work out his own salvation in far separate quarters of the globe. Ham going to Africa with the Divine sentence to be perpetually, him and his descendants, the "servants of men" while the others were permitted to become the progenitors of those who now dominate the world. Were we an imperialist, desirous of the destruction of the government founded by Washington and Jefferson, and confounded by Mr. McKinley, Eugene Debs, Gov. Russell and Marion Butler, we can conceive of no shorter road thereto than an indiscriminate and universal exercise of the power of citizenship, conferred by universal suffrage, by all races who at present inhabit this country, and in this we regard the illiterate foreigners who have filled the slums of our cities as even more dangerous than the negro. Unrestricted power, and their gross and constant abuse of the privileges of citizenship have already greatly increased the powers of the central government, and, if continued, will necessitate such exercise of power by the government as will radically change its character from that established and contemplated by the fathers.

But these evils are not yet to be remedied as they only can be, by a repeal of the fifteenth amendment and limiting the suffrage to white Americans and those white foreigners whose intelligence and purpose will permit them to become Americans in truth and in spirit.

We therefore recur to the real question, and only question, the pending amendment, now at issue. And we invite the attention of our colored people thereto.

It is neither intended, nor desirable, nor will the amendment when adopted result in depriving any white citizen of the State of the right to vote; neither those now of age, or who become 21 years old up to and including October, 1908. Every white person who is, or becomes of age before that date will vote so long as he lives without question. Every boy now 13 years of age or under will have until October, 1908, to prepare himself, by learning to read and write to become a voter thereafter.

Every colored person who can now read and write, OR WHO MAY LEARN TO READ AND WRITE HEREAFTER, and otherwise qualified, of course, which other qualifications apply alike to the whites, will vote under this amendment.

Every illiterate or uneducated negro in the State will be denied the privilege of voting unless he shall have qualified himself by learning to read and write, after which he will vote. Senator Butler says, in effect, the educated negro is the dangerous element of his race, while the ignorant old darkey always means well and is as much entitled to vote as illiterate white citizens. This may be Senator Butler's opinion of those well-meaning but painfully over-confident white citizens whom he misled into supporting Republicanism and fasten-

ing the ignorant and corrupt governments upon many of our eastern counties, but we do not agree with him. This ignorant negro element has been the backbone of the movements of such as Butler and others who have debauched the body politic and degraded the public service of the people. It is to prevent a recurrence of such a calamity that it is proposed to eliminate this dangerous, however well-meaning, element, until, by education, it can better appreciate and perform the duties of citizenship.

Now we ask these colored people who issued that address if, in view of recent occurrences, it is not better for their race, as well as all concerned, that this amendment be adopted.

That there is to be no disfranchisement of white citizens is not only proper, because of their inherited rights and qualifications, but such will work no hardship to the colored man, be he voter or not. Indeed, this amendment assures the protection of all the negro population, as it insures good government for all.

The greater nations of Europe have united with this government in the "open door" policy for China, by which the people of all nations are to enjoy equal privileges in trade with the Orientals. Of course entrance to Chinese ports will be subject to the tariff duties imposed by the Chinese government, but secures to the people of all the other governments equal rights in trade with that country. This is of special interest to our people. It is being demonstrated daily that the products of American labor and energy and intelligence, notwithstanding the higher wages paid in this country are successfully competing with those of any other people, and our closer geographical location must result in large advantage to our workers.

The South is specially interested in this achievement. China buys enormously of cotton goods, and our Southern mills will lose no time in establishing favorable connections with this trade. It will be easier for the mills of this country to capture Chinese and Japanese trade than to break the hold England and Germany now have on our nearer neighbors of South America, and, while not leaving the latter entirely alone, our immediate efforts should be to intrench ourselves firmly in the Orient while the field is comparatively new to all, after which efforts to the South of us may be increased.

Up to 1893, the beginning of the recent world-wide disorder in business circles, the products of the energy of our people had reached the point of full supply for home demand. During the six years of depression, this ability to supply all home demand was rather increased than diminished, and, with the astounding developments in the field of invention and machine improvements, the revival of business activity found the capacity of supply far beyond the capacity of our own people to consume. The whole world, therefore, became at once a market for American enterprise and superior workmanship, and the statistics of the exports of the past year illustrate how actively our people have entered upon this field.

Our capacity to supply is now upon an assured, permanent, foundation. The new world, comprising more than one-third of the world's population, but heretofore cut off from all intercourse with the progressive peoples of the earth, is just now thrown open to us. We must hasten to establish a close and permanent connection therewith. It is the opportunity of all opportunities for our people. We cannot afford to neglect it, or postpone its occupation. Nor will we do so, we are quite sure.

It is reported that President McKinley has negotiated the purchase of the Danish West India Islands, in the neighborhood of Cuba, the price to be paid to be \$4,000,000.

As we have already gotten Cuba and Porto Rico, we see no reason why we should not "own" or possess or attach or assimilate all the others of the Caribbean family; and it is much cheaper to buy them than go to war and then gobble them.

Spain at one time within recent years would have sold us Cuba and Porto Rico for \$200,000,000 cash. How much better it would have been to have bought than to have entered upon the bloody and life-sacrificing war. And how much cheaper in money, too.

The circular letter from Messrs. Atwood Violett & Co., of the New York Cotton Exchange, concerning present conditions of cotton and the almost certain improvement in the prices above those now prevailing, is commended to the attention of readers of The Post generally and of cotton growers particularly. The whole argument of these gentlemen is so thoroughly in accord with numerous editorials which have appeared in The Post within the eight or ten weeks past that we are somewhat disposed

to felicitate ourselves upon our early as well as good work in the premises. Messrs. Atwood Violett & Co. are recognized as among the most conservative members of the Cotton Exchange, and their statistics of the present supply, compared with known conditions last year, become of great importance to our people.

We thank Mr. E. H. Lee, one of Raleigh's largest cotton brokers, for the use of the above mentioned circular, received by him yesterday. It so thoroughly sustained the contention of The Post that Mr. Lee immediately sent it to us.

We commend the article to our farmer and other friends.

Cavite, in Luzon, almost completely within the range of the guns of our fleet in Manila Bay, is evidently an "aching" void. As our troops were congratulating themselves that they had scattered the forces of Aguinaldo and driven them helter skelter throughout Northern Luzon, a large force of them suddenly appears organized and ready to fight within the Cavite precinct.

These Filipinos are very much like some politicians in this country; they do not seem to know when the people have tired of them.

The whole, plain English of it is, that Butler proposes to sell the people of the State again to the Republicans on condition that he be returned to the Senate. After this is secured, the rest can go to the dogs.

Can it be possible that those white men who were misled by him before can again be deceived in the same manner, and with the same inevitable result? Are Mr. Butler's services in the Senate worth such degrading sacrifices, to say nothing of the disastrous conflicts which will certainly, sooner or later, follow?

Between seizing American flour shipped to a Portuguese port, and a German vessel containing Dutch recruits for the Boer army, England is maintaining her determination not to be interfered with by outsiders. In both acts we suspect England was justified, though it may seem hard to thus deprive the Dutch of good American dough.

Dr. J. J. Mott, administrator de bonis non of the "Silver Republican party" in this State is an expansionist. He and his party corpus do seem to need something of the sort. How would Col. J. Baxter Eaves and General Julius Caesar Logan Harris, do to start with?

The New York World says that "Gabriel's trumpet cannot resurrect the free silver issue," whereupon the Philadelphia Ledger remarks that "the nomination of Bryan for President can."

Trouble begins at Washington today. Congress reassembles at noon.

According to a report to his government from the British Consul at Kieff, the growth of American trade with Russia is "startlingly apparent." The trade in agricultural machinery, he says, is practically controlled by Americans; that in steam pumps is more or less American; and the introduction of improved machine tools is due to Americans who are now also energetically pushing the sale of fixed steam engines. From the British Consul at Odessa comes a tale of the distancing of all their competitors by American bicycle makers. The truth-

fulness of these British consular jeremiads is proven by the figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, which show an increase in our exports to Russia from \$2,447,414 in 1893 to \$10,020,723 in 1899. This is the kind of expansion that nobody can find any fault with, says the Philadelphia Record.

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