

BUSINESS AGENCY FUND.

Statement From the Trustee, Mr. W. A. Graham.
(Correspondence Carolinian.)

MACAPELAH, N. C., July 3, 1893.
In answer to statements which have appeared in your paper as communications or copied articles concerning the management of the Business Agency Fund of the North Carolina Alliance please grant me space for a statement.

The losses from the fund reported as paid with the approval of the executive committee on the statement sent to applicants is as follows:

- 1. Cotton bagging, \$ 861.00
- 2. Accts State Bus. agent, 650 10
- 3. Loan to N. C. Com'ce by order State Alliance, 1,220.00

Total, \$2,731 10

1. Cotton Bagging—The Alliance resolved to use cotton bagging in the fight with the jute bagging trust. The State Business Agent in order to fill the orders he had received made contracts with certain mills for bagging to be delivered in October, November and December. From some cause the mills delivered most of their goods in December. The farmers could not wait, and using other material sold their cotton. They declined to receive the cotton bagging. Many of them proposed to take it next season if they could get indulgence. There was \$3,300 in these accounts. Much of it was taken, but nearly all at a reduced price. The matter was finally closed out at the loss stated. In 1891 \$325, and in 1892 \$478.45, or a total of \$803.45 had been repaid to the fund. This makes \$1,675 the amount the N. C. Alliance contributed to the jute bagging contest.

2. Accounts of the State Business Agent—By reference to section 12 of the B. A. F. article of constitution (which I annex) the duties of the Trustee has no connection with the making of these accounts. Justice requires him, however, to say that some of them were occasioned from want of bond by sub agent, and some by bad bonds, goods not arriving in time for use, etc. All these cases were reported to the Executive Committee for approval. Some of these accounts are now in suit and a small amount may be realized from them. These accounts appear in the annual report of the Trustee. The manner of giving bond and of collecting "past due" accounts was changed in 1891, as will be seen by reference to proceeding of State Alliance.

3. Loan to Executive Committee—At Greensboro, last year the Alliance adopted a resolution (see page 30) directing the Executive committee to borrow from the Trustee \$1,220 for the use of the Alliance, and to repay the same from the receipts of State Business Agent and Secretary's office above necessary expenses. I applied to the executive committee for the return of this money, they replied that they were unable to return it at this time, and that as the Legislature had taken from the receipts of the State Business Agent and turned them over to the Trustee he would have to manage the debt. This money was used to pay the mileage and per diem of the delegates and officers to the Alliance. This amount will be returned. Over half of it would have been repaid last May had not the attack of the Legislature rendered necessary unexpected expenses in the employment of counsel meeting of officers in Raleigh, etc. The losses from cotton bagging and Business Agent accounts will probably be repaid.

The act of the Legislature required the Trustee to get ready for payment in sixty days. There was no means of making them available as it may be several years before payment is made. When paid they will no doubt be duly credited. Not one cent has been lost by any investment of the Trustee. As to the profit from the fund which some seem to be claiming or expecting, the following is from section 7: "The profits arising from said fund shall first be used to pay the salary of the Trustee and all other expenses connected with said fund, and any remainder shall be used by the Executive committee in defraying the expenses of the Business Agency."

The only profit promised was the cheapness of goods purchased. The annual report of the Trustee shows disposition of profits.

The amount due each contribu-

tor is ninety two cents on the dollar. It is necessary to pay each certificate as a unit so that proof of payment can be preserved, hence 5 cents is deducted for postal money order, then all postage in sending the order or correspondence concerning certificate is deducted in accordance with the law.

I annex sections of Constitution relating to the subject:

"Sec. 2. In order to conduct the commercial business of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance, and to protect from loss those who deal with the Business Agent of the same, the North C. Business Agency Fund is hereby inaugurated.

Sec. 5. The Business Fund shall be managed by the Executive committee of the State Alliance. No portion of it shall be used in the Business Agency unless required to settle the contracts of the Agent made in conformity to regulations of the Executive committee, and when any portion is so used all money received from the cause of such use shall be returned to the Fund.

Sec. 12. In case it shall become necessary to use any of said fund in the Business Agency, the Executive committee shall certify to the President the amount necessary and the cause of the indebtedness, and the Executive committee, with approval of the President, shall direct the Trustee to collect sufficient amount and settle the indebtedness.

Respectfully,
W. A. GRAHAM, Trustee.

A LONG TIME BETWEEN DRINKS

Senator Vance Describes Interview Between the Executives of North and South Carolina.

In the olden times of our Statehood, before the steam engine bullied the earth with thunderous stroke and reduced space to a mere matter of time, when whiskey with sugar was five cents a glass and all backs were turned as that glass was filled and when a white man was considered as good as the negro if he behaved himself, the Governor of North Carolina took it into his head one day to pay a long promised visit to his neighbor, the Governor of South Carolina. So he put a clean shirt and a pair of socks in his saddle bag, mounted his horse and rode away through the pine forests toward the south. Diligently following his nose in this direction he came in due time to the home of his brother Governor, where he was received with all the honors of genuine Southern hospitality. When asked how he felt his characteristics reply was, "thank you, Governor, I am tired, sleepy hungry and sober." The host cordially assured him that he could remedy all these.

Next day dinner was served at 12 o'clock as the horn blew for the hands to come in. After it was over the two Governors retired to the shade of the long back porch, where corncob pipes, with long twists of home grown tobacco awaited them.

There, in the long, soft afternoon, reclining on easy bottom rockers, they lolled and smoked and talked the hours away. Betwixt the twain, on the floor, sat a brimming pitcher of apple toddy, with the mellow, roasted fruit impudently floating on the surface of the divine tippie. From time to time this aided and enlivened the conversation. They talked of the comparative excellences and advantages of their respective States, of the price of cotton, of horse raising and run-away negroes; as they talked they smoked and as they talked they drank. They speculated on the coming glories of the country, they pledged eternal friendship to each other personally, and vowed to preserve all neighborly courtesies between the two Carolina States forever and forever, amen! Now and then they would doze in their easy chairs under the mellow influence of their happy surroundings, and on waking up would indignantly deny having been asleep and take another drink to prove their wakefulness. And thus things went on.

Now it happened that the Governor of South Carolina had a wife—as all good Governors should have, on the principle of the old maxim that he who aspires to govern should first learn to obey—and her name was Betsey Jane. She well knew the failing of her Governor and she easily guessed that the visiting Governor was tarred with the same stick. Quietly watching proceedings she at length concluded that these two old cocks were about as

full as they could well hold without slopping over, and it was time to stop. Watching her opportunity during a rather protracted doze, she slipped away the pitcher, still half full, and inserted in its place a piggin of cool spring water with a clear, yellow gourd hanging on the handle. But the instincts of nature are infallible. Though sound asleep the Governor of North Carolina felt that something was wrong—a lack of spirit as it were—every nerve in him cried out against the presence of a hostile element, and he awoke. His perturbed soul had not deceived him. The pitcher of toddy was gone. He immediately awakened his host, who courteously inquired, "What is the matter?" "Don't you see what is the matter?" said the guest, looking indignantly at the piggin and the gourd. "Indeed, I see nothing wrong," said the now distressed host. "Please tell me what is the matter, my dear Governor." "The devil you say! Nothing wrong, indeed! I go to sleep with a pitcher of toddy before me, I wake up and find a piggin of spring water, and the Governor of South Carolina tells me in his own house that he sees nothing wrong in that! Well well! All I have to say, sir," said the Governor of North Carolina, raising with a very great but rather unsteady dignity, "is that it is a damned long time between drinks." "Oh," said the Governor of South Carolina, as the situation flashed on him, "I see; that's Betsey Jane. She means stop, and we're done for to-day. I'm sorry I can't bring that pitcher back. I humbly beg your pardon, Governor, but maybe there's a Betsey Jane at your house and maybe you know how it is yourself." The offended dignity of the Governor of North Carolina dissolved slowly into a genial smile of intelligent comprehension, and, solemnly working one eye, he fell—either upon the neck of his host or upon the porch floor, tradition does not say which—exclaiming, "You bet, old boy; you bet."

And that's how it came about! Throughout all that Southern land tradition has wickedly repeated and kept alive the saying of the Governor of North Carolina as a convenient mode of joggng the memory or stimulating the flagging hospitality of a host, but has failed to enbalm in human memory the righteous prudence and wifely virtues of Betsey Jane, the spouse of the Governor of South Carolina.

For near on to a hundred years the saying has been a faithful one, and worthy of all acceptance in our country—that is to say, it has been faithfully repeated all that time and anything offered in response thereto has been universally accepted, either straight or with sugar.

ZERULON B. VANCE.



M. Hammerly, a well-known business man of Hillsboro, Va., sends this testimony to the merits of Ayer's Sarsaparilla: "Several years ago, I hurt my leg, the injury leaving a sore which led to erysipelas. My sufferings were extreme, my leg, from the knee to the ankle, being a solid sore, which began to extend to other parts of the body. After trying various remedies, I began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and, before I had finished the first bottle, I experienced great relief; the second bottle effected a complete cure."

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