

Proprietor: T. H. HARPER. Local Asst.: T. H. HARPER. Entered the Post Office at New Bern, N.C., as second-class matter.

In nearly all instances personalities should be avoided. Dr. J. C. Hall, one of the foremost thinkers of the country, says especially keep clear of personalities in general conversation. Talk of things, objects, thoughts. The smallest minds occupy themselves with personalities. Personalities must sometimes be talked, because we have to learn each other's characters. There are times when we are compelled to say, "I do not think that Bonner is a true and honest man," but when there is no need to express an opinion, let poor Bonner swagger away. Others will take his measure, no doubt and save you the trouble of analyzing him and instructing them. And as far as possible dwell on the good side of human beings. There are family boards where a constant process of depreciating, assigning motives and cutting up of character goes forward. They are not pleasant places. One who is healthy does not wish to dine at a dissecting table. There is evil enough in man. God knows; but it is not the mission of every young man or woman to detail or report it all. Keep the atmosphere as pure as possible, and fragrant with gentleness and charity.

THE INUNDATION OF WASHINGTON.

A contemporary says: There has seldom been a more disgraceful exhibition of contemptible lack of civic spirit than that made by the officers and citizens of towns through which nothing less than gangs of dead-beats are begging their way toward Washington. Washington is to be overrun by this kind of the West. The Nile is subject to periodical overflows which, though temporarily injurious, add to the fertility of the great valley it traverses. Washington City is subject to inundations. The regular periods are at the time of Presidential inaugurations, the early months of a new administration, and the meetings of Congress. The crowd that rushes in on inauguration day is composed of sightseers who go to the capital to witness a grand pageant. Those who dance attendance on the early period of a new administration are patriots usually de-nominated office-seekers; and those who throng the lobbies of the Senate and the House during the session of Congress are gentlemen of leisure taking in the situation and bold adventurers who volunteer their services in various ways for a small compensation. With these inundations the people have become accustomed and they are tolerated as among the unavoidable incidents of a government of the people by and for the people. But the inundation of which we speak today is something new in American history. It is caused by the overflow of vagabondage. Rough, dead-beats, fanatic and criminal mucksters in rags and tags have gone up to the Federal capitol to influence Congress and intimidate the President. They have to overawe or cajole Congress with their obsequious imitation of the clamor of the Roman populace for populace for bread and tickets to the circus. Less modest than the unemployed of the ancient city, they demand meat and bear with their bread, and railroad as well as circus tickets.

We dissent from the general criticism of the people of the country through which "the army" marched in its "on to Washington." The cheers it received was all fan. The country people, along the line of march ran to the roadside to see a show, and they saw it and made merry. There is nothing dangerous or even serious in this inundation. It is ludicrous in the eyes of some, but by the great majority it is viewed as a ridiculous and revolting spectacle. No alarm is felt at Washington more than the apprehension of some citizen that his pocket may be picked. Men wonder that so many fools got together, but the police will do their duty and that is enough to give public assurance of safety. Men of sensibility sympathize with those who feel the keen pang of want and suffering, but this rag and bobtail crowd are not representative of the honest poor and as for "terrorizing" a band of children with dough faces on wooden cones nearer to it. Such cavalcades, such tomfoolery, is one of the results of the remission of the penitential teachings of the new school of politics. The idea that it is the business of the Government to take care of the indigent, cloth when he is made and feed him when he is hungry, is a most pernicious one. This inundation will soon subside, but there is no probability that the soil will be enriched by the overflow.

STAFF BANKS.

The advocates of more money for the people are now looking hopefully for the repeal of the ten per cent tax on the issues of state banks. It is inexcusable how the brilliant success of a tax came to pass, and how it is of the rights of all the states. We know that it was argued that national banks could not compete with State banks and in order to sustain the national currency it was necessary to put a prohibitory tax on the issues of State banks. It is marvelous how it came to pass that the representatives of any state consented to the passage of a law attacking state rights, and affecting the right of the people to regulate their own currency. The law should be repealed because it prevents the exercise of the inalienable rights of the states, and is subversive of the liberties of the people. The Constitution prohibits the coinage of money, but there is no provision of that sacred instrument that can be tortured into the prohibition of banks of issue. The law will be held to be unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction. Whether it is expedient for a state to charter a bank is a question to be determined by itself. It is right to do so is not to be questioned. All that Congress is asked to do in the matter is to repeal the law imposing a tax of ten per cent upon the issues of state banks. It will then be for the states and the people thereof to determine whether they will have banks, and what shall be their scope and limitations if any are to exist. We say to the General Government, we move your oppressive hand, and we will take care of ourselves. That the people need more money is not a subject of debate. The demand for more silver has been heard throughout the land, but it has been decided adversely, with some little show of reason, but what reason there can be for retaining a law in direct conflict with the rights of the States and the liberties of the people, cannot be conjectured, unless it is to be found in the fact that the national banks have the Federal government by the throat and it fears to offend them. Let this be assigned as the reason, and a Congress will be elected that will sweep the national banks from existence. We do not think this desirable, so we hope that the tax will be repealed, and the states left free.

TILLMAN PUZZLED.

He Don't Know Whether Prohibition or Free Whiskey Prevails in South Carolina. COLUMBIA, S. C., April 23.—Gov. Tillman to-day publicly expressed himself for the first time on the Supreme Court decision. He confessed that he cannot solve the problem now puzzling the people of the State—whether prohibition exists or whether the decision leaves the gap open for free whiskey. He gave it as his opinion, however, that the decision means free whiskey—the establishment of saloons at every cross roads and streets corner, with no law to license, restrain or prevent them in anything they may do. All he knew was that the State cannot sell whiskey. Who can he would not pretend to say. He told us that relief of some sort is not given him, he will wake to the sense of his position and the revenue he will take will be terrific. But I firmly believe that this expedition is going to lead to reform agitation. The Army of the Common weal has given the object lesson to the laborers. Their weapon is a peaceful picket line, and it is their own fault if they do not use it.

THE GREAT REUNION.

Immense Crowds Gathering at Birmingham—Old Battle-Scarred Confederates, With Their Children and Grandchildren to be Seen Everywhere. BIRMINGHAM, April 23.—The big reunion is on. The people are coming in from the four quarters of the Southern States. The city is already packed with visitors and still they come. They are here from the little great-grandson, dressed in the uniform of a soldier, to the old Confederate with one leg and one arm who leans on a cane for support. Those who actually fought, their sympathizers, wives and children, are here and still the crowd comes. The street fair and the picnic are signs of a great crowd, are already here. The streets in the business part of the city are so crowded that one can hardly make his way. Business men have nearly all their open store-rooms of Confederate and National colors. Pictures of great Southern generals, dead and living, hang from the windows of the business buildings and private residences. The air is full of hostile and business everything has a gala appearance. There is a party that the Confederate Guards will be here. Governors Jones of Alabama, Stone of Mississippi, Tarney of Tennessee, and Hogg of Texas. Governors Jones of Alabama, and Stone of Mississippi. They were here and the other Executives will be in Washington from their State tomorrow.

EARTHQUAKES IN GREECE.

Reports of Great Suffering from Many Rattled Towns. Athens, April 23.—Many reports from the towns which have suffered most severely from the earthquakes of the last two days were received this afternoon and evening. The loss of life and property is much greater than was at first supposed. In the Laeris district 129 persons are known to have been killed by falling walls, and many others are missing. A parish church in Froking collapsed during the earthquake and thirty men and women were killed outright while several were dug out from the ruins. Ninety persons were buried in the ruins in Mallesia and sixty of them were killed. In many towns whole households have disappeared without leaving an inkling of their fate. In Martino thirty nine persons were killed by the falling timbers. Most of them died within the walls of a church whose roof fell in during service. Although there has been small loss of human life in Athens and its environs, the damage to property has been enormous. Appeals for help come in hourly. But little can be done to ward alleviating the prevalent distress, as there are no charity organizations of importance here. In dozens of towns the inhabitants are camping, unsheltered and almost unfed, in the fields and cannot be persuaded to return to their homes. The King, accompanied by M. Boughides, minister of the interior, has begun visiting the districts which have suffered most keenly.

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