THE DEMOCRAT.

E. E. HILLIARD - - - - - Editor
Published Every Thursday.

THURSDAY MARCH 27, 1890.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

WE GLADLY CORRECT.

Last week THE DEMOCRAT said that the people of Winston and Salem were unpatriotic in giving a $2,000 contract to a correspondent of the New York *World* to write up their town.

The Twin-city *Daily* says we were mistaken,—that such proposition was made to the people of Winston, but they would not accept it. We are glad to make the correction, and will be slower than we were at first to believe that the Winston people do things that way. We are glad they do not.

☞ *The Roanoke lands of Halifax, Northampton, and Bertie counties were the granary of the Confederate army around Richmond from 1860 to 1865, and the same lands are capable of producing the same crop again with the same dikes on the river.*

ROANOKE LANDS.

Many of the farmers on Roanoke river are buying their corn and hay with which to tend the very land they cultivated last year, and upon which they made absolutely nothing.

To one not familiar with these lands, this would seem a strange proceeding. They would ask if the lands are so poor that they will not produce.

To any such question the ready answer is that the lands on Roanoke river are not surpassed by any lands on this conincnt. The great floods in the river last year completely destroyed the corn crop and most of the cotton crop.

Here are fine lands bearing on their bosom millions of wealth: and yet the people who work them well nigh suffer sometimes for bread.

Here is a majestic river, capable of great improvement by the government: and yet the government is wasting money in dredging it.

Here is a great railroad crossing this river from Norfolk to Tarboro, with its hundreds of thousands of dollars spent upon the road: and yet every freshet must prove an impediment to its progress and an inconvenience to its safety.

Now, let people, government and railroad dike this great river, confine the water within the proper channel, and all will be richly repaid for the pains and money spent. We expect to see it. We mean to work for it. This is our beginning.

JUDGE WOMACK AT WARRENTON.

Judge Womack continues to impress the people where he goes with his ability and cordiality. The Warrenton *Gazette* says:

"Judge Womack presided with affability and dignity, and demeaned himself to the entire satisfaction of all classes of our good people. We hope he may long fill his present position. Though quite a young man, this being the second court he ever held, he disposed of the business with the ease, promptness and precision of a veteran. He is distined to be one of our brightest legal luminaries."

A Warrenton correspondent to the *Observer* says:

"We were highly pleased with Judge Womack, and the people as a unit spoke in the most complimentary manner of him. He gave entire satisfaction to an intelligent community. He presides with dignity, impartiality and ability and dispatch, knows how to do business, and does not stand on the order of doing it. There is an entire absence of irritation and egotism in his demeanor. Socially, he is one of the most genial companions.

It is to be hoped that he will be retained in his present position—a place, for which his capacity, sound judgment, qualifications, &c., so eminently fit him and justly entitle him.'

THE DEMOCRAT adds that these favorable expressions for Judge Womack are by no means extravagant. The people of Halifax pleasantly remember his bearing among them, and join in the hope that he will be kept on the bench for a long term of years.

REVIEWS.

BELFORD'S MAGAZINE for April has interesting contents. The article on "Huxley in Private" is particularly interesting. The editorial work is good, and the complete novel, "His Bosom Friend," is attractive.

Belford Company, New York City.

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The March number of the Wake Forest STUDENT is upon our table. Its usual interest is kept up. Jonas Barham, Jr., makes some interesting remarks in his letter from Mt. Nebo.

☞ *The annual crop on the Scotland Neck section of the Roanoke river lands averaged seventy five thousand barrels of corn from 1845 to 1865, and the same lands are capable of producing the same crop again with the same dikes on the river.*

BLAIR BILL DEFEATED.

On last Thursday the Blair Bill was defeated in the Senate. The vote was taken 37 nays to 31 yeas. Senators Vance and Ransom were paired. Vance favored the bill while Ransom opposed it.

We have no desire to discuss the bill any further, even if we had the space for it. A little more than two years ago we made a special study of the bill as printed in the Congressional Record, and gave as strong argument against it then as we could. What we have had to say about it since has been brief, but we have all the while opposed it on the same principles upon which we based our arguments two years ago. We think the Senate acted wisely in defeating it and we hope old man Blair will let the matter rest forever.

PROTECTION IS CORRUPTION AND OPPRESSION.

Study this protective system as you may. View it from any conceivable standpoint, and you will always find it springing from the same avaricious, corrupt and sinister motives. It had its origin or beginning in the mind of selfishness, avarice, injustice and oppression. The pretext of raising revenue was the covert under which its advocates first took shelter. Under this covert they concealed their real designs and purposes from the unsophisticated unsuspecting farmer until they succeeded in drawing to its support a large number of working men. There next advance was to protect infant industries. Under this false pretext, they succeeded in hoodwinking a large class of people who at heart really desired the advancement of the country in all that tended to make our country great, and independent of all the world. But neither of these flimsy pretences would or could bear the test of thought and investigation. And as soon as the political economists began to look into the system and to expose its fallacies, the advocates of the system saw that their only chance and hope was to deceive and capture the laboring classes and farmers of the country. This they succeeded in doing by preaching protection to American labor from competition with the pauper labor of Europe to American laborers, and by advocating the building up home markets for home products. And for more than a dozen years, they succeeded in maintaining the system, under those plausible, though false pretenses.

But the advocates of the unequal and unjust system of taxation have divested themselves of all disguise and hypocrisy, and boldly and defiantly put it upon the true grounds of protection to the manufacturing and mining industries of the country. But just why the spinner of cotton, wool, flax, jute and silk should be paid a bonus of 47 per cent. on the products of his mill by the rest of the people they can not explain. Just why the miner should be paid a bonus on the products of his mine by the rest of the people of 47 per cent. is something hard to be understood. If there is any more reason, justice or common sense in taxing the people forty-seven per cent. on all they consume from these mines and mills, than there would be in taxing the people forty-seven per cent on all they consume from the farms of the land, we confess we can not see it or understand it. No article manufactured or produced in the United States ought to be taxed, unless every article manufactured or produced is taxed. Tax all or tax none. And if any are taxed, tax all alike. If you tax woolen goods brought to this country from other countries and leave untaxed woolen goods produced in this country, can't you see that you prohibit the bringing in woolen goods, and create a monopoly in the woolen markets in the hands and under the control of home producers? or at least you enhance the price of the home products to nearly the amount of the tax.

If you levy a duty (a tax) on cotton goods of two cents a square yard brought from England here and leave cotton goods made here untaxed, can you not see that either no English goods will come to this country or if they come they must pay the two cents a square yard, and that that will raise the price of cotton goods to the consumer of two cents per yard? Is any consumer of cotton or woolen goods so stupid and dull of comprehension as not to see and understand how he is made to pay almost two prices for what he buys and consumes? No poor man in the United States can buy white lead to paint his cabin without paying a bonus to the producer of white lead in this country of three cents per pound. Why? Because there is a duty (a tax) of three cents a pound on all white lead imported, and that keeps out all white lead and allows the white lead producer in American to add about three cents per pound to the price of his lead.

Why not give the cotton, grain and tobacco grower a bonus on all he produces as well as the lead producer a bonus of three cents per pound on all the white lead he produces? A poor man can not kill a bird or squirrel for his sick wife or baby without first paying a tax or bonus of three cents per pound on the shot he uses. Why? Because the best government in the world—controlled by the best party in the world, levies a duty (a tax) on every pound of shot brought from any other country to this. What for? Of course it is done for no other purpose than to increase the price of shot in this country three cents per pound. Why does our government want the poor man to pay six cents for shot instead of three cents per pound? That is very easy to explain. The lead mines in the United States are controlled and belong to four moneyed syndicates. They buy up the republican party and democrats enough to get the duty (the tax) on imported shot to three cents per pound. This gives them control of the American shot market, enables them to get three cents per pound on shot as a premium or bonus for producing shot: and if they have more shot than they can sell in America, they ship them abroad and sell them in competition with the world at three and one-half cents per pound. This gives the syndicate one million eight hundred thousand dollars bonus on their sixty million pounds of shot. So you see they can pay eight hundred thousand dollars to corrupt Congress and leave them still one million dollars over and above their legitimate profits.

Now why not give the man who produces grain, cotton, tobacco or any other products of the farm forty-seven per cent. bonus, premium (or tax) on the value of his farm products, as to give the producer of white lead (painting lead) and shot forty-seven per cent. on the products of his mines?

If you know any reason why speak it out. Is the man who raises rice, sugar, jute, or manufactures a pound of lead, white lead, or a yard of cotton, woolen or silk goods, any better citizen, worth any more to the government, or does he deserve any more favors or any more protection from the government, than the man who raises cotton, grain, meat or any other product of the soil? If he does, why does he? If he does not, then why show him so many favors in contradistinction to the delvers and tillers of the soil? Have the people no right that the protectionists ought to respect? Have the people no rights that the government ought to respect and protect? Must they always remain hewers of wood and drawers of water? Must they for ever keep their noses to the grindstone? Shall they be slaves always to the money power of the land? Shall they forever be led as captives at the beck and call of corrupt and designing man?

Will the farmers always submit to be bled for the benefit of the favored classes? Will the laboring men of the country never rise in their might and power and shake their dishevelled locks in the face of their oppressors? Will they never declare their manhood, assert their rights as their fathers did in 1776 and maintain them at any hazzard, any cost even unto the shedding of blood and dying upon the altars of liberty and independence?

Our hope is strong, our faith in the people is a living, burning faith. We verily believe the day is not far in the future when they will not only assert their rights but will also defend and maintain them.

Let no man, though he be the Demosthenes of Democracy, the life long servant of the people, the Judicial light of the State, or even the loved and trusted minister of the gospel, be nominated for the legislature, a Judgeship, or for Congress or any other position, who is not in accord with the laboring—toiling millions. Remember all is not gold that glitters. Select a compass in each case whose needle never varied, but always pointed to the North Pole.

W. H. K.

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NOTICE.

By virtue of power in me vested by a deed of trust executed to me on the 23rd day of March, 1889, by B. F. Petitt, and which is of record in Book 87, on page 451, is the Register's office for Halifax county, I shall sell for cash at auction in Scotland Neck on the

5TH DAY OF APRIL, 1890,

to satisfy the debts secured by said trust, the land, therein described, being that land bounded by the lands of J. O. Lewis, J. R. Pope, the Nancy King land, and the Old Barkley land, and containing about three hundred acres.

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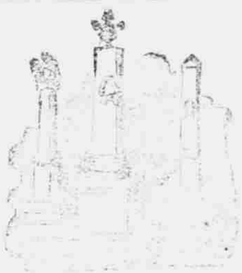

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