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BILL ARP.

The Bartow Philosopher Writes of Women's Clubs.

Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

I've been watching these women—these club women. For a long time I did not like the name, but I am reconciled. I never visited a man's club but once. It was a gathering of very nice, well behaved social gentlemen with eatables and drinkables in the background, but nobody partook to excess while I was there. The excess came afterwards, if it came at all. But a woman's club has neither eatables nor drinkables nor cigars. Of course it is a very social gathering but they mean business and they do it. Only a few years ago a few ladies of this town determined to do something for the town and they formed "The Cherokee Club" and soon had more members and went to work. All the members had passed their teens and the married ones had laid by their crop. They secured a charter and then got a lease from the city and the State for 50 years control of the ground between the hotel block and the railroad and adorned it with grass and gravel walks and enclosed it with a chain fence and placed handsome iron seats by the shade trees and planted a beautiful fountain in the center and peopled it with gold fish. This beautiful park is the frolic ground for the children and a cheerful resting place for their tired mothers and a trying place for young men and maidens. Near by the trains are passing at all hours, and our new beautiful passenger depot is near at hand, where our people congregate to receive their friends or bid them goodbye. And the club did it all, for the old depot would still be there if the women had not stirred up the men to demand another. Then these women began to plant flowers and shrubbery in the school house grounds, and next they started a small library in a small room, and circulated good books among our people and they kept on and on until they got a larger room and more books, and kept it open two days in a week and the demand for books soon widened to the country and every week they sent out four boxes of sixty volumes each along the mail routes, and so have established a rural circulating library that has proven a blessing to our country boys and girls, and the books always come back unharmed and are sent out on another mission. Next these good women started a sewing society among the poorer classes in our community and are taking turns in teaching the girls how to cut garments and make them and where they are very poor they give them aid and comfort. It is all charity. But last of all and best of all they have actually laid the foundation of a Club Library building that will hold thousands of books and where all the best magazines of the country will be taken. The city fathers gave them a beautiful lot and if the weather permits the building will be finished and paid for and occupied in three months. It will not only be a library for books but a place for rest for the traveling man as well as for our country friends and their wives and daughters when they come to town. Besides these uses it is intended to have literary and musical entertainments there that will be far more elevating and refining than the average shows that perform in our opera house. These same women organized a lyceum course for two winters and succeeded fairly well, but to send star off for lecturers costs too much for a town of this size and so they are going to secure home talent and talent from Atlanta and Rome and Dalton and have entertainments at popular prices, say at 10 cents admission, as Professor Proctor, the great astronomer did up North. He told me he never charged more in a manufacturing town and always gave the working people the preference of seats and always had a crowded house. It was a cheap and delightful school to them. What these club women will do next I do not know, but they mean business. They mean to elevate their own sex first and if the men and boys come in they will find a welcome. I suppose that this library building will be the first that any club has erected in the State, and what I wish to remark and emphasize is that there is not a respectable town or village in the State but can do something on this same line.

Now I hear you ask, where

did you get the money to do all this? "Heaven helps those who help themselves." Our women began with very little. The railroad gave them \$50 to start on and gave them part of the seats in the park. Then the club gave an oyster supper and made a good little sum. Later on they held a bazaar, and later on a concert, and after awhile another supper, and all along at intervals they smiled at the merchants and others and got some more money and when they run clear down they assess themselves and we husbands and fathers have to sell out. No, you don't need a Carnegie, but if you have one great, big hearted man and his wife in your community like we have you will not become bankrupt; where there is a will there is a way. And my observation is that women can do any good thing they combine on.

A thoughtful man who witnessed the laying of the corner stone said to me, "This is the best work that has ever been started in this town and is doing more to uplift and encourage our young people than anything else. God bless the women."

"Lord Bacon said, 'Knowledge is power.' It is force. It is money. A good library is better than a university. Dr. Johnson said 'Knowledge is the wing with which we fly to heaven.' One of my boys (Frank) is a civil engineer and built two plants of water works in Ohio for Mr. Huntington. One day the pump at London got out of order and he went down in the deep well to fix it but failed. A second time he tried it but it would not work and the water in the reservoir was getting low. He telegraphed to a neighboring town for an expert to come by the next train. He came and fixed it in half an hour. Frank felt relieved and thanked him and asked him for his bill. "Ten dollars," he said; "two dollars for railroad fare, \$3 for fixing the pump and \$5 for knowing how." That's it; knowledge is money.

Some time ago I advertised for a copy of General Henry R. Jackson's famous speech on the "Wanderer" and also for a copy of Daniel Webster's last and greatest speech made at Capon Springs in June, 1851, in which he qualified all his previous declarations about the rights of a State to withdraw from the Union under certain contingencies. That speech was suppressed at the North and is not found in his published works.

Well, I have been favored with both. Senator Mangum, of North Carolina, heard the speech delivered and he with other Southern members of Congress had it printed in pamphlet form and his grandson, Wiley Mangum Turner of Greensboro, N. C., has found it among his grandfather's papers and sent it to me. My friend, Mr. Ed. Holland, of Atlanta, Ga., has had both speeches neatly printed in one pamphlet, together with a brief biography of General Jackson by his friend, Joseph M. Brown, and this invaluable pamphlet will be mailed to any address on receipt of 25 cents.

It will be sent to students of colleges at the cost of publication. Address Ed. Holland, Atlanta, Ga.

And now here is a letter from an old Federal soldier living at Live Oak, Fla. His name is F. W. Angus, and he belonged to General Slickes' brigade, and days after a battle in Virginia in 1862 he found in the woods the dead body of a Confederate soldier and he a comrade dug a grave and buried him. In his pocket was found a pass from Colonel John S. Reid, colonel commanding Third Georgia regiment, and the name of the soldier was D. P. Williams. Also another pass from Captain D. B. Langston, commanding company K.

I find in General Avery's roster the names of both these officers and if Private Williams has any surviving relatives and would like to have these passes I will send them.

I wrote in a former letter that the bears from Mississippi had held a convention and resolved not to come out of their dens to be shot at by any President who slandered Mr. Davis. I am pleased to read that Governor Longino did not invite him there and that the veterans of Memphis will not attend the ovation that Memphis has promised him. After denouncing Mr. Davis (who was dead) as the arch-traitor and repudiator, it seems to me to be the most unblushing impudence for him to put his feet on that hallowed ground. He says in his so-called history

that when Mr. Davis was Governor he vetoed the bill that was passed to pay the repudiated debts, when the truth is Mr. Davis never was Governor, nor did he ever advocate repudiation. Teddy, old boy, when are you going to retract and send an apology to Mrs. Davis, who is still living. You say in your book that we were all traitors and anarchists. How about your Uncle Captain Bulloch, who served with Admiral Semmes in our navy, of whom you wrote so gushingly to Mr. Cunningham, saying he was a most admirable man and very like Colonel Newcome of Thackeray? Was he a traitor, too? But Cunningham says Teddy is all right and shows editorial praise upon him in "The Veteran." I wonder what the veterans of Mississippi think of that.

Teddy said: "I am going to Mississippi to hunt bear," and the bears said, "Forbear!"

York County Items.

Yorkville Enquirer, Nov. 30th.

The public building which the government is to erect in Rock Hill for the postoffice and other purposes, is to be located on the corner of Main and Caldwell streets. The price to be paid for the lot is \$5,500. Work is to commence soon.

The Richland distillery is said to be paying revenue tax to the government at the rate of about \$1,000,000 a year. A few years ago the total collections of the internal revenue service in South Carolina only amounted to about \$60,000 per annum.

Mr. H. C. Simpson, the Catawba bee man, is in Yorkville this week on the jury. He says that this has been the poorest honey year he has experienced in five or six years. He has averaged only about eleven pounds of honey to the colony. He is unable to explain the cause of the failure, but understands it to be general.

The first rural delivery mail wagon brought to Yorkville, was unpacked by the Heath-Elliott Mule Company last Friday, having been ordered by Mr. J. C. Elliott at a venture. Several of the free delivery carriers examined it immediately upon its arrival, and on Saturday morning it was purchased by Mr. D. C. Clark, carrier on Yorkville Route No. 1. It is a handsome vehicle, well-adapted to the work for which it is intended.

Yorkville Enquirer, Nov. 29th.

Thanksgiving day made a curious weather record. There was snow, sleet and rain and it was both warm and cold.

Mr. W. S. Lauridge has moved his family to Gastonia, near which place Mr. Lauridge is engaged in saw milling. Mrs. Lauridge and the children went up on the train Thursday morning, and Mr. Lauridge took his household goods through the country in wagons.

The Woodmen of the World have arranged for an oyster supper at Tirzah next Friday night week, at which they will entertain their friends from the vicinity and the county surrounding. The Tirzah Woodmen have given entertainments of this character before and they have always proved very enjoyable.

It is beginning to look as if the settlement of the issue between Samuel W. Mitchell and the Woodmen of the World is going to be an unusually difficult problem. The first attempt was made at the last April term of the court. It resulted in a mistrial, the jury standing seven to five. That was after the case had been presented in painstaking detail by both sides. The second hearing, which was commenced on Tuesday morning of this week, and continued until Wednesday night, has resulted the same as the first. The jury remained out with the papers all of Wednesday night, and at 9 o'clock Thursday morning, the court found it necessary to order a second mistrial.

Speaking of the Mitchell case to a party of gentlemen in the post office lobby, Thursday morning, Sovereign Commander Root, of the Woodmen of the World, said that even if the plaintiff should get a verdict he would never be able to collect his judgment for the reason that the order is expressly forbidden by the laws of Nebraska to pay out money except for purposes stipulated in its charter; that it has no right to levy an assessment to pay a judgment of this kind. Mr. G. W. S. Hart, of course, has a very different opinion on this subject, and will engage to collect for his client any such judgment as he may be able to get.

COMING TO HER OWN.

North Carolina on the Upward Road—She is Improving in All Particulars and Will Never Again Be Poor or Ignorant.

Biblical Recorder.

North Carolina has been rated and is now regarded widely as the poorest and most illiterate of the States in the American Union; and her prideful expressions have often been received as mere ignorant and childish boasting, pardonable and pitiful.

Well, North Carolina has been and is poor in this world's goods, and there is as large if not a larger proportion of illiterate men—white or colored—in her borders than in any of the other States. And notwithstanding, North Carolinians have loved North Carolina, have defended her in the presence of the critical and the scornful by pointing to her war records, by extolling the purity of her Anglo-Saxon blood, and even by boasting of her ability to fill all the blanks in the government reports on natural resources; and they have apologized, saying that the war cost much, the negro much and reconstruction much. And some have foolishly taken grace to themselves for the achievements of the past and have actually made it out that North Carolina is the greatest land and her people the most advanced and noble in the world and encouraged the people in proud and idiotic content.

If we are glad that a time is shortly to come when the critic will be withstood by what he shall see rather than what he shall hear, we are also glad that the time has come when the people are too intelligent to suffer a stump-speaker to spout them in their poverty or indifference by foolish flattery.

North Carolina is coming to her own. The State is in the midst of a marvelous transition. She is growing in a thousand ways. Look at her newspapers! Ten years ago they were dying on two thousand subscribers a year. Now they begin to flourish, and for a sign they give a service that was not dreamed of ten years ago. Look at her cities, Wilmington, Greensboro, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Asheville, Durham, Raleigh—how they grow; and such a crop of thriving towns, Hickory, Dunn, Wilson, Salisbury, Kinston, Lexington, Spencer, Rocky Mount, Goldsboro, Fayetteville, Monroe, Henrietta, Shelby, Caroleen, Elizabeth City and a score more, all active as few towns were ten years ago.

Mark the educational movement. What flourishing academies, what crowded schools for girls, what college enrollments, what a power in the passion for public school improvement! Ten years ago there was nothing like it; and few dared hope for anything like it.

Mark, too, the new literary and historical interest. Back of all is the industrial movement. There is new life in North Carolina because there is new business. The mills have stirred the State from border to border and to its very heart in the back country—not only cotton mills, but all manner of wood-working establishments. Each of them gives work to men who found it hard to live in the country on rented land; each brings new population from the backwoods, where it was mostly useless and gives it place and power for service; each makes a new market for the farmer and the merchant; each increases the income of the State by multiplying upon the value of the raw product, both of men and material; each brings new men and material; each brings new into the region of progress.

And the farm, it is abandoned? By no means. There never were so many good farmers in North Carolina, never so many good farms, never such intelligent farming. The mills have relieved the farms of many who only destroyed land and now they have become patrons and supporters of the farmers. We read the other day that the income of the farmers of North Carolina in 1899 was nearly 80 per cent more than their income in 1889—an increase from \$50,000,000 to \$89,000,000, a tremendous leap in ten years. The advance over 1889 is fully 100 per cent this year.

The sum of it is this; North Carolina is in the beginning of an unparalleled advancement—material and intellectual. The arteries of her life throb with a power they have not before felt. She will never again be a poor State—her activities are too diverse; she will never again be an illiterate State—her educa-

tional ranks are too strong. She is coming to her own. Only good achievements stand ahead of her.

Let us be mindful then—we who have the boon of living in such a time—that our State shall also grow as a State, and shall send only strong and noble men to Washington—and keep them there; shall be heard in the world because of her wisdom and virtue; and let us also endeavor that our religious forces, our institutions of education and charity and missions, our spiritual life shall keep pace with the tremendous movement that we are now in the midst of. So our boasts shall prove prophetic and vindicate us at the last, as we point to North Carolina's great present and future while speaking with emotion of her undoubtedly heroic past.

"Real Wages" Now and 1897-98.

New York World, Nov. 22.

There are two kinds of wages. One is called "money wages," the other "real wages." The former is the actual number of dollars paid to the wage-earner, the latter is what it will really pay for—in rent, food, fuel, clothing.

The question that deeply interests every American home to-day is, What are "real wages" to-day at the high-water mark of Prosperity? This calls for a comparison of present prices as well as wages with those of 1897 or 1898, when prosperity was at low tide. This comparison is comprehensively made in the Sunday World's news columns to-day. From the mass of figures collected from the leading cities of the Union these facts appear:

1. That \$1.24 to-day buys about the same amount of necessities of life as were bought for \$1 four years ago.
2. That to offset this 24 per cent increase in the cost of living there has been no rise in wages in many industries and callings; a rise averaging 15 per cent in the wages of skilled labor; a rise of 5 to 10 per cent in several manufacturing industries.
3. That the "real wages" of the family with only one breadwinner are therefore less by from five to 24 per cent than they were in the less prosperous times of 1897-98.
4. That the "real wages" of families with two or more breadwinners are better than four years ago for this one reason—that they are all as a rule at work now, whereas some of them were idle in 1897-98.

The World's tables of actual wages and prices in different parts of the country on which these conclusions are based are full of interest and instruction on this vital topic of the time. They agree in the main with such incomplete official statistics as are available. The Labor Department's figures and Dunn's standard tables show a steady rise of prices since 1897, averaging at least 30 to 35 per cent and an average increase of wages not exceeding 12 per cent.

Wall Street Arithmetic.

St. Louis Republic.

According to the Boston Commercial Bulletin, Wall street arithmetic is as follows:

- 10 mills make one cent.
- 10 cents make one dime.
- 10 dimes make one dollar.
- 10 dollars make one eagle.
- 1 eagle makes all the money.

The Bulletin failed to complete the table. What makes a tariff schedule?

Mills Closing Down.

Raleigh Times, 22nd.

Many of the mills in this state are having to close down for want of coal. The Cannon Manufacturing Company shut down at Concord yesterday and the Concord and Gibson mills state that they cannot run longer than next Tuesday unless they can get a supply.

ROYAL Baking Powder

Makes the bread more healthful.

Safeguards the food against alum.

Alum baking powder is the greatest menace to health of the present day.

THE PECO INVINCIBLES.



The 2 Ruffle Skirt
It is made of the famous "PECO Double Wagon Skirt."
The Ruffles are 2 1/2 inches wide. Each ruffle has six rows of fine tucks, and three rows of corded at bottom.
Small Skirts with narrow straps of the same material as skirt.
Well worth \$1.50 price.

The Chequer Plume Skirt
This is the very latest style. The skirt is made of a large size. The Ruffles are 2 1/2 inches wide. Each ruffle has six rows of fine tucks, and three rows of corded at bottom. The skirt is a very fine looking skirt. It is the greatest value ever offered at the price.

THE PECO SKIRTS have a style that makes them beyond comparison. Each skirt is cut to fit snugly over the hips, and when it is drawn together at the top is a perfect fitting as a tailor-made gown.

JAMES F. YEAGER.

LADIES' FURNISHINGS A SPECIALTY.

More Horses And Better Ones.

WE HAVE received another car load of Tennessee Horses and Males which have been carefully selected by our old friend and buyer, G. A. Anderson, who has the reputation through this community of buying good reliable work stock. These are not unlike the kind he usually brings, so if you are in need of either a good Horse or Mule come and see our stock and get suited. Stock must be as they are represented to our customers when sold.

CRAIG & WILSON.

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