

THOMSON COMPANY

Is ready as never before. Everything is in fine fettle. We are ready—yes, splendidly ready—with one of the grandest expositions of bright new autumn merchandise it has ever been our pleasure to announce, and we extend an invitation to all to visit our big stores. You will find us prepared to fit you out from top to toe with the most beautiful creations of the world of fashion.

You will find a hustle in our business, broad gauge, wide awake, up-to-date. We are right in the front rank of progressive merchandising. That means much to you, more to us. Visit us often. Something new every day.

Our great buying powers and the close profit principle on which we sell bring new customers every day.

THE BEATEN PATH TO the BIG STORES, THOMSON CO., IS EVER WIDENING.

Thomson Co. Phone 46 :: The People's Store

POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS ON TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Under this head will be printed from time to time noteworthy utterances on themes of current interest. They will be taken from public addresses, books, magazines, newspapers, in fact wherever we may find them. Sometimes these selections will accord with our views and the views of our readers, sometimes the opposite will be true. But by reason of the subject matter, the style, the authorship, or the views expressed, each will have an element of timely interest to make it a conspicuous utterance.

Were Exceedingly Modest.

Cleveland Star. Those employees of the Vanderbilt estate at Biltmore, who, it is alleged, stole \$9,000 from their millionaire employer were exceedingly modest in view of the amount available. It is fashionable nowadays to take at least half of the total visible supply, and these fellows didn't even take enough to be missed.

How to Undo Rooseveltism.

Charleston News and Courier. The Philadelphia Record calls attention to the fact that while "the open declaration of President Roosevelt for one of the candidates for mayor (of New York) would cost a candidate thousands of votes; on the other hand, it is believed that Grover Cleveland's open support of the candidate would decide the contest in his favor. That is how the two men are regarded by the people of the greatest city in the United States. That is how the two men would be regarded by the people of the whole country if they should be pitted against each other in the election for President next year. The nomination of Mr. Cleveland would mean the political undoing of Mr. Roosevelt and the triumph of the Democracy.

Assuming an Air of Injured Innocence.

Stateville Landmark. Of all exasperating things in the world it is the scoundrel who commits a crime and then turns round and assumes an air of injured innocence. The fellow Dewey, of New Bern, in his letter to the News and Observer, poses as a martyr. He comes very near denying that he has done anything wrong—casually admitting only that he may have committed errors and indiscretions; while he is very bitter about the false reports which he says have been circulated and incidentally threatens New Bern people. His letter also indicates that he is in hiding here in North Carolina and his writing is a bold and brazen bid for a compromise; he will surrender if he is promised practical immunity. That sort of gall is so provoking that one can but think no punishment that could be inflicted would be too severe for Mr. Dewey and his kind.

Saloon Threat Defied.

North Carolina Baptist. The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle has been advocating raising the saloon license in that city from \$200 a year to \$1,000 a year. This course offended the saloon owners and they talked about boycotting the Chronicle. They thought that would shut the mouth of the editor, and that, in abject fear, he would hold up in his fight. But not so. Here is what he said: "Boycott?—boycott and be—, all of you. What in God's name, is the average barroom worth to any other business enterprise of this or any other city? What are they worth to the community as a whole? Boycott the Chronicle, eh? And while you are about it why not boycott every dry goods merchant, every shoe merchant and every clothing merchant who agrees with the Chronicle? Boycott them? Why, there isn't a one that doesn't lose every year a hundred times more legitimate trade, through the failure of some poor wretch to provide himself or his family with proper clothing because all of his money goes to your dives for drink, drink, drink, than all of your dive-keepers and their helpers and their friends spend with these merchants in ten years. Boycott! Do you dare stand up and draw such a weapon against decent public opinion when you are costing every legitimate business enterprise in this community dollars where you are spending dimes with them?"

Reversing on the Tariff.

Richmond News-Leader. Evidently a tariff fight is developing in Great Britain and from this fight curious consequences may come. In England a large and powerful element—perhaps a minority, but yet demanding consideration and threatening to prevail—is demanding abandonment of the traditional free trade policy of Britain and acceptance in some measure of the principle of protection. In this country the conditions are opposite precisely. Protection is the policy of our government but a formidable element, apparently increasing, demands abandonment of the protective tariff principle and the beginning of a movement for free trade. One country under free trade is restless and complains of falling prestige and declining commerce. The other under protection is equally restless and the complaint is of devouring and oppressive trusts and ruined ship building and shipping industries. It is not impossible that next year the battle may be fought in both countries, free trade defending itself in England, protection fighting to maintain its ground in the United States. This will make one of the most extraordinary situations in all political history—the two leading countries of the world divided on the same great and vital issue from contrary standpoints. And suppose the result should be a free trade victory in the United States and a protective victory in Great Britain, reversing the policies of the two governments? The commercial consequences and complications would be enormous. The financial foundation of the world would be jarred.

We believe that the more the tariff is discussed and considered and understood the stronger the cause of free trade will be. The logical, the moral and ethical as well as the sound commercial arguments appear to us to be that way. Therefore, we shall welcome the battle on both sides of the ocean.

Probably one of the strongest and most effective arguments in favor of free trade in America—by which, of course, we mean such gradual progress toward free trade as will avoid injurious shock or chill to the commerce of our country—will be the protective tariff movements in Great Britain, Germany and other European countries. One weakness of the protective principle is in the fact that the value of protection is destroyed by retaliation. It is a game at which all hands can play. When we find that our products are excluded from the ports of other countries as their products are excluded from ours we will begin to understand that protection is a humbug and a result of short sighted political quackery and charlatanism. The ultimate result of the upheaval on the tariff question, we believe, will be a general arrangement for fair reciprocity and general agreement in the direction of free trade and for competition among all the peoples of the world in the world's open markets.

LIFE STORY OF BULL LEADER.

Noted Southerner Was Fear Boy and Son of a Confederate. Baltimore Sun.

William Perry Brown, whose warlike success in cornering the world's cotton supply has made him a multi-millionaire in a few months, is a Mississippian and was practically unknown in New York six months ago. He was born in Lowndes County 31 years ago. His father, J. C. Brown, was a South Carolinian, who went to Mississippi with his parents when a boy, became a prosperous planter, a gallant Confederate soldier, and died when W. P. Brown was about 15 years of age.

From his earliest boyhood the bull leader has been connected with cotton in one way or another. He received the education to be had in the rural schools of those days, and while still in his teens he started to work on a cotton plantation. He saved up a few hundred dollars, which he invested in a general merchandise store, and for the next few years he gave his attention to the building up of that business.

He was not particularly successful, and when the store burned down one day Brown lost everything that he had in the world. Then he went to Columbus, Miss., where he worked in a store, having charge of the cotton department. It was there that he organized the cotton firm of W. P. Brown & Co., and moved to New Orleans eight years ago.

He secured offices half a square from the New Orleans Cotton Exchange. The office was much smaller than many other cotton offices in New Orleans. Even to-day when he is the most-talked-of man in the cotton business, he still occupies the modest second floor apartments, consisting of an office and a sample room. He has been bulling the market all these years, and his success must be even beyond his expectations for not even he can accurately estimate just what is his wealth.

His wife brought some capital into the partnership and became a member of the firm. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been residing in the upper section of the city, but Mr. Brown is now having a fine residence built on St. Charles avenue. There are three children in the family, all boys.

In personal appearance the cotton king is of about the average height but sturdily built and well proportioned. In dress he is perfectly plain, almost to the point of carelessness. He is a tireless worker. Often he reaches his office before his clerks and he never leaves in the evening until all the day's work has received his personal attention. He is quick in his movements, as in his speech, and yet extremely careful in every undertaking.

"I have been in the cotton business all my life, but I don't know how much longer I will be in it," Mr. Brown said recently.

But his late exploits are not his only successes. He is the man who last year conceived the idea of merging the Union National Bank into the Southern Trust and Banking Company, and later consolidated the Hibernia National with the Southern Trust Company, and finally consolidated these banking institutions into the Hibernia Bank and Trust Company. Through his efforts New Orleans boasts the largest bank and trust company in the South, with \$1,000,000 capital, \$2,000,000 surplus and \$10,000,000 deposits.

He is a Southern man whose late achievements are the admiration of one section of the country and the astonishment of the other—the first and only Southerner to engineer a successful corner in the world's greatest staple.

THE OLD RELIABLE



ABSOLUTELY PURE THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE

NEWEST WAIST PATTERNS

Have received an even hundred new waist patterns, no two alike, and all different from designs hitherto handled by us. They are of the very newest memorized goods, and will certainly interest you. Be sure to see them.

Neckwear.

Big lot of the newest designs in neckwear. They are unusually handsome and catchy.

Belts.

Have also just received a big line of belts in all the new designs, with slide in the back, which are decidedly the most stylish belt of the season.

Trimmings.

Just arrived—Another big lot of the season's newest trimmings, consisting of Persian bands, wood fiber, laces, and real clay. New style of silk cluny bands, nothing on the market like it. Also drop ornaments and pendants, all styles and prices from 5c to 50c each.

JAS. F. YEAGER.

Horses and Mules

The season has now arrived for the Horse and Mule trade and we are prepared to furnish you what you may need in this line. Have already received one car-load of good Tennessee Horses and Mules and expect another car of Mules by the last of this week. Among them will be some extra nice matched pairs suitable for farm or team use. Call and see them.

WAGONS.

We have just received a car-load of Old Hickory Wagons. They are too well known to need describing. We can give you any size you need.

RAKES AND MOWERS.

We still have some McCormick Mowers and Rakes to be sold on easy terms.

SUCCIES AND HARNESS.

We always have a nice line of Suggies, Surrays, and Harness, and have just received a nice line of winter Lap Robes.

When in need of any thing in our line we will be glad to have you call and will take pleasure in showing you our stock.

Craig and Wilson.

Gastonia Banking Co. Gastonia, N. C.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, \$75,000.00

State Bank Incorporated May 12, 1902

STATE AND COUNTY DEPOSITORY

Table with 2 columns: OFFICERS and DIRECTORS. Officers: JNO. P. LOVE, President; B. C. LOVE, Vice Pres.; JAS. A. PAOR, Cashier. Directors: B. C. LOVE, JNO. P. LOVE, B. C. LOVE, ROBT. A. LOVE.

YOUR TAXES!

I will meet you at the following places for the purpose of collecting your taxes for 1903:

Table listing collection locations and times for 1903 taxes. Locations include Gastonia, Lowell, McAdenville, Belmont, Stanley Creek, Cherryville, Gastonia, Dallas, Mt. Holly, Nimsville, Mtn. Island, Lucis, Alexis, Crowder's Creek, Pleasant Ridge, Bessemer City, Union, S. Point Ford's store, Hardin Mills, High Shoals, Patterson's school house, Baker's Mill, Dilling's Mill, Fuller's Store, Landers' Chapel, Carpenter's Store. Times range from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Remember the date. Don't fail to meet me there. C. B. ARMSTRONG, Sheriff.