

BILL ARP.

I was ruminating about the grand army of middle men that it takes to carry on the trade and commerce of this county. I verily believe that they make more money than manufacturers and there are twice as many of them. A friend of mine recently visited a large manufactory of sewing machines and the superintendent told him that prime cost of a first-class machine was \$9.60 and they jobbed them off at \$13. The jobber sold them for \$15 to agents. The agents retail them at \$35, for he has to rent a store room and keep a horse and wagon and make repairs free and sell on installments and sometimes has to take a machine back for non-payment. When the original Bill Arp moved to Texas he took his wife's machine with him and left his note behind with \$10 unpaid. Shortly after that a new agent was sent here who was not acquainted with the Arp family and he came out to my house and wanted me to pay the note. I had hard work to convince him that I was another Arp. The note was signed William Arp, his mark, and Cladrella Arp, her mark. My wife was very indignant that she should be suspected of making her mark.

Well, now you see how much money went to the middle men after the machine left the factory—\$22—twice as much as it cost to make it. Just so it is with thousands of other things that go through the hands of middle men.

I was ruminating about this because I received a report of 500 copies of my new book that Mr. Byrd had sold. The book cost 85 cents to electotype and print and bind it and I was to have half the profits arising from the sale. The price was \$1.25 postage paid, which was 11 cents. Thirty copies had been sold here at the book store for \$37.50. The book store kept 25 per cent, or \$9.37. Mr. Byrd got \$28.13. The freight and incidental expenses amount to 3 cents a copy. So the cost was 88 cents and it netted 93 cents and my half of the difference was 2 1/2 cents on a copy. The publisher and agent or middle men get about all there is in a book. I am not complaining at anybody but myself. Mr. Byrd told me that the price would have to be \$1.50 to make anything, but I wasn't thinking about charging so much and I wanted the people to have it as cheap as possible. But it can't go on this way. The publication must stop or the price be raised to \$1.50 and if an agent won't sell for 25 cents a copy, he needn't sell at all. He runs no risk. He loses no time. The books sell themselves on the counter. But Mr. Byrd can continue to sell on mail orders for \$1.25 and 10 cents more for postage. This will be a fair divide all around and give the poor author about 15 cents a copy.

Senator Hoar's speech at Chicago is before me. Nothing since the war has so cheered me and impressed me as that beautiful speech. Why doesn't every newspaper in the South copy it, or that part of it that pays such a tribute to the Southern people. When I finished it I would have hugged the old man, if he had been near enough. Listen—My life politically has been a life of constant strife with the leaders of the Southern people, yet as I grow older, I have learned not only to respect and esteem them, but I love the great qualities which belong to my countrymen of the Southern States. They are a noble race. We may well take pattern from them in some of the virtues that give strength and glory to a free people. Their love of home; their chivalrous respect for woman—their constancy which can abide by an opinion or a purpose through adversity and prosperity and through years and generations. And there is another thing—covetousness, corruption and the low temptation of money has not yet found any place in Southern politics.

"My friends, we cannot afford to live in a state of estrangement from a people who possess these qualities. They are friends of ours, born of our burning flesh, of our flesh, blood of our blood and if I have a right to speak for Massachusetts, will say, 'Entreat me not to leave thee or forsake thee, where thou goest, I will go. Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.'"

This is only a part of it. I have placed it in my scrap book along with the admirable editorial comment of 'The Constitution'. The senator spoke truly when he said that corruption in national politics had not yet reached the South. If the case had been reversed our members would not have unseated Butler, but with the northern members the ends justify the means. Yes, I remember from away back how the old man fought us. My father was brought up in his State and my mother in South Carolina and when the Senator and I were in our early manhood (we were born in the same year) the war began between those two States. Yes, more than fifty years ago, and has been bitter and unrelenting ever since. This is the first sign of a returning sense of justice that has come from any great man of the Old Bay state and we rejoice that it has come from Senator Hoar, the noblest Roman of them all. Its influence will reach from Chicago to Boston and its generous sentiments will thrill every breast in the Southland.

I care nothing for Mr. Roosevelt nor his late letter. I am too old to be deceived by wordy paragraphs. When he retracts his slanders on Jefferson Davis and apologizes to his widow I will have some confidence in his honor and his professed good intentions, but not until then. If he is a gentleman he will do that. If he is not a gentleman he won't, and that is all there is in it. Thomas Nelson Page and Harry Stillwell Edwards and the Methodist preacher of Cincinnati, to the contrary

notwithstanding. Senator Hoar would not have uttered and published those slanders and if he had done it unwittingly, he would have long ago made the amends honorable. "Slander is sharper than the sword. Its breath rides on the posting winds and its tongue outvenoms all the worms of the Nile." Roosevelt is a stubborn, conceited politician. He professes to be a friend to the South, when he is not. If we send a consul to a foreign country and they do not like him he is recalled because he is "non grata persona." How much more careful should the president be to appoint no one to office who is not grateful to our own people. If Roosevelt is a friend what makes him keep on shoving Dr. Crum on the people of a great city like Charleston. And the negro is an arrogant conceited fool or he wouldn't take it.

"I know that you say that you love me. But why did you kick me down stairs?"

Some one asked Tom Reed if there was such a thing as an honest politician. He said, "Yes. An honest politician is one whom you can buy and he will stay bought, but even they are scarce."—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

Shoots His Brother.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—A special to The News and Courier says that Friday morning near Holly Hill, in Berkeley county, Fred Martin, a young white farmer, who lives 18 miles away, rode up to the field where his brother was ploughing, and without a word of warning, fired a load of buckshot into the shoulder of his brother, Joel Martin, killing him instantly. He then quickly rode off, remarking that his brother had "only gotten what he deserved long ago." Fred Martin claims that his brother had been criminally intimate with his (Fred's) wife.

General Strike Ordered.

Philadelphia, Special.—A general strike against the American Bridge Company has been called by the executive board of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Workers. This general order includes all construction work in the hands of the company throughout the United States and Canada, and involves thousands of men in all sections.

One Released.

Paris, By Cable.—Mlle Maria Daurignac, who figured in the Humbert frauds as the prospective bride of one of the alleged American brothers, Crawford, and who was arrested in Madrid with the other members of the Humbert family and brought here, was released, the physicians having declared that she is suffering from hysteria and not responsible for her actions. She was refused permission to see her sister, Mme Humbert, and others of the family before leaving the prison.

Columbia Under Water.

Columbia, Tex., Special.—The crest of the flood in the Brazos river has reached this point and the town is under water. Rail communication with Houston has been cut off and there is no likelihood of its restoration for several days. Farms are under water and some stock has been lost, but all of the negroes have gotten out of the bottoms. The water is going across the country to the Gulf, the regular channels not being sufficient to carry it.

Uncle Tom Dead.

Chicago, Special.—Norman Argo, said to have been the original "Uncle Tom," is dead at Paint Lick, at the reputed age of 111 years, says a dispatch to The Tribune, from Lancaster, Ky. Argo was born a slave and belonged to General Sampel Kennedy, a wealthy planter of Gerard county, and a former member of the Kentucky Legislature. Mrs. Stowe is said to have obtained most of the material for "Uncle Tom's Cabin" from the Kentucky plantation.

Bryan At Cleveland.

Cleveland, Special.—Hon. Wm. J. Bryan arrived in Cleveland from the East, and is the guest of Major Johnston. Mr. Bryan will leave for Michigan tomorrow to deliver a lecture, whence he will return to Lincoln. Those who sought an interview were told that Mr. Bryan had nothing to say of interest to the public.

Large Lot of Crossstics.

The towboat Russell Lord of the AyrLord fleet came out of the Tennessee river last week with a tow of 75,000 crossstics. This is the largest consignment of crossstics ever brought to Paducah, Ky., by any one steamer.

Former Governor Samuel J. Crawford of Kansas has printed an urgent plea for the enactment of a bird protecting law. He says: "Birds of every kind and variety, except the hawk and the English sparrow, are useful, and many of them are invaluable. They should be protected by a rigid, stringent law with a severe penalty attached thereto. One quail will destroy a thousand insects in a single day, and many other birds will do as much.

LEGISLATURE ADJOURNS

A Lot of Business Crowded Into the Closing Hours.

The General Assembly adjourned Monday.

The House met at 9 o'clock and was opened with prayer by Rev. George F. Smith, pastor of Edenton Street Methodist church.

The journal was read and approved. Mr. Watts introduced a bill to provide for the appointment of election officers for municipal elections in Iredell county. The bill was passed under suspension of the rules.

Mr. Williams introduced a bill to better regulate the number of employes of the House and to fix their salaries. The same was passed.

Mr. Drewry introduced a bill to pay the sum of \$5 extra to laborers and employes of the House.

To appoint a justice of the peace for Camden county was passed.

Mr. Doughton introduced a bill to authorize the State Treasurer to pay interest on certain indebtedness and the same was passed.

Other bills passed: To protect owners of live stock in Tyrrell county.

For the relief of G. F. Kennedy. To appropriate \$10,000 for an exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition.

To repeal the law establishing the Tarboro dispensary was laid on the table.

To empower the commissioners of Wayne and Duplin counties to hire convicts.

A bill to provide for the registration of books sold in North Carolina was defeated.

To appoint W. J. McLeod a justice of the peace for Red Springs township, Robeson county.

General Davidson offered a resolution to appoint a commission to represent the State at the St. Louis Exposition. Passed its several resolutions.

A resolution in behalf of the institutions for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind, to pay mileage to directors. Passed.

A resolution to pay actual railroad fare to the pages of the House, and to pay G. W. Portin \$25 for services to the finance committee was passed.

A resolution to pay \$5 extra to the laborers of the House was passed.

To provide a stenographer for the Supreme Court at a cost not to exceed \$1,000 was passed.

To incorporate the town of Ronda, in Wilkes county.

A resolution to pay the pages \$5 extra each.

A resolution to pay mileage to committee clerks.

To regulate the management of Blossom's ferry passed final reading.

A resolution to apply the proceeds of the bond issue.

Mr. King, of Pitt, moved to have his bill to provide for a constitutional amendment to divide the school fund between the races taken up. The motion failed and he entered his protest.

Governor Doughton in a beautiful speech, presented to Speaker Gattis a handsome silver service on behalf of the members of the House. Mr. Gattis responded in a most feeling manner, while the House cheered every word.

Mr. Eelf presented in an eloquent speech a beautiful gold-headed cane to Principal Clerk Hackett, to which Mr. Hackett fittingly responded, and in doing so he paid a graceful tribute to his assistants in the clerk's office.

Mr. Smith, on behalf of the pages and laborers of the House, presented a pretty gold-headed cane to Captain Kerr, door-keeper. Captain Kerr's response was couched in feeling terms of thanks to those with whom he had been associated in the discharge of his duties.

Col. Lucas, on behalf of the colored employes presented to Captain Kerr a pretty set of chinaware. This gift Captain Kerr accepted with thanks to his colored friends.

Mr. Newland made a beautiful speech in presenting a pretty gold-headed cane to Captain Lineberry, assistant door-keeper, from the laborers and pages. Captain Lineberry thanked his friends, especially as it was an honor unusual to an assistant door-keeper.

At the close of the presentation speeches the members of the House sang "Carolina, Carolina, Heaven's Blessings Attend Her."

A bill to increase the salary of the teller in the Treasury Department from \$750 to \$900 a year was lost.

A joint resolution was adopted that the Legislature adjourn sine die at 1 o'clock.

A message was received from the Senate transmitting the information that the Senate had adopted the report of the conference committee on the appropriations bill.

The last roll-call showed 75 members present, and many of them made feeling parting remarks.

During a recess waiting for the transmission of final matters from the Senate many more songs were sung, there was a season of general hand-shaking and good fellowship.

SENATE.

When the Senate convened at 9 o'clock this morning 36 Senators were present. The resolution by Mr. London appropriating \$10,000 from the State Treasury, for an exhibit at St. Louis, provided the Governor and his council find that there will be no deficit in the Treasury, was offered and advocated by Mr. London and Mr. Brown and opposed by Mr. Mitchell, of Bertie. The resolution passed.

Mr. London offered a resolution expressing the thanks of the Senate for the work of the newspaper reporters. Mr. Henderson said he had been in legislative work since 1868 and the reports this session had been better than he ever knew before. It was adopted by a rising vote.

Mr. Gilliam introduced a bill to repeal the dispensary law at Tarboro

in obedience to the election held there last Friday. The bill passed.

Mr. Aaron introduced a bill for working convicts on the roads in Wayne and Duplin counties and it passed.

Mr. Beasley tried to get through a bill to pay Mrs. W. S. Pressom a pension of \$14. The bill excited a great discussion, many clamoring for similar bills. After numerous motions the bill was voted down.

Mr. Norris at 9:30 asked to have the bill creating a police commission taken from the calendar and passed. He said that the bill passed the

House and he had the bill Saturday referred to the committee on counties, cities and towns so that they could decide it on its merits. "I have no personal interest but I am not willing for any bill to die by reference. Since that committee has not been able to meet the responsibility rests with me. This bill is asked for by the board of aldermen of the city and since it was passed on almost unanimously by the House and in view of these facts I ask the Senate to pass the bill. I have no personal interest with either faction in the city but this bill after passing the House should be acted on by the Senate." Mr. London said the Senate did not have time to consider the matter now and he moved to table. This prevailed Senator Norris, Pharr and Travis voting no.

The following passed final reading: To amend the charter of Hamlet. To allow Hamlet to levy a special tax.

A bill by Mr. Baldwin to pay the directors of the deaf, dumb and blind institutions traveling expenses was passed.

On motion of Mr. Hoey the bill amending the charter of Randleman was recalled and tabled. It was found that it taxed every dog, chicken and goose in the town \$6.

Mr. Aaron introduced a bill giving the commissioners of Wayne power in stock law territory.

The House bill to provide municipal election officers for towns in Iredell passed.

Mr. Webb offered a bill to pay S. J. Shelton \$17.50. He came to Raleigh and stayed three days expecting a job and he thought that he should be remembered. Senators Brown, Spence, Pharr and others had similar cases, so they voted the bill down.

The House bill authorizing the State Treasurer to pay interest on certain indebtedness passed without debate.

Lieutenant Governor Turner appointed Senator Norris on the joint committee for enlarging the capital.

The House bill to better regulate legislative employes. This restricted the pages in the House to 11, to be selected by the Speaker from each congressional district and one from the State at large. The pages in the Senate shall be 7. The employes in the House shall be 12, and in the Senate 10. This bill was offered by the joint committee. Mr. Milton and Mr. Thayer advocated the bill. An amendment by Mr. Brown giving the door-keepers and first assistants mileage was adopted, by a vote of 13 to 12. The bill then passed.

Mr. Spruill had the bill to levy a special tax in Tyrrell recalled and tabled.

The House bill to appoint L. F. Hammett a justice of the peace in Granville passed.

The House resolution to pay George F. Kennedy for running the steam heating plant during the session was passed.

The House bills to appoint justices of the peace in Pamlico and Camden counties passed.

The House bill to appoint W. M. Surratt a justice of the peace in Davidson passed.

After the conclusion of the business on hand the Senate adjourned sine die.

Wrecked at Norfolk.

Norfolk, Special.—A fierce wind storm swept over Norfolk at noon Saturday, and did considerable damage. The large building being erected by the American Cigar Company, near the city limits, was almost completely destroyed and several workmen narrowly escaped the falling walls.

Street Demonstration.

Buda-Pesth, Special.—Street demonstrations by 10,000 Socialists to protest against the government military bills, took place here Sunday and led to collisions with the populace and breaking of windows. Many arrests were made and the police had finally to charge the demonstrators and disperse them.

Avenged Wrecked Home.

Roanoke, Va., Special.—At Powhattan, W. Va., a little mining town just across the Virginia line, Jas. Hickman shot and instantly killed Jas. Mack. Several years ago Mack induced her home in western North Carolina. Hickman had not heard from his wife until a few days ago when he learned she was living with Mack in the coal fields. He went in search of her and located them in a cabin at Powhattan. He called Mack to the door and emptied both barrels of a breechloader into the man who had wrecked his home. Hickman surrendered.

Terrible Snow Storms.

London, By Cable.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of The Daily Mail telegraphs that terrible snow storms have been raging during the past week in the government of Samara, and have caused hundreds of deaths. Horses drawing sledges have returned to villages with the passengers frozen to death. Many persons have been frozen to death within the villages while searching for their own homes.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRY

Roanoke's \$30,000 Silk Mill.

In its issue of February 5 the Manufacturers' Record stated that Valentine Bliss of Scranton, Pa., had decided to establish a branch silk mill at Roanoke, Va., investing about \$30,000. A suitable building having been secured, a portion of the machinery has been installed, and ten operatives begun work this week. There are twelve throwing machines in position at present, but forty more have been ordered, and are expected to arrive before April 1. The mill will all ready on commission. It receives Chinese silk in the raw state as reeled from cocoons, and its machinery throws the same into skeins. These skeins are used principally in manufacturing dress trimmings, Italian and Japanese raw silk will be used later on.

Spindles in February.

There was more than the usual activity last month in announcement of increases to the spindleage of Southern mills. Not for a year or such a month's record been made. Usually, the established companies long experience lead in the activity. There were 135,500 spindles and 10,000 looms definitely announced in February as to be installed. An investment of \$2,710,000 is indicated. Equipment of that extent. Established companies are credited with 100,000 spindles and 1,550 looms, making investment of \$1,610,000. This leaves 55,000 spindles and 950 looms for strictly new mills, an investment of \$1,100,000.

The Odell Improvements.

It was announced in these columns last September that the J. M. Odell Manufacturing Co. had decided upon making extensive improvements to its plant. These improvements were stated to include the rebuilding of a dam and raising same from a height of four to ten feet. During the present week John W. Hays of Petersburg, Va., was engaged to prepare plans and specifications for the water-power improvements. The company will also carry out its plan, previously announced, to install looms in order to manufacture yarns into cloth. There are 600 spindles in the mill. About \$50,000 being expended for the additional machinery.

Its Third Silk Mill.

A dispatch from Fayetteville, N. C., states that the Ashley & Bailey Co. will build another silk mill in that city, making its third plant there. This company is now operating 15,000 spindles and 1,200 looms at Fayetteville, the first plant having been established several years ago, and a second one last year. Only negroes employed in the company's Southern mills. The company has large mills in Paterson, N. J., and in several Pennsylvania towns.

Textile Notes.

It is stated that M. W. Conway of New York city, while in Jacksonville, Fla., recently, purchased 2,000,000 crossstics from dealers in that city. These ties are to be used in the construction of an electric railroad from Catskill to Oakhill, which is to be completed by July 1 next. Mr. Conway pronounces the yellow-pine heart crossstics of Florida well adapted for the purposes.

The door, sash, blind and building material business of the late Mr. J. R. Neely of Norfolk has been acquired by a stock company which was chartered last week. The new company will be known as the Hawks-Maupin Company, and will begin business with capital of \$15,000. The officers of the company are Judge L. R. Watts, president; Mr. E. W. Maupin, Jr., treasurer; and E. B. Hawks, secretary.

C. C. Mengel, Jr., & Bro. Co. of Louisville announce that within the next few months they will import through Pensacola 8,000,000 feet of mahogany logs, the first cargo of which is now here. The mahogany is coming from Honduras, and 250,000 feet of logs is considered a good cargo for a vessel. The product will be shipped to the company's box factory at Louisville. Several vessels are now en route there.

Calima in Eruption.

Colima, Mex., Special.—The volcano is again in eruption. The people of Tuxpam are in consternation. According to advices from that point the eruption was accompanied by showers of ashes and dense clouds darkening the sky. Some have fled to neighboring hills. Many houses and stores have been closed.

Lumber Notes.

The shipments of lumber from the port of Jacksonville, Fla., for the month of February amounted to 731,592 feet, against 11,035,023 feet for February, 1902, an increase of 696,559 feet.

The large new planing mill and novelty works of the Douglass Manufacturing Co. of Douglass, Ga., started up last week. The company turns out all styles of woodwork, and has orders for months ahead.

A charter has been granted to the Haynes Furniture Co. of Franklin county, Tennessee, with a capital stock of \$15,000. The incorporators are J. C. Haynes, Jr., A. J. Barnes, W. W. Tucker and Floyd Estill.