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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

THE QUESTION OF CHILD LABOR.

Arguments Before the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures in the House.

The committee on commerce and manufactures in the House of Representatives held a special meeting to hear discussion of the child labor question. The bill before the committee provides that within one year after its passage children under ten years of age are prohibited from working in a cotton mill; after one year the age limit shall be eleven years, and after the second year the age limit shall be twelve years.

The first speaker was Chas. H. German, of Aiken County, a cotton mill operative, who declared that this is a humane and just measure and no just reason against it has ever been urged. He stated that the opposition declares that the bill will drive labor away from the mills. He differed with them. It is customary to employ children as spinners and spoolers. He said that children of a very tender age are being employed in the mills. Members of the committee had seen children under ten years of age at work in the Granby mill in this city. He conceded that the mill authorities are doing a great deal to provide schools for the mill children, but it is like putting food in front of a hungry man and then not allowing him to eat. It is untrue that the population coming in brings illiteracy, for many children raised in cotton mill towns in this State cannot read their names.

He had been told by some mill officials that they would accept the child labor law if it becomes a general law and is made to apply to every mill in the State. There have been some manufacturers who have not taken much interest in this bill. He had been told that the manufacturers in Georgia had agreed on a law in that State. It is detrimental to the health as well as the education of the children to keep them at work in the mills at untimely hours.

E. A. Smyth, president of the Pelzer mills, followed. He stated that there is no law in Georgia, North Carolina or Alabama on this subject. In the Piedmont section the authorities had for 15 years been trying to stamp out child labor in mills while the King's Daughters and other humanitarians had been lately taken up on the matter. He showed how the older mills are trying to provide schools. He styled the bill as "class legislation." It brands the cotton mill employees as inhuman and protects the child from its parents when they move to town, but lets them do whatever they please if they stay on the farms.

Mr. Smyth continued that there is no way to prove a child's age. If the law should put an age limit it would be hard to prove that children below that age were working in the mills. He has a similar rule at the Pelzer mill, and he feels sure that it is violated, yet he cannot prove that the children at work come below the age limit.

He read a letter from a distinguished Northern physician in which it was declared that the children are better off in the mills than idle. This article declared that the Southern cotton mill superintendents do not want their children, and that but a limited number are employed, and that these sweepers really are not overtaxed by their work. The article urged an extension of the public school system, and ultimately, compulsory education. These children, idle, without parental restraint, would be worse off than at work in the mills.

The speaker continued that the members of the committee are from a section of the State where there are no mills; the Governor of the State, the Speaker of the House, the newspaper articles urging this bill are written by people inspired by a sentiment which is overdrawn and not from knowledge of conditions. Then there are labor agitators who are working for the bill.

Mr. Henry B. Richardson asked if it hurts a child's health to work in a mill. Mr. Smyth replied that it might hurt them under 10 years of age, but it would not hurt a child of 12 years. But better for them to be at work than to be running around growing up to be vagrants and forming vicious habits.

Mr. Webb asked if this bill would affect Pelzer. Mr. Smyth replied that it would not, yet he would regret to see it passed, it is vicious legislation.

Mr. Webb asked further if Mr. Smyth has not a regulation on this very subject. Mr. Smyth answered that he has, but he is powerless to enforce it. There are 300 children on the streets of Pelzer now. He can dismiss families from his service for not complying with his rule to require children to go to school, but he cannot force them to comply and to go to school.

The speaker then discussed the subject of compulsory education, and urged that, if this bill be passed, the compulsory education bill be passed with it. He gave a history of legislation in Massachusetts against the labor of children. The limit there is ten years. Why should the age in this State be 12 years, for the children in the South are really more precocious. The cotton mill industry is young in this State, yet the bill proposes to put this State on a basis with Northern States where the industry is a hundred years old.

This bill is too drastic. Yet if there must be enacted then pass a law to license marriages, to record births and in this way to keep up with the ages of children, and then pass a compulsory

education law. Don't be afraid of educating the negro, for he will get educated anyway. Mr. Smyth thought the advice of the cotton mill authorities ought to be listened to in the adjudication of questions of this kind because they have been more deeply interested in this matter than other people.

At the suggestion of Capt. Montgomery, Mr. Smyth explained that while there are three hundred children on the streets of Pelzer, he did not mean to convey the impression that the schools there are not patronized. He produced statistics showing that the schools there are well patronized.

Mr. Stackhouse, at the conclusion of Capt. Montgomery's remarks, asked if the friends of the bill desired to be heard further. There was no response.

Then at the request of Col. Orr, Rev. Vernon P. Anson, who is a missionary working among the cotton mill operatives in Columbia, addressed the committee. He favored a compulsory education law. It would meet all of the requirements for the present. The mill companies are trying to settle these questions for themselves. He cited acts of benevolence on the part of some mills taking care of families who could not have existed without such support. The child labor cotton mill had taken care of one of more such families. He sees crowds of negro children going to school while the white children are not attending so regularly. The compulsory education bill would remedy this. He avowed his friendship and loyalty to the interests of the mill operatives. There may be cases of captious mismanagement, but as a friend of the poor people he declared that the mill authorities have been doing a great deal to supply the operatives with better social, educational and moral influences. He suggested the advisability of appointing a commission to visit every mill in the State.

He had referred in his remarks to having stood between the operatives and the management. Mr. Webb asked him what of that trouble. Mr. P. Anson replied that trouble is all over. Christmas eve the mill management had given to each operative a turkey, while the humble employees had given to Mr. Whaley a gold watch and chain. He had never gone to the general manager of that mill for material matters to relieve the sick or suffering but what his request had been quickly and cheerfully granted.

Mr. Webb asked if Mr. P. Anson believed that working in the mills is healthy for children.

Mr. P. Anson replied that no indoor work, in the mill, in the store or elsewhere, is as healthy as working on the farm.

From his pupil Mr. P. Anson had announced that the Legislature would soon be in session and he wanted the views of the operatives on compulsory education. He declared that many had stated to him voluntarily that they favor compulsory education, but none spoke of the bill now under discussion.

Mr. P. Anson paid his respects to the "collector" who hangs around the corner grocery and collects his children's wages and spends the money at the blind tigers. He is an evil whom no legislation can reach.

Mr. P. Anson told of a very touching case. A man prostrated with Bright's disease. His wife, a proud woman, tried to work, but two of her three children were taken down with pneumonia, and the head of the family became a 9-year-old child. He declared with feeling that the mill had not left this family to suffer, although the labor of that little child was all, nominally, upon which these people could depend.

The attention of the committee was then attracted to the remarks of Capt. W. A. Courtenay, of the Navy mill, who was introduced by Col. Orr. He charged that underneath this question is the subtle charge of sordidness on the part of the mill owners, an appeal to the emotional nature of the people. He declared that this was similar to the publication of Uncle Tom's Cabin in a book which had later been deplored by its own author.

He then addressed himself to the practical side of the case. He does not allow little children to work in the mill. Some days ago he had found three little girls around his mill. One was but 10 years old. He told them to have their mother to come to see him. The next day their mother appeared at his office. He asked her if her youngest child were not too young to work in the mill. The poor woman declared her husband was dying of cancer and the labor of these little children is all upon which they could depend for a living. "What was I to tell her," asked Capt. Courtenay feebly.

There are today emissaries of New England in this State, he declared, and they are trying to sow discord in this State. The operatives in Southern towns have vastly better homes, etc., and are better in every way than the operatives of the eastern mills.

Mr. German, the cotton mill operative who had first spoken declared that he had been through the cotton mills in Fall River, and the operatives there are better off than they are here.

Col. Orr asked Mr. German what proportion of the cotton mill operatives in Massachusetts are native Americans? Mr. German could not tell, but he was sure that there were no children under twelve years of age working there.

"Mr. Chairman, I deny that statement most emphatically," said Capt. Courtenay, and this denial was sustained by other mill presidents.

Mr. German replied that he had been there and had been all through the mills and he knew of what he was talking. There are no cotton factory op-

eratives here working against this bill. The opponents are mill owners. Why do these officials say that they don't want children working in their mills and yet turn around and fight the bill?

In reply to questions from Mr. Webb, Mr. German declared that in Massachusetts there is a law against this kind of labor. There are factory inspectors to keep out the children of immature age.

In answer to questions from mill presidents, he declared that he did not know that the New England mills allow children of indigent parents to work in the mills anyway, but this bill provides the same thing for the South Carolina mills.

Mr. Jno. C. Carey, president of the Lockhart mills was then presented by Col. Orr. He began by saying that the operatives, owners of mills and legislators are of the same lath and kin. The mill owners have at heart the interests of not only their operatives, but of the entire State. The operatives work in the prospect of certain reward. If the mill operatives are so much in favor of this bill, why are they not here to appeal for it? Where are the gray headed fathers, the weeping mothers to declare the cruelty of the cotton mill owners?

He was asked if the mills pay operatives who are leaving the business. He replied that they do. He gave one instance not to show the inhumanity of parents to children driven from home, but to "instance the generosity of mill presidents." In regard to Mr. German's visit to New England mills, Mr. Carey charged pointedly that it is a difficult matter for a Southern mill president to visit a president of an Eastern mill, or to visit the mill itself. He intimated that it is wellnigh impossible for an operative to visit those mills.

Mr. Carey was asked if the wages are as high in the South as in New England. He replied that this is not a question at issue, but if wages are not as high it is because the cost of living is much lower in the South. His own salary would hardly pay the rent of the house of a New England mill president.

He continued that every cotton mill resident in the South tries to outdo his neighbor in showing what can be done to benefit his help. School houses and churches are built. The mill presidents are teaching the operatives to say "our mills," etc., to feel a proprietary interest in the mills in which they work. In New England the help is of foreign birth, and they care nothing for the property or of the persons of the mills. We want that infection kept out of here.

He invited the King's Daughters to visit his mill, to come in disguise and work there if they want to and then if there be found anything wrong let them make it known. He takes a census every three months and he finds more ignorance among the grown people than among the children. He roasted the articles of a woman correspondent, who described conditions in a mill in Alabama. He declared statements therein as utterly preposterous and untrue. There is no cruelty such as slapping children's faces.

Mr. Ellis G. Graydon, of Greenwood, by invitation, addressed the committee. He stated that in the question only nobody having in the question only such interest as every citizen should have. Very little has been said upon the real issue—is this measure advisable? The question before this committee is, "Is it a good thing to have a child work in a cotton mill or anywhere else where it requires him to delve 66 hours a week" which is equivalent to 12 hours a day by Mr. Graydon's calculation, for the custom is to make up through the week for the half-holiday on Saturday, so that the time actually spent at work is 13 hours a day for five days in the week.

A farmer would not plow a colt for 13 hours a day for the beast is physically unable to stand it. Then why not apply this rule to children in cotton mills. It makes them prematurely old and decrepit, flat chested, narrow shouldered, wan and weak. In Greenwood the operatives are as good as dead in any other mill. They do not complain of ill treatment. That is not the question. The question is, "Is it good for the children?" This question is not to be settled upon sentiment, but upon facts. To get proof that this is a good bill, it is necessary to go no further than to the testimony of Mr. Smyth and the others. They say that they do not want the children to work in their mills. If it is not good for them why not pass a law prohibiting it?

There may be cases of individual hardships caused by this bill, although, there are provisions seeking to exempt such cases. Suppose it does press down hardly upon some people, the question is, "What is the greatest good for the greatest number of people?" What is good for these mills good for the mills of the entire State. The authorities of the mills have been putting the thing off from year to year, and why delay this legislation? He had talked with many operatives, honest, law abiding peaceable people. He had yet to find one man of them who opposes this bill. The Textile Workers' union, which has the interest of the operatives at heart, is in favor of this bill.

Mr. Graydon concluded earnestly by declaring that he represents no people or set of people, but merely begs to tell of the convictions which had come upon him through close observation.

Col. Orr concluded the debate. He could understand why Mr. Webb and Mr. German are here; they represent the labor unions; he could understand why the King's Daughters are here;

but he could not understand why Mr. Graydon is here. He declared that Mr. Graydon had been misinformed and had used an improper illustration in comparing the children in the mills to the overworked mules. He also desired to correct Mr. Graydon's figures as to the number of hours of labor.

"These people have asked for legislation which England had not adopted until after 100 years of experience with manufactures. What is England's condition today? She is on her knees to American industries. Why should South Carolina be handicapped? Why should this State be picked out for experimental legislation, when neighboring States have repudiated it? Why put South Carolina in the developing State with New England in a fully developed social condition?"

He concluded by paying his respects to the "walking delegates," and a spirited colloquy ensued.

Mr. German denied representing the labor unions. "Well, I supposed you did for you were here in that capacity last year," replied Col. Orr.

"And I want to say that I am a representative of the State of South Carolina and not representing labor unions," said Mr. Webb.

Col. Orr charged that that had been Mr. Webb's attitude last session.

Mr. Webb—I refute that as an absolute falsehood.

Col. Orr—Are you a member of a labor organization?

Mr. Webb—I am not a walking delegate.

Col. Orr—Answer my question.

Mr. Webb—I am not a walking delegate.

"What do you think? Harry asked me to kiss him last evening."

Bertha: "My! And what did you say?"

Maudie: "I was so shocked that I couldn't say a word."

Bertha: "And what did Harry say?"

Maudie: "Oh, he was in no position to say anything."

A lady, recently returned from Europe, while entertaining a party of friends with descriptions of the wonderful things she had seen abroad, mentioned the clock at Strasburg. One young lady thereupon remarked:

"Oh! yes, I have heard all about that; and did you see the watch on the Rhine, too?"

Mr. Pitt—The other day it was announced by a Constantinople correspondent that the release of Miss Stone was only a question of a few hours, but she is still in captivity.

Mr. Penn—It seems to me that her release is a question of money rather than time.

Mr. Pitt—Well, time is money, you know.

A knot of men were gathered in the smoking-room at the club the other evening. They finally entered upon a contest to see who could tell the most remarkable story about the fat men or the lean men they had seen.

The man awarded first prize said that he had met in his travels a man so thin that he could go through a flute without striking a note.

"There was a strong objection to taking that big donation that the man who makes poker chips offered us, but we finally accepted it."

"What persuaded you to drop your high resolves?"

"We heard that the church around the corner was ready to take every cent he'd offer, and no questions asked."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"What is the reason?" asked a Prospect avenue woman. "That you never see a woman's head on a postage stamp or a man's head on a dollar?"

"Give it up," said her husband.

"Well, it's true just the same and I can't see why we can't have our heads on the stamps as well as the coins."

"Never thought of that before," said the husband, "but that is, no doubt, the reason why we lick the stamps and squeeze the coins."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

"I wonder why it is," said the man who is always annoyed, "that children and parrots pick up slang so much more readily than they do good English?"

"And I have wondered," said the mild gentleman with spectacles, "why it is that grown people find it so easy to remember the refrain of a silly song and so difficult to recall the text of a sermon."—Washington Star.

Prospective Editor—I am going to call my new paper "The Blood."

Other Fellow—Why?

Prospective Editor—So it will start right off with a good circulation.

Baltimore American.

"Corrupt bargains between government and capital have been made and unfair union of trade interests permitted in this country until almost the only unadulterated honesty that remains is represented by the farmer and the product of his farm. Every ton of produce that is shipped to the seaboard to swell the great volume of international trade now setting so strongly in our favor pays a mill a mile, or more, to the profits of a railroad pool or the dividends on a watered share of stock. The farmer may sow and reap season after season, the sun and the rains may favor him with abundant crops, but his profits are steadily diminished while he contributes to the support of those government created or favored monopolies that sow political poisons and garner a harvest of gold."

An attempt is being made in England to secure enough money for the erection of a suitable monument to Edward Edwards, the original promoter of the modern system of free public libraries. Edwards, who was born in 1812, died in 1890, in extreme poverty, and has been almost forgotten by the generation upon which his labors conferred so great a benefit.

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to the acre at less cost, means more money.

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in the Cotton fertilizer improves the soil; increases yield—larger profits. Send for our book (free) explaining how to get these results.

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FROM A BACHELOR'S VIEW.

It is a wise woman that lets her servants have their own way.
Being a crank depends a good deal on who turns the handle.
The kind that ought to drink themselves to death never do; they just keep getting a bigger thirist.
A week-old New Year's resolution ceases to be an aim that will cure itself; it is a disease that must be got rid of.
A woman will get mad at you if you don't try to have the last word, because you have to do that to give her another chance to have it.
Little vices keep company with great virtues.
A lazy woman is in danger of sin because it is too much trouble to escape it.
A woman's logic moves backward just like a crawfish, but it doesn't go so straight.
Give a woman your love and she will overlook some mighty serious moral deficiencies.
No woman will ever admit that she got beaten at a bargain except when she got her husband.
To him who hath misfortunes shall be given more.
Delusions discovered are romances under a archlight.
A woman judges a man as she judges a bargain—by his price.
A man can slide down forever without getting to the utmost bottom of despair.
When we try to convert others we are convincing them; when others try to convert us they are bullying us.
Politicians have more tact than highwaymen; highwaymen have more sincerity.
The time that a man is most in love with a woman in all their lives is five minutes before he proposes to her.
The first thing the woman who means to get into society does is to call one corner of the kitchen the butler's pantry.
A woman's baby can fall down and bump itself hard without its being at all calamity, but if she hears another man has called that baby ugly, that's a national disaster.
The way for a girl to catch a man is to run away from him.
Nobody is ever sensible enough to know that about some things we are all foolish.
There hardly ever was a girl born who could not see a piece of mischief without getting right under it.
When you have it it's prosperity; when the other fellow has it it's luck.
Some women never can convince themselves that every man who is polite to them is not trying to marry them.
The woman who knows how to broil a steak doesn't need to read magazine articles on how to make a happy home.
—New York Press.

IN A HUMOROUS VEIN

"She has found her life work at last."

"What is it?"

"Married a man to reform him."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

It is Mr. Dooley's Opinion that "Vice is a creature of such hideous mien that, as Hogan says, th' more ye see it, th' better ye like it."

Nobb: "And I got into a bumblebee's nest while I was on my vacation."

Nebb: "Say, you must have had a dreadful time."

Nobb: "Oh, it was a swell time."

First Citizen: "Talkaway is a born orator."

Second Citizen: "Yes, indeed. It is only when you see his speeches in cold type that you realize that he hasn't anything to say."

"How about that cheap watch of yours you were bragging about so much?"

"It's still the most reliable time-piece I ever carried. It's never fast or slow."

"Really?"

"Yes; it doesn't go at all now."

"Yes, it's a very valuable property now, but a few years ago I could have had it for a mere song."

"And you couldn't sing, eh?"

"Oh! I could sing, but I couldn't get the right notes."—Philadelphia Press.

The Widow—I hope you will like them, my dear Dr. Blossom. I preserve them with my own hands.

Dr. Blossom—My dear lady, your kindness quite unnerves me—er—er—er all I can say is—er—may the Lord preserve you.

An unsophisticated old woman asked a druggist the other day if he had any soap. "Yes, ma'am," he replied. "Do you want it scented or unscented?" "Well," she replied, "bein' it's so small, I guess I'll take it along with me."

He: "You see, I have a sort of power of clairvoyance, so to speak. That is, I can always tell what people are thinking of me."

She (in great confusion): "Oh!—er—indeed! But I—I—don't always seriously mean what I happen to think."

Jones (who had come with his wife to call on the new neighbors)—Wonder if they've been married long, Hypatia?

Mrs. Jones—Oh, no. Evidently newly married.

Jones—How can you tell?

Mrs. Jones—Drawing-room smells of

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Church Directory.

Below we give the names of churches pastors, and the Sundays on which they worship, as far as we have information. If your church is not on the list send the necessary information:

BAPTIST.

Pickens—Rev. A. J. S. Thomas—3d Sunday, 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; prayer meeting, Wednesday 8 p. m.

Seconda—Rev. J. E. Foster—Saturday before first Sunday at 3 p. m.; 1st Sunday 11 a. m.

Peter's Creek—Rev. J. E. Foster—2d Saturday 3 p. m.; Sunday after second Saturday 11 a. m.

Mile Creek—Rev. J. E. Foster—4th Saturday 3 p. m.; Sunday after fourth Saturday 11 a. m.

Mill—Rev. W. C. Seaborn—Saturday before the second Sunday 2 p. m.; second Sunday 11 a. m.

Clinton's Creek—Rev. W. C. Seaborn—Saturday before the third Sunday 2 p. m.; 3d Sunday 11 a. m.

Clonard—Rev. W. C. Seaborn—Saturday before the fourth Sunday 2 p. m.; 4th Sunday 11 a. m.

Lafayette—Rev. H. O. Haddock—1st and 3d Sunday morning, 11 o'clock; night, 8; a. s. every Sunday at 4 p. m.; prayer meeting, Wednesday 8 p. m.

Mount Taber—Rev. G. E. Runyon—Saturday before fourth Sunday at 3 o'clock p. m.

METHODIST.

Pickens—Rev. R. R. Dagnall—1st Sunday 8 p. m.; 2d Sunday 11 a. m.; 4th Sunday 8 p. m.; prayer meeting, Wednesday 8 p. m.

Twelve Mile—Rev. R. R. Dagnall—1st Sunday 11 a. m.; 3d Sunday 8:30 p. m.

Red Oak—Rev. R. R. Dagnall—2d Sunday 4:30 p. m.

Taber—Rev. R. R. Dagnall—4th Sunday 11 a. m.; 5th Sunday 11 a. m.

Enley—Rev. W. W. Wiggins—1st Sunday 8 p. m.; 3d Sunday 11 a. m.

St. Paul—Rev. W. W. Wiggins—1st Sunday 8 p. m.

Zion—Rev. W. W. Wiggins—2d Sunday 11 a. m.; 5th Sunday 4 p. m.

Bethesda—Rev. Wiggins—1st Sunday 11 a. m.; 3d Sunday 4 p. m.

Antioch—Rev. Wiggins—4th Sunday 11 a. m.

PICKENS CHURCH. Rev. Wiggins—2d Sunday 4 p. m.; 5th Sunday 4 p. m.

NORTH PICKENS CHURCH.—Rev. C. L. McCall.

First Sunday—Friends' Hall, 11 a. m.; Porter's Chapel, 3:30 p. m.

Second Sunday—Mt. Bethel, 11 a. m.; New Hope, 3:30 p. m.

Third Sunday—Porter's Chapel, 11 a. m.; Salem, 3:30 p. m.

Fourth Sunday—McKinley's Chapel, 11 a. m.; Jackson, 3:30 p. m.

Wm. Jackson—Third Sunday, Rev. J. P. Atwater, Vinton, a. c.

First Sunday—Fairview, 11 a. m.; Cedar Grove, 3:30 p. m.

Third Sunday—Gap Hill, 11 a. m.

Fourth Sunday—Ridgeway, 11 a. m.; Liberty, 2:45 p. m.

GREENVILLE COURTS

Monday in January, last Monday in May and the second Monday in September.

ANDOVERS—Second Monday in February, second Monday in June and the fourth Monday in September.

ANDOVERS—Third Monday in February, third Monday in June, and first Monday after the fourth Monday in September.

WALTONS—Second Monday in March, the second Monday after the fourth Monday in June, and the sixth Monday after the fourth Monday in September.

PRETRES—Third Monday in March, third Monday after fourth Monday in June, and the fourth Monday in September.

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