

THE ARGUS.

DAILY AND WEEKLY

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

Mr. Frank I. Osborne, Democratic candidate for Attorney-General, will address the people of this section on the issues of the day in this city on Monday next, August 15.

Everybody is cordially invited to hear him.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

The young white man from Dudley, Mr. R. B. Bowden, whose mental condition was mentioned in *The Argus* a day or two ago was taken to the State Hospital at Raleigh Saturday for treatment.

Good reports come in from the campaign on every hand. The people are being persuaded to think twice, and those that have grown wayward, are being reclaimed to their Democratic fealty again. The people may be trusted.

Mr. Joe Rosenthal, of the firm of H. Weil & Bros., is at the North making extensive purchases of Fall goods. Mr. Sol Weil, of the same firm, has just returned from a like trip in the interest of the extensive shoe department of their business.

The death of Hon. Jos. J. Davis, Associate-Justice of the Supreme Court of this State, which occurred Sunday night at his home in Louisville, will be exceedingly regretted throughout the length and breadth of North Carolina, although the event has been expected for months.

The meeting of the Four C's Thursday night was well attended and a number of new names for membership were enrolled. The club was addressed in stirring speeches by Hon. B. F. Aycock, of Fremont, and Dr. W. J. Jones, of this city. It was decided to raise the 108 foot flag pole on the 27th of August with public ceremonies and a general old-fashioned Democratic rally.

The Ladies' Benevolent Society of this city are in need of funds with which to carry on their greatest of all works—that of caring for the poor. "And the greatest of these is charity." Should *The Argus* say more in their behalf than simply make this statement of their needs? Do not their ministrations at the bedside of the sick and their visits to the homes of the indigent poor of the city plead their cause more eloquently than words? Give, then, to their fund, to-day—to-morrow, just what you can and leave to God the rest. "He will repay."

A Force of hands is at work on East Centre street between Walnut and Chestnut, breaking ground preparatory to the paving of the street with shell rock. This much needed improvement is another indication of our city's progressive spirit of improvement, and soon East Centre street, like Walnut, where the experiment of shell rock paving proved so satisfactory, will bid farewell to the slush and mud which have heretofore rendered it "altogether disagreeable," besides giving the travel public on such occasions anything but pleasant impressions and recollections of Goldsboro.

The death of Mr. A. B. Thompson occurred Monday morning, about 11 o'clock, at his home in this county after a lingering illness of many months. He was one of our best citizens, universally esteemed, and greatly beloved by those who knew him well. He was the uncompromising friend of right, fearless in its advocacy and exemplary in his own life. He was a zealous member of the Methodist Church, and died in the unshaken hope of a glorious immortality. A good man has gone out from among us and the people will sincerely mourn his loss. A wife and seven children, also one brother, Mr. Wm. B. Thompson, and one sister, Mrs. Benj. Reeves, formerly of this county but now of Beaufort county, survive him. His funeral was held from his late home at 8 o'clock a. m. Tuesday, Rev. B. R. Hall, of this city, officiating.

That is a comprehensive letter of Congressman Grady, in this issue, addressed to Mr. "Tobe" Stevens, of our county. He looks before and after and rightly expresses great abhorrence of the growing burden of Federal pensions—it is the greatest evil from which the masses suffer to-day, especially the Southern people, who pay so largely to the fund and get not a penny back. AND THIS IS THE STUPENDOUS FRAUD that Cleveland vetoed. Think of it—you who are crying out against Cleveland in the South. Shame upon you! He dared to stand alone between you and the Grand Army of the Re-

public and do you justice. Cleveland would "rather be right than be President", and the people will not do right if they do not make him President.

TRADE was somewhat dull on East-Centre street Thursday, but the denizens of that locality never let dull times interfere with their alertness for fun. They are always "up to something," and yesterday they "roped in" a youth from the country selling "huckleberries." They were very anxious to buy his berries—oh, so anxious, and he was just as anxious to sell. After much discussion he finally offered to sell all he had in his basket—some two quarts—for ten cents. The crowd said they would take them all provided he would count the berries. With some reluctance the youth closed the contract and set to work with a vim and with utter oblivion to all around him, counting his berries. One by one the crowd stole away, and when at 500 the unsuspecting youth happened to look up from his job he found himself completely alone. With a look of utter disgust he arose and looking around for his absconded would-be-purchasers, said: "I would stick to my contract, but the durned fools are all gone, so I will try some one else."

That was a fine rally for Democracy held at Fremont on Wednesday, as reported by our regular correspondent. There was another at Grantham's Thursday—the "banner township" of Democracy in the county, which has been its proud boast for years. We know there was a big time over there—and we know also that Dr. Exum did not "show up" over there. Perhaps he got satiated at Fremont; or perhaps he got converted—if, indeed, he needed conversion, for Dr. Exum has been a tried and true Democrat in the days that are gone, and we cannot believe but what he will vote in these piping days of peace as he did when negro soldiers stood around the polls. How he can remember those days and look before him to their reproduction under the infamous Force bill and then vote any other than the Democratic ticket is beyond our comprehension. We have no criticism to make upon Dr. Exum. He is a man of intelligence and patriotism, strong in his convictions and with the courage of them always—this is what makes us believe that he has simply formed a hasty conclusion, which, later on, he will have the firmness to set aside.

A COMPREHENSIVE LETTER

CONGRESSMAN GRADY REVIEWS THE SITUATION AND THE OUTLOOK.

A United Democracy the Only Hope and the Only Unfailing Bulwark of the People. Let us Come Together for Battle and for Success.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES, U. S., WASHINGTON, D. C., July 14.

J. A. Stevens, Esq., McClammy, N. C.:
MY DEAR SIR:—Yours of June 28 came in due time. It would afford me much pleasure to be with you on Aug. 13, but I am unable now to make any definite promise. The business of Congress is in such a shape that it is impossible to predict when adjournment will come; and I do not wish to leave unless extraordinary reasons call me away. My stay in Washington has been an instructive school to me, and the lessons I have learned weaken my courage and lessen my hope. The forces in this country, controlling its policy and dictating legislation, are not appreciated by the people, nor do they have a clear perception of the obstacles in the way of reforms.

The most appalling evil which stares me in the face is the pension system—an evil absolutely without a remedy. This system is demanded by the Grand Army of the Republic, whose insolence, greed and political influence have no parallel in the history of the country. Every man from the Northern States in both Houses of the Congress is its abject slave and votes for everything it is supposed to favor, whether he belongs to the Democratic, the Republican, or the People's Party. And this is not all: every man from the South is compelled by the situation to keep his mouth closed. This sounds strange to you, but it is true, and will remain true as long as you and I live.

This Congress has voted about \$147,000,000 for one year's pensions; and has put deserters on the pension roll as well as hospital nurses, concubines (posing as widows), camp followers, bummers, etc., and as Baum grinds out cases under the laws as they now stand, the pension

appropriation will soon reach \$200,000,000 annually. This is a sum more than three times all the expenditures in 1860, and is an annual tax on each average family (five persons) of \$16.00. And, as I said, there is no remedy. The next fixed sum to be paid by the people for a number of years is the interest on the remainder of the war debt. This interest is \$37,547,000 or about \$3.00 to the average family. Add this to the \$16.00, and we have an annual tax paid by each average family—in gold, too, for gold is now the standard of value, and the law gives the bondholder gold—the sum of \$19.00. I know that some people seem to expect that the bondholders can be made to take silver or paper; but the courts are in the way, and it is misleading the people to tell them otherwise. Is this all? No; the balance of the principal of the war debt—nearly a thousand millions of dollars—must be paid. This is about \$83.00 to the average family, and it must be gradually gathered in by pay-day, or all collected at once when due. If gathered in gradually for fifteen years (1907) the average family will pay \$3.50 per annum, which added to the \$19.00 above, makes a debt of \$24.50. But this is not all: The Rads loaned the Pacific railroads \$64,000,000, in U. S. bonds, drawing 6 per cent interest per annum, and took second mortgages on the roads as security; and the companies declare they can never pay the debt. The interest now due from the roads is something over \$100,000,000. The interest on these bonds therefore—and, after which the principal—constitutes a fixed debt from the people to the holders of the bonds.

This summing up shows us about how much the average family is compelled by inexorable law to pay every year. But the average family pays altogether about \$40.00—1-12,000,000 of \$500,000,000, which is now the regulation sum fixed by the Read Congress. Subtracting from \$40.00 the fixed sum of \$24.50, we have \$15.50 as the annual tax which may possibly be reduced, but the possibility in my judgment, is very remote. A high priced bale of cotton then may be set down as the tax which must for this generation at least be paid by the average family, and deducting from this sum what the negroes in the South fail to pay and adding to the burden of the whites, you can begin to realize the magnitude of the load.

Can we hope for any relief from this condition through the Alliance, the People's party, or any reform organization? By no means: relief to you and me will come when death comes. But there is another drain on our pockets regulated by the amount of manufactured (domestic) goods we consume—a drain which can be checked altogether whenever a majority of both Houses of Congress and the President determine to do it. This drain is caused by the extra amount added to the real value of home-made goods, because the heavy taxes levied on similar foreign-made goods runs the price of them up so high that domestic manufacturers have a practical monopoly of our markets. I can make this clear by giving some facts which have come to the knowledge of the country.

The organized merchant tailors, representing all or nearly all the important cities in the Union, have lately sent a memorial to Congress, asking that travelers from this country to Europe be not permitted to bring back wearing apparel without paying the same tax other people pay; and they state that such goods can be bought in Europe at more than 50 per cent less than they are sold for in this country, and that the wealthy people can go to Europe and save enough to pay the expenses of their trip by laying in a year's supply of European goods.

The law now is that the amount of wearing apparel brought back free shall depend on the wealth, social standing and habits of the persons bringing them! And yet you hear people declare that this is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people!

Now this system of taxation compels you, if you purchase an English suit worth, say \$10, to pay a tax of \$9.00, so that your entire outlay is \$19.00, and if the statement of these merchant tailors is true, you have to pay them about \$20.00 for a similar suit and save ocean freight and other charges.

Remember, too, that the system affects more or less the prices of all goods manufactured in this country, and you are in a position to decide for yourself as to the intelligence or honesty of those who undertake to teach the people that the tariff is a matter of little importance. It is of vital importance; and until the whole system is wiped out, and the wealthy made, by an income tax, to support the government, you may as well buckle down to your plow-handles and submit like an ox to be driven by your masters.

If my position on this question is without justification, why is it

that the protected manufacturers of this country contribute so largely to the campaign corruption fund of the Republicans, and bully their employees into voting the Republican ticket?

Good judges have estimated that we pay from five to eight times as much "protection money" to our domestic manufacturers as we pay to the Federal treasury on imported goods, because we use a great many more of them.

To add to the curses inflicted on the farmer, he is compelled to seek a market for 7-9 of his cotton and a large fraction of his wheat, beef, pork, tobacco, etc., in the trade centers of the old world, where he comes in competition with similar agricultural products produced by the cheapest labor in Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America. Do the people understand this?

Another damaging result of our laws hampering freedom of trade is worth considering:—

All trade between two countries must in the long run be nothing but barter, if there is anything like an equality of benefits. On this theory I have collected the figures showing the average amount of goods and money exported from the U. S., and the average amount imported into the U. S. per annum, for the thirteen years from 1875 to 1887 inclusive; and I give them to you in a table, which shows that the farmers furnish nearly six times as much of the exports as all other classes. Now, bearing in mind that \$19 worth of farm produce must be taken to pay for a \$10 suit of clothes, and that all other barbers are hampered more or less in the same way, you can begin to see how the farmer is robbed.

EXPORTS 1875-1887	IMPORTS SAME
AVERAGE PER ANNUM.	TIME AVERAGE.
Ag. products \$545,000,000.	
All other..... 96,000,000.	\$581,000,000
Gold..... 22,384,000.	32,077,000
Silver..... 23,770,000.	13,000,000
	\$687,154,000
	626,677,000
Bal. our favor \$61,077,000	
"coin out"..... 1,077,000	
"goods"..... \$6,000,000	

Here is another interesting fact: \$60,000,000 of farm produce and other exports are represented by nothing sent here in return. Multiply this by 13, and we find that during those 13 years foreigners carried off from this country, for which we got nothing in return, the enormous sum of \$780,000,000 in agricultural products and other goods, of which the farmers furnished nearly 6-7. Nearly all of this vast sum goes to pay interest and principal—mainly interest—of debts due foreigners, and as the volume of business increases the gold dollar appreciates so that the debtor will have to send more and more of produce to meet a given amount of debt. This explains why Europe so savagely fights the free coinage of silver. And for the same reason the creditor section of this Union—the New England States, N. Y., Penn., N. J.—opposes the free coinage of silver.

Thus, Mr. Stevens, have I attempted to give you some of the conditions besetting us—some of the evils affecting us, and some of the difficulties in our pathway. When I contemplate them my courage and my hope fail to reassure me, and I turn away with saddened heart.

Look at other conditions and troubles, suggest remedies if you can, and still the future is dark. Relief must come, when it can come, through Federal legislation; but, as I have shown, legislation is powerless to reform all abuses; vested rights are in the way. The only ground of hope is that the people—the great army of the oppressed—may grow in a knowledge of the true situation and of the sources of relief. Better views will then prevail and the sense of justice will be quickened; and out of the wrongs and angry passions of the present may be evolved better material, industrial and moral conditions. But all this is in the future, and for that future we must work.

Well, I am tired of writing, and there is so much noise in the House, I find it difficult to follow a consistent line of thought, so I will stop. Wishing you health and happiness, and hoping your reunion may be productive of pleasure and of permanent benefits, I am, &c., B. F. GRADY.

Duplin Democracy, C. KENANSVILLE, N. C., Aug. 8.

Pursuant to a call the Democrats of Duplin county met to-day in mass meeting—the largest and most enthusiastic body of citizens that has assembled in the county for many years being present. G. W. Carroll, Esq., was chosen as chairman and Isaac L. Faison and P. H. Kornegay secretaries. The County Executive Committee reported that all the members present of the committee who were not willing to work for the whole Democratic ticket had resigned. A

committee of three from each township reported the names of committee men from the respective townships to serve for the next two years and the report was adopted and each county committee man was authorized to fill all vacancies in the Executive Committee of his township. The committee on resolutions, etc., reported as follows:

WHEREAS, Recent events have threatened to impair the organization of the Democratic party of Duplin county, and, where necessary for the good of the people that the party be prepared to meet the issues of this momentous period in our political history, therefore, be it

Resolved 1. That we renew our allegiance to the Democratic party and pledge ourselves to use every honorable means for its success.

2. That we endorse the platforms adopted by our National and State Democratic Conventions and believe that the election of Cleveland and the control of both Houses of Congress by the Democrats will afford us financial relief and tariff reform.

3. That we request the Executive Committee of the county to rescind the order heretofore made calling primaries and a County Convention, and to call primaries and a Convention at such times as they may think best, and said Executive Committee shall invite all Democrats who do not affiliate with nor will vote for any other than the nominees of the National State Democratic Conventions, to attend said primaries and assist in electing delegates to said County Convention.

4. That said County Executive Committee shall appoint three Democrats in each township to hold said primary elections, in accordance with said resolutions.

5. That we shall recognize only Democrats as nominees of Democratic Conventions. S. O. MIDDLETON, Chairman of Com. W. H. GRADY, Sec'y. Unanimously adopted amid great enthusiasm.

During the progress of the meeting many enthusiastic Democratic speeches were made.

Immediately after the adjournment of the meeting the County Executive Committee met and called primaries in the various townships on the first Saturday in September to elect one delegate for each twenty-five Democratic voters and fractions of fifteen or more, to meet in County Convention at Kenansville on the Thursday following, to nominate a Legislative and County ticket. The Executive Committee adopted the tests required of participants in primaries and nominees for office as set forth in the third and fifth resolutions of this mass meeting.

J. W. CARROLL, Chairman. P. H. KORNEGAY, Isaac L. FAISON, Sec'ys. Official report.

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