

JOURNAL OF INDUSTRY

RALEIGH, SATURDAY, OCT. 3, 1881.

ORGAN OF

the North Carolina Industrial Association.

A Weekly Paper, Devoted to the Material, Intellectual, Moral, Social, Spiritual, Physical and Financial Interests of the Colored People.

O. HUNTER, JR., Editors.
C. N. HUNTER, }

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All parties sending communications will greatly oblige by paying the necessary postage before mailing them.

THE FAIR

THE SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE N. C. INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WEEK!

EXHIBITS—SPEECHES BY

COL. POLK, BISHOP J.

W. HOOD, BISHOP

J. M. BROWN

AND

HON. FREDRICK DOUGLASS.

The Industrial Exhibition was formally opened on Tuesday the 28th ult., the whole of Monday having been occupied in making entries, and finishing the preparations for the Fair.

FIRST DAY.

There were not a great many people on the grounds Tuesday morning, but toward noon there was a good crowd gathered. At 10:30 o'clock the procession marched out to the Fair grounds. It was composed of Stanleys brass band; a carriage containing Col. L. L. Polk, the Orator of the day, Judge Edwin G. Reade, Mayor Manly, and Dr. G. W. Blackhall; another carriage containing Jno. O'Kelly, president of the Association; Jno. H. Williamson, Master of Ceremonies, B. J. Edwards, of the JOURNAL OF INDUSTRY; the Marshals and others.

At 12:30 the exercises began. Prayer was offered by Rev. Augustus Shepard. The Chief Marshal, Jno. C. Dancy of Tarboro, then introduced Col. L. L. Polk ex-Commissioner of Agriculture who was to deliver the opening address, in behalf of Gov. Jarvis, who was compelled, by unavoidable circumstances, to be absent from the city. Col. Polk spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT AND FRIENDS:—

Through the kind courtesy of His Excellency, the Governor, approved through the partiality of the officers of the Industrial Association, it is made my pleasant duty to open, formally, this, the second annual exhibition of the North Carolina Industrial Association. And it may not be improper for me to add, that my selection as his humble representative here to-day is due solely to the fact to which our friend alluded in his introductory remarks, of my recent connection with the Department of Agriculture of North Carolina, and of my presumed familiarity with, and well-known attachment to, the great objects which your association is designed to promote. I share with you the regret that His Excellency could not be present to-day; and I was requested by him, on yesterday afternoon, to say to you that his absence was unavoidable; that appointments

had been made and published which he could not possibly recall, without injustice to himself. And he bade me express to you his interest in your efforts to advance the material welfare of your race; and to assure you of his sincere desire, both as an individual citizen of the State and as its Chief Executive Officer, to aid you in every way in his power in your efforts to promote and advance the welfare of your people. And as an earnest of his sympathy and interest, he hopes to be with you on Friday next, when he will offer you some words of counsel and encouragement, if it be your pleasure to hear them.

I congratulate you on the auspicious outlook for this young Association. True, in the beginning of this your second Annual Fair, you have not the number present which perhaps some of your more sanguine officers would like to see; but I take it as a hopeful sign. The people whom you desire to see here to-day are in the cotton fields throughout the country, gathering a little of the necessary "chink" with which to come to-morrow or next day.

I congratulate you on the management of this association, for that it has been prudently, economically and judiciously managed, our surroundings throughout the grounds to-day will abundantly testify. Before the close of this, your second annual Fair, I hope to see representatives of your race from every section of North Carolina within these grounds. I want you to have their support, the moral encouragement of your own people, which you so richly deserve. I told you from this stand last year, that the colored people of North Carolina were the first of the four millions in this country to come forward and organize an annual Fair, to show what you were doing in material progress, and that as a citizen of the State I was proud of the enterprise and public spirit of our colored people; and I repeat, with increased warmth, that sentiment to-day. On all occasions, I believe you are the fortunate, or unfortunate, recipients of an abundance of gratuitous advice, and while it is not my purpose to detain you, yet there are a few thoughts I would present, for your consideration, as appropriate to the time and occasion. (Pardon me for allusion personal to myself, in justification of the frankness and candor with which I shall speak.)

Being reared on a farm, it was my lot to have only as playmates colored children—the happiest hours of sportive childhood were shared by children of your own race—and I shall never forget, ay, I would be less than human if I could forget, the kind and maternal care and affection of my old "black mama," who watched with such solicitude and interest the wanderings of my childish steps. I then fore claim the right to talk to you plainly, frankly and truthfully. Indeed, I can say that never, since you were set free, have I been called upon to address your people when I withheld or exceeded what I honestly conceived to be the truth.

There are gratifying and significant developments made in the census returns, bearing on our condition as a people, and prominent among them I may mention our increase in population. We are told that within the present decade our population has increased three hundred and twenty-nine thousand, or about thirty per cent. Now, be it remembered, that we have had comparatively little immigration, and these figures show that we are moving upward and onward. Your race is about equal in numbers with the white race in this State, and I presume, not having seen an analysis of the statistics, that your ratio of increase has been about the same. Then there is another statement that may be produced in favor of our general progress. Notwithstanding we have, as I believe the figures will show, a smaller proportion of field laborers of our entire population than we had prior to the war, yet our cotton crop of last year exceeded by over a quarter of a million of bales, any crop ever produced in this country. And yet, do you know, my friends, that out of the whole population of our state over ten years of age, only forty-five out of every hundred are at work? I do not mean by work to confine to the farm and to the work shops, but I mean all those engaged in the different vocations for a subsistence. Think of it, fifty-five per cent. of our entire population over ten years of age doing nothing! And only 76 per cent. of the 45 engaged are farmers. What do these figures tell us? Who in North Carolina suffers for bread or shelter or clothing? Who ever heard of it? And yet, with only five millions of acres of our lands subjected to the plough, and this small number of our people engaged in farming, we not only support bountifully our whole population, but we export of our products to the value of millions. It demonstrates beyond all question that God in his bountiful providence,

has given to no people on earth a better or more fruitful land than blessed old North Carolina. Now, why are not more of our people at work? In my experience and observations as Commissioner of Agriculture I find in the country a general desire, especially among the young, to get rid of work—to avoid all employment that contributes to the permanent growth and prosperity of the country—to shun honest labor. To those of you who are parents let me remind you that work is the great law of nature, established by the great Creator himself. Let me say to you that as parents you may relieve yourself of many obligations, but there is one you cannot avoid nor neglect; one for which you will be held responsible in the coming day—the inalienable claim that your child has upon you—to learn that child how to make an honest living. Would you see the direful effects of this neglect? Go with me if you please to our State penitentiary on the opposite side of this city, and I will show you men of my race and of your race, who were neglected, and who spurned honest labor, and who within the gloomy confines of granite walls, under the muzzles of muskets, are trying now to learn to work honestly. I admonish you to inculcate a manly pride among your boys, and to infuse into the minds of your daughters an attachment for home and the duties of domestic life, that they may become respected and useful citizens.

Now, a word to those of you who may be fortunate in the possession of a home. Make that home comfortable and attractive—improve it. You have no moral right to strip and ruin your land, and leave to your children a legacy of old fields and gullies instead of a pleasant and profitable home. "Ay, I have seen men at cross-road stores, fifteen miles from home. Ask them why they are there, and the chances are that they will tell you, "I had nothing particular to do at home."

Now, go with him to that home, and in the cold, chilly rains of a December evening, you will find his devoted wife scrambling around the fences gathering up a little wet fuel with which to prepare the supper of this lazy, improvident husband. No gate to welcome you, only a broken down fence; no ornament, save the tracks of pigs and cattle in the front yard; haphazard, ploughs, and other implements strewn in and around the house. Go with him to the stable, if he should have one. Your horse is put in a log house, half leg deep in mud, with cracks large enough to admit with ease a ten month pig, and he appropriates the rails of two panels of fence to improvise a door; and yet this is the man who went fifteen miles to spend the day, because he had "nothing particular to do at home." No, my friends, if you would improve your farms, and have comfortable homes you must work, you must think, you must reason, you must talk and inquire and ascertain the best methods for improvement.

There is another important matter to which I wish to allude, and if you forget everything else I say to-day, if you permit everything else connected with this Fair to vanish from your minds, do not forget, I beg you, that the only safe rule for a North Carolina farmer is to make his farm supplies at home.

I care not what may be the allurements offered by that treacherous King Cotton, heed them not until you have plenty of bread and meat at home. I believe it could be easily demonstrated, that except the war, one of the greatest evils that ever befell the South was twenty-five cent cotton. I have already consumed more of your time than I had expected, but there is one more subject to which I wish to call briefly your attention. I speak to you as a friend, as a North Carolina citizen, and I would be false to you, false to the State, and false to myself, if I did not speak fearlessly what I conceive to be the truth. Under our peculiar form of government, recognizing you as invested with all the prerogatives of citizenship, your destiny is inseparably bound up with ours. I have known no race in the history of the world, whose social, moral and political condition made their future and their destiny so greatly dependent on the preservation of peace. I care not what may have been sounded in your ears, nor by whom. I admonish you to cultivate a spirit of amity, of fraternity, of peace among yourselves and between your race and my race, as the surest and only means for promoting your prosperity and happiness. I care not what may be his political or religious creed, I care not what may be his position or character, I care not what may be his color, that man who would ruthlessly sever the ties that should bind us together, who would sow seeds of discord and alienation and hatred be-

tween the races, whether he does so at the fireside, from the sacred desk, or from the political platform, I declare him to be an enemy to your race, to our great country and to the highest and best interests of our posterity. Among all the despicable characters given in the history of the past, none have been found so fiendish as to persecute or illustrate this worse than wicked spirit. The great mind of the immortal Milton had to search the vast realm of the universe and visit the dismal abode of the damned, to find its fit representative. He tells us that Beelzebub after being hurled over the battlements of Heaven, and as he lay writhing in the tortuous folds of consuming flames, counseled his associates to cherish immortal hate and study revenge throughout all eternity. No, your safety, your prosperity, your success, your happiness, your destiny, will find its great guide-star in these radiant words:

"Peace, on earth good will towards men."

It only remains for me to declare on behalf of His Excellency the Governor, your Second Annual Fair open, and wishing you a pleasant and successful occasion, I bid you good bye.

Col. Polk closed his pleasant and valuable address amid applause, and music by the band.

Hon. Edwin G. Reade was then introduced, and after disclaiming the intention of making a speech, proceeded to make an excellent one. His remarks were full of encouragement and sympathy. He expressed his pleasure at the success of the Exhibition, and bade his hearers God speed in the work of development. He especially complimented the ladies on their beautiful handiwork, and urged upon them the cultivation of a love for the beautiful, that they render their houses attractive, and make home the altar at which the hearts of husbands, sons and daughters will ever worship.

Mayor Manly, of the City of Raleigh, made some brief and well-timed remarks as did also Dr. Blackhall, both of these gentlemen expressing their gratification at the exhibition, and their desire to see the Industrial Association, and the colored race continue to prosper.

This closed the ceremonies of the formal opening. At 2 o'clock, there was a lively

TROTTING MATCH

for a purse of twenty dollars, offered by the Association. The following horses were entered:

Buckskin, the property of R. I. Williams; Henry Clay, owned by E. Pomeroy, and Bluewing, owned by W. A. Nixon. The race was for the best two heats in three, both of which were won by Henry Clay; time, 3:15, 3:08; Buckskin second, Bluewing third. The judges were J. M. Sorrell, H. H. Roberts, and N. A. Blake.

There was also some drilling by the Oak City Blues and East Raleigh Guards.

THIRD DAY WEDNESDAY.

The third day of the Fair dawned clear and pleasant, and the incoming trains brought large crowds of visitors to Raleigh from all parts of the state. At an early hour the grounds were well filled. The dust which rose in clouds everywhere was the only drawback. A large procession, headed by the marshals, escorted the orator of the day, Bishop Hood, to the Fair-ground.

At 12 o'clock the exercises began. Jno. H. Williamson, of Franklin Co., the master of ceremonies, then introduced Bishop Hood in his usual happy style, who spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRIAL FAIR ASSOCIATION: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

It is a source of more than ordinary gratification to me to have the distinguished honor to meet and address the people of the great State of North Carolina, at this, your Second Annual Exhibition.

First, allow me to congratulate the officers of the Association, upon your grand achievements, in bringing together so large a collection of articles, and such a vast crowd of people, to behold the products of industry. It tells of untiring efforts on your part and also of the great confidence the people repose in you.

May it ever be your lot to enjoy the same confidence, and a like success.

Secondly, permit me to congratulate this vast audience, upon the privilege afforded us of beholding, here, so many evidences of the rapid material improvement of our people. It should be to us a source of encouragement, and should stimulate us to greater efforts in the future.

If we have been thoughtless in the

past, this Exhibition should awaken in us a sense of our importance, of what we can and ought to accomplish in developing the resources of this, our native land, and the grandest heritage that ever mortal being possessed.

If I were disposed to confine myself to one theme, I could think of nothing better than a theme suggested by one of the terms in the title of your Association, viz: "Industry."

Industry is the order of nature. You see it exhibited in every creature that is answering the end of its creation. As to mankind, you will find the idea of industry conceived in the first command he received from his Maker, after the fall: "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread" (Gen. iii:19.) He who attempts to override this law, and eat bread for which he has not honestly labored, does it at his own peril. He is a law-breaker, and may expect that his sins will find him out, and that he will be brought to punishment.

In other words, the indolent may not expect to enjoy wealth, health and wisdom. He may have the means to purchase all that can be obtained by money, but there are some things which money cannot buy. Among these is, immunity from disease, and disease is the handmaid of indolence. Nor can money buy knowledge, which is the result of industry.

A few men are born sick, but our millionaires have accumulated their wealth by industry. I have also noticed, that comparatively few have gained substantial wealth, by ways that are dark and dishonest.

The gambler or dealer in lotteries may accumulate much for a while, but after a time his gettings take wings and depart. The only sure way for a man to secure and enjoy wealth and bequeath it to his posterity, is to obtain it by honest industry.

The sphere of industry is man's true element, out of which, he can no more be happy and prosperous than a fish can live on dry land, or a bird beneath the waves of the sea. We have heard much about the hard times, but those who have been really industrious, have managed to work their way through them, and enjoy to-day a large degree of prosperity.

There is an idea in some minds that labor is dishonorable, that which, there could be no greater mistake. There is no honest pursuit in which one can engage for a livelihood, but what is honorable; but the man who makes his living by any dishonest means is a disgrace to humanity. He who stands about the street corners, complaining of the hard times, or lays around gambling dens, or grog shops, awaiting an opportunity to rob the industrious of the rewards of their labor, is worthy only of the contempt of all honest men. Let me grasp the hand made hard by labor; let me meet the coarsely clad, sturdy laborer, at midnight, in the most lonely path, far away from the abodes of men; but let me not, under such circumstances, meet the kid-gloved dandy, who, being too lazy or too proud to work, lives by his wits.

In the former I feel that I have a companion with whom I may journey in safety; in the latter I recognize a wretch, who only awaits a favorable moment to rob me of all I possess, even life, if that stands in the way of his passing the balance.

Real honor without labor is impossible, and he who expects honor without labor is a fool.

The Almighty himself is a laborer. He was employed six days on the work of creation, four thousand years on the work of redemption, he is now engaged in the work of salvation, and through all eternity, he will be engaged in exhibiting, "The exceeding riches of his grace, in his kindness toward us, through Christ Jesus." (Ephesians ii: 7.)

Much has been said of the capacity of the black man to bring large results out of industry, and his willingness to make the effort has also been questioned.

I think if you consider how short has been the period in which he has had the privilege of having any plans, or aims of his own; the difficulties he has had to overcome; the discouragements he has met on every hand, and the small amount of encouragement he has received, I say, if these things are considered the exhibition presented here to-day, sufficiently demonstrates both the will and the ability of the black man to secure the largest possible rewards from industry, when a fair opportunity is afforded him.

The truth is, he has been hedged in for hundreds of years, and the process of hedging still goes on.

He is not permitted to exercise his God-given, and acquired abilities.

No where in this broad land of ours has he a fair and open field for effort,

[CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE.]