The State Chronicle

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The editor will not be responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

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IF Congress were in session today, as a matter of right and justice it should at once repeal the ten per cent tax on State bank notes; but that would not afford the immediate relief of which the business of this country stands in such sore need. It would be many months before the State banks could supply the desired currency, and the condition of affairs is such as to demand immediate relief. The promptest course is to utilize the national banks by allowing them to issue more currency secured by good bonds deposited with the United States

THIS whole panic has been senseless, but so are all panics. New York bankers saw what a good thing the Rothchilds were making by getting our gold for Austria in exchange for Austria's bonds, and thought to turn an honest penny that way themselves They tried to alarm Secretary Carlisle and urged him to issue bonds. He gave them no comfort, merely saying that he would maintain specie payments and seek to maintain all the currency of this country on an equality. Foiled and exasperated at Carlisle's stubbornness, they set to work to get up a scare over the silver act. Neither the President nor the Secretary manifested any great alarm, but some people were scared, and much currency having already been withdrawn from New York, further demands were made on that centre for cash. The banks there undertook to protect themselves, and their action brought on the panic. In all such cases the banks are the first to be in peril, and all over the country those institutions begin to strengthen themselves. The aggregate deposits in all the banks foot up probably four billions of dollars, while there is only about one billion of money. The scramble of each bank to get as much money as possible to provide against a run constituted the second phase of the movement.

This has continued and will continue until business resumes its normal condition. If that be long deferred there will be a third phaze, affecting business itself. The banks now are not lending any money. They are simply getting in all they can and holding it against any probable emergency. We hope that business may soon resume its usual course. But in our opinion Congress should be called together at once. A fearful responsibility rests on Mr. Cleveland in this matter.

BANKING SYSTEMS.

This week there was in progress at Chicago a convention of bankers and financiers. Many thoughtful and valuable papers were read, and among them one by Congressman Walker, of Massachusetts, in which he takes ground to the following effect:

"That my words are the words of truth and soberness is susceptible of very easy demonstration. The fundamental principles of the banking system of England have stood every shock and been justified by eighty years of experience. Here is one of the most successful financial systems ever devised, as to safety, cheapness, flexibility and abundance. Compared to that of the United States, it shows our system to be expensive, rigid and uncertain. Our system of finance, as compared with that of England, ought to bring the blush of shame to every statesman who is responsible for its existence."

The Philadelphia Times, edited by Col. McClure, recognized everywhere as a statesman and patriot, says:

"Had the national banks kept in reasonable touch with the business interests of the people and sought to maintain or increase their circulation, instead of retiring it when it was much needed, they would have escaped the partly just and partly unjust popular prejudice that now confronts them. The banks chose to care only for the banks, and the people now choose to care only for the people; and with the steady drift of public conviction against centralization, and against strained or unwarranted judicial interpretation of laws, it is only logical that the repeal of the tax on State bank notes should be demanded.

"The single fact that during the last five years we have lost gold by exports to an extent fully equal to both our gold imports and our gold products silences every argument of the Press. Gold has given no increase of circulating medium. On the contrary, we have less gold in the country today than we had five years ago, and it will so continue until we have products to sell that foreign countries want to buy. The assumption of the Press, therefore, that we can get good money in shape of gold coin by simply stopping bad money, is utterly fallacious, and its whole theory is conclusively answered.

Neither the Press nor any considerable number of the Republican Senators and Representatives in Congress will assent to the repeal of the million a week addition to our currency caused by the Sherman law, without furnishing some substitute that will surely give equal or greater elasticity to the currency, and the only substitute the Press offers is the increase of gold, when our gold has diminished, over both imports and product, in the last five years. No other substitute is offered because there is none to offer that Congress is at all likely to accept, but the repeal of the tax on State bank note. With the national banking system weak in popular favor; with a strong demand for State banks, especially in the Republican West and the Democratic South, to give a more elastic and independent currency; with a steadily growing sentiment against all forms of centralized political and money power, and with a majority of the people regarding the exclusion of State bank notes as unwarranted by the supreme law, the logical solution of the problem is the repeal of the tax on State bank issues, and it is quite likely to come."

VERY INCORRECT.

"Worst of all was the enforcement in North Carolina of the Schism act, repealed in England in 1718, which prohibited any one from keeping a school in the province unless he had obtained a certificate from the Anglican authorities. There is not a doubt that the enforcement of this act up to the period of the revolutionary war, through the wide spread ignorance which it engendered, is directly responsible for the large percentage of illiteracy, and for the backwardness of intellectual activity characteristic of the State today."

The above is clipped from an article reprinted from the New York Sun by the Charlotte Democrat. It has also been republished by several other papers in this State. The authority for the statement is a book written by Dr. Weeks and recently published by Johns Hopkins University. Although we have not had the leisure to read Dr. Weeks' book thoroughly, we read it over partly some time ago and think that it sustains the statement made in the above extract. There is much in the volume to commend and there is reason to praise Dr. Weeks for diligence and investigation. It seemed to us, however, that he was not content to narrate the story, but had an objective point to work up to. Now as a matter of fact, so far as we know, the "schism act" never was in force in North Carolina. What Dr. Weeks is driving at is this: After the King bought his interest in North Carolina he claimed the right to disallow any act passed by the legislature. It was along about 1766, fifty years after the schism act had been repealed in England, (and it never had been in operation in North Carolina), when the legislature proposed to charter an incorporated academy with trustees at New Berne, the act, if we are correct, making an appropriation for it, and the point was made on behalf of the King that since he had the right to disallow the act, he would do so unless provision was made requiring the teacher to belong to the established Church. Thus likewise in regard to the Edenton Academy, and in regard to the Queen's College, at a later date proposed to be chartered at Charlotte, the King having a negative on North Carolina legislation, used it in his discretion. For reasons of State he deemed it proper that incorporated academies should be under the influence of the established Church, which was supposed to be reliably attached to the Crown.

But with schools not depending for their creation on his will, he had nothing to do Any man in North Carolina was we believe at liberty to teach school, and schools were kept we suppose in every neighborhood where circumstances permitted.

And we are especially surprised that a newspaper published in Mecklenburg county could print the above extract, without question, as it is familiar to all that when Mecklenburg was settled, as far back as 1745, the Presbyterian ministers at once established very excellent schools there. Although the memorials of those early days are scant and imperfect, yet as far as we know there was no such provision as Dr. Weeks mentions, except in regard to the academies established by law at New Berne and Edenton.

THERE were 718 souls on board the Victoria, and it is thought that about 430 were carried down by the ship. The event has elicited much sympathy. The Emperor William ordered that the flags on his war vessels should all fly at half-mast. The interest in England is greatly increased because of the uncertainty as to who were rescued and who were lost.

THE Princess has gone home and we did not see her, but there are lots of others who likewise missed the opportunity. Let us content ourselves with believing that many of our home folks whom we often see are equally entitled to our respectful consideration.

Lee, Longstreet and Gettysburg.

Communicated.

Many thousands of the boys and girls of North Carolina gather thoughts and facts from your valuable paper that are to constitute part of the life of the coming generation. They should not be misled or imposed upon Thousands of your adult readers in this and other States, and veteran Confederates all over the South, will be shocked to read the opinion expressed in the article in the New Orleans Times Democrat, copied in your paper of the 21st inst. Your scrupulous care in regard to the accuracy of matter appearing in your columns is well known and appreciated by the public. General Longstreet in that article expresses opinions that are not sustained by the voice of impartial history, nor by a single one of his contemporaries so far as I have been able to find by diligent investigation. Please give me space to present the opposite view, by calling some of the great actors and witnesses of the war period to the stand.

All North Carolinians have great love and admiration for the General Longstreet of the war. He was in their opinion second only to Gen. Lee after the fall of Stonewall Jackson. We thank him for these splendid words: "I can truthfully attest that the Old North State furnished as brave and gallant troops as were in the Confederate ranks, and that is saying as much as can be said for soldiers." But we cannot allow the following statement in his article to go unchallenged. Says he:

"General Lee displayed his greatest weakness as a tactical commander at Gettysburg. The tactics there were weak, and fatal to success. His attacks were made in detail, and not in one co-ordinate, overwhelming rush as they should have been. The first collision was an unforeseen accident. We failed at Gettysburg because we had undertaken too great a contract and went about it in the wrong way." If his statement is true it is a blur upon General Lee's military genius, if false, it reflects no credit upon either Gen. Longstreet's motive or intelligence. It is not true. Longstreet lost the battle of Gettysburg by not obeying General Lee's orders. To sustain this statement I present part of the article published in the Century Magazine for 1887, which was in reply to General Longstreet's article in a former number, in which he expressed substantially the same sentiments as those expressed above:

"Gen. Longstreet would have us infer that he was not ordered by Gen. Lee to attack early on the second day; but that his memory is at fault on this point has been abundantly shown by Gens. Fitzhugh Lee, Pendleton, Early, Wilcox and many others. No testimony on this point is more direct and conclusive than that of Gen. A. L. Long, military secretary to Gen. Lee He says in his recently published "Memoirs of R. E Lee" (page 277), that on the evening of the 1st, when Gen. Lee had decided not to renew the attack on Cemetery Hill that day, he said (in Long's presence) to Longstreet and Hill, "Gentlemen, we will attack the enemy in the morning as early as practicable." Long continues: "In the conversation that succeeded he (Lee) directed them to make the necessary preparations and be ready for prompt action the next day." Long shows plainly that Gen. Lee's design was to attack the troops in front before the whole Federal army could get up, and he describes graphically the impatience Lee showed next morning, as early as 9 a. m., at Longstreet's delay. Gen. Longstreet is wrong too, in giving the impression that his divisions were fifteen or twenty miles away on the night of the 1st, for in his official report he says that "McLaws' division * * * reached Marsh Creek, four miles from Gettysburg, a little after dark.

The fact is that Gen. Longstreet, though knowing fully the condition of things on the night of the first, knowing that Lee had decided to attack that part of the Federal army in his front, knowing that every hour strengthened Meade and diminished the chances of Confederate success, and knowing that his corps was to open the battle and deliver the main assault, consumed the time from daylight to nearly 4 p. m, on July 2d, in moving his troops about four miles, over no serious obstacle, and in getting them into battle. Meantime on the Federal side Hancock's corps, which had camped three miles from Gettysburg, reached the field by 6 or 7 a. m.; Sickles' two brigades that had been left at Emmettsburg came up by 9 a. m.; the rear of the Fifth Corps by midday, and the Sixth Corps, after a march of 32 miles in 30 hours, by 2 p. m. Had Longstreet attacked not later than 9 or 10 a. m, as Lee certainly expected, Sickles' and Hancock's corps would have been defeated before part of the Fifth and the Sixth Corps arrived. Little Round Top (which, as it was, the Fifth Corps barely managed to seize in time) would have fallen into Confederate possession; and even if nothing more had been done this would have given the field to the Confederates, since the Federal line all the way to Cemetery Hill was untenable with Round Top in hostile hands.

Victory on the third day was for the Confederates a far more difficult problem than on the second, but it was still within their reach. But one need not be surprised at the failure of Pickett's attack after reading in this article of the hesitation, the want of confidence and hearty co-operation, with which General Longstreet directed it. Lee never intended that Pickett, Pettigrew and Trimble should fight unsupported by the remainder of the army. He expected "that with proper concert of action . . . we should ultimately succeed." (Lee's report.) Longstreet was directed to use his whole corps, and when he felt embarrassed by the Federal forces on or near the Round Tops he was given a division and a half from A. P. Hill's corps with power to call for more. General Long says: "The original intention of General Lee was that Pickett's attack should be supported by the divisions of McLaws ond Hood, and General Longstreet was so ordered." ("Memoirs of Lee," p. 294. See also statements of Colonels Venable and Taylor, "Four Years with General Lee," page 108) Lee's efforts for a concerted attack were ineffectual. Pickett was overwhelmed not by troops in front but by those on his flanks, especially by those on his right flank, where Wilcox was sent forward too late to be of use, and where he was too weak to have effected much at best. Yet Longstreet did not use any part of Hood's and McLaws' divisions to support Pickett, or to make a diversion in his favor, or to occupy the troops on his flank which finally defeated him. These divisions were practically idle, except that one of Hood's brigades was occupied in driving off the Federal cavalry which made a dash on that flank. Longstreet, in a word, sent forward one third of his corps to the attack, but the remainder of his troops did not co-operate. And yet he reproaches Lee for the result."

Ex President Jefferson Davis in his Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government endorses the above statement on page 441, vol., II.

In the North American Review General Viscount Wolseley of the English army reviewing the battle of Gettysburg says: "By all that is recorded, by his whole conduct on the 2nd and 3rd of July and by the tone and temper of his present writings, it seems evident that Longstreet quitted Lee on the night between those two days with his mind full of defensive tactics.

His thoughts were apparently too much absorbed with his own plans to admit of his paying proper attention to the orders and directions of his chief.

Yet upon their prompt and accurate execution depended the success of Lee's far more brilliant and far wiser scheme of action.

Longstreet was not only responsible for the fact that his own wing attacked so late, that almost the whole Federal army was concentrated before the stroke was delivered, but also for the fact that he was not properly supported when the attack was made by the other parts of the army detailed to cooperate with him.

That Longstreet was a brilliant leader of a division or wing in action there can be no doubt, but he seems not to have been able—perhaps from some peculiarity of temper—to subordinate his own views heartily to the views of his great chief."

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. HENRY.

Death of Mr. Conrad.

Richmond Dispatch.

The deceased left Danville for Richmond Thursday night, and among the last persons who conversed with him on the train were Mr. Herbert Weisiger and Mr. Felthause, of this city. At the point at which the body was discovered, which is about two miles from Amelia Court House, there is a sharp curve. The train was late and making up time, and it is supposed that Mr. Conrad went out on the platform of the sleeper in which he was traveling, and a sudden sway of the car, as the curve was rounded, threw him off. The position and condition of the body indicated that his head struck the mile post referred to.

There was a bad gash in his head, the left arm was broken in three places, as were also the left thigh and the leg between the knee and ankle.

Danville Evening Star.

The train upon which Mr. Conrad was on was due in Richmond at 7:00 o'clock and was nearly an hour late, this would have made it quite 6:30 o'clock when the train reached the thirty-eight mile post. It may have been that Mr. Conrad got up out of his berth and walked off the rear end of the car while asleep. But this can only be a conjecture.

KEYSVILLE, Va! June 23.—3:56 p. m.—Mr. Charles Conrad fell from the rear platform of the sleeper and was dragged some distance by the train. He held on until struck by the thirty-eight mile post which killed him instantly. His remains will reach Danville on train No. 35.

W. A. H.

A STUDENT IN TROUBLE.

Can You Help Me?

Sandford Express.

WALLACE, N. C., June 18, 1893.

DEAR EXPRESS: I am in trouble, and I appeal to your readers for relief. I lately found a Latin sentence detached from its context, which puzzles me. The words seem improperly arranged, and there is no punctuation. It is:

"Si sitis ago odor anget re at."

The only intelligible arrangement which has occurred to me is:

"Si sitis, ago; at re odor anget."

STUDENT.

To us it seems the arrangement is:

"Sis, it is a good or ange treat."

Morehead Chips.

Communicated.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C, June 23.

A most delightful day has been passed at Morehead, the weather being superb, the water calm and the breeze just strong enough to send the white-winged sharpies scudding over the sound, there being so many of the young people embraced the opportunity (I hope not each other!) and spent the morning most delightfully.

In the Assembly Hall an interesting and spicy morning session was much enjoyed. After devotional exercises conducted by Rev. W. E. Edmundson, of Morehead City, and the singing of a number of songs the methods of the Teachers' Bureau was explained by the chairman, Mr. Edward E. Britton. The bureau is the means of securing positions for the teachers of North Carolina without cost, and is proving of great value to the fraternity.

Dr. J. B. Shearer next occupied the attention of the Assembly in a most humorous dissertation on various subjects, during which he indulged in some pleasent raillery anent the teachers seeking to obtain better paying positions, or as he termed it "roosting high." His final remarks were devoted to thoughts pertaining to the upbuilding of the temple of education

At the close of Dr. Shearer's remarks Mr. Britton and President Blair took a hand in the jesting and paid of the esteemed President of Davidson in his own coin.

Chief Justice Shepherd next made a most interesting and peculiarly fitting talk concerning new work to be undertaken by the teachers, especially the training of the youth in the system of government of our country. He urged that elementry classes be instructed in civics, and was loudly applauded when he said that it was his purpose at no distant day to write a series of lectures on this important subject for the use of the schools.

"The School Savings Bank" was the subject of an address by Mr. Edwin E. Britton, who urged the necessity for the inauguration of such a system in the schools of our State. His talk was of a practical nature and as a result already two of the superintendents of graded schools have informed him that they would give the system a fair trial in their schools.

Secretary Harrell offered a resolution of thanks to the press of North Carolina for the valuable assistance they had given in disseminating information of the Assembly, and especially for the aid rendered to the Teachers' Bureau by the insertion of its notices without charge. This resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

At night the hall was jammed to listen to the gentleman from Trinity, Wake Forest and Davidson compete for the Assembly Gold Medal for oratory. The exercises were prefaced by a most charming solo, rendered by Greensboro's sweet singer singer, Miss Lula Brown.

The rules governing the contest were read by President Blair, who announced that the young men had selected as their judges Govenor Elias Carr and Chief Justice Shepherd; that the Assembly judges were Mr. P. M. Pearsall and General Chapin, of Rhode Island. These gentlemen selected as the fifth judge Major Lewis Latham, of Greenville, N. C. The committee being seated in different portions of the hall the contest began amidst intense interest.

The first speaker was Mr. T. T. James, of Waycross, N. C., representing Trinity College, his subject being "The Voice of Nature."

The second contestant was Mr. J. C. Kittrell, Kittrell, N. C., representing Wake Forest; his subject was "The Cry of the Masses Answered." Like the first speaker he was earnest and impressive and was liberally applauded. A brief synopsis is as follows:

The next speaker was Mr. H. R. Murchison, of Coronaca, S. C., representing Dadidson College. His subject was "Intellectual Hygienics."

The fourth speaker was Mr. A. K. Pool, Keyser, N. C, representing Davidson College. His subject was NORTH CAROLINA IN THE LITERARY WORLD.

Mr. Pool's patriotic allusions brought forth applause in the midst of his speech, and he was considered as being among the leaders for the medal.

The subject of the fifth speaker was

THE ORIGIN AND TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRACY.

Mr. Charles E. Turner, Cool Syrings, N. C, represented Trinity id the contest.

The sixth and last speaker was Mr. E. Y. Webb, Shelby, N. C., representing Wake Forest, spoke of "Southern Greatness." It is so prolific a subject that I would like to give an extended synopsis of his speech. His manner and the matter of the speech brought forth many expressions of hope for his success. His references to Jefferson Davis were couched in chaste and expressive language. But your limited space restricts me.

At the close of this speech President Blair, in a few well rounded sentences, expressed the pleasure felt by the teachers in having such able speeches from the young men and thanked them for their attendance. The friends of the various contestants are standing by their favorites, and each one of them will not be surprised to be told that he is the lucky man.

NOTES.

All the speeches in the oratorical contest were elegant productions and reflect credit upon the colleges which the young men represent.

Many of the young ladies are tonight wearing the college colors of their favorites.

The ball room is the centre of attraction at night. A very large number of couples were on the floor tonight.

As telegraphed you last night another large delegation came in tonight, many prominent educators being among the number.

The revenue cutter Colfax came into the sound this afternoon, and already the ladies are planning excursions to visit the vessel.

Governor Carr and other gentlemen, among them the representatives of the press, have been specially invited to visit the Colfax tomorrow.

Compliments abound on every side concerning the management of the Atlantic Hotel this season. It is wonderful how such excellent fare can be furnished at such a low rate. It will pay in the long run, however, as the teachers will go from here and when at home will so well advertise the courtesy and attention of Mr. B L. Perry to his guests that a prosperous season must result.

The number of visitors to the surf increases daily. It is a pleasure and a comfort to use the well-fitted up bath rooms where every convenience is to be found after the pleasures of battling with the waves.

The Assembly is in excellent working order and the interest is increasing. The attendance of representative educators is increasing, and the attractive programme is daily bringing in many visitors.

E. E. B.